Tower Automotive

Pythian
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Tower Automotive is a global automotive parts supplier that competes in a highly cost conscious business environment. It wanted the significant cost savings associated with server consolidation through virtualization and database cluster software.

Tower Automotive consolidated its global Peoplesoft applications and data into a centralized environment thereby lowering its total operations costs. New high availability requirements became apparent as the new Peoplesoft environment needed to serve global operations as opposed to local North American users.

▶ Reduced redundancies in IT and PeopleSoft applications across the global organization.

▶ Offset the availability risks associated with more complex networking and cluster software that accompany such a consolidation and ongoing operations.

The Challenge

The IT management team recognized the risks associated with such a move and the knowledge gap between its existing staff and service vendors and what would be required to move to a consolidated clustered server environment designed for high availability. It could not afford any downtime associated with running its Peoplesoft applications on a consolidated basis the new platform.

Tower also recognized that the skills associated with tuning and troubleshooting complex cluster configurations are expensive and difficult to retain as in-house employees.

The Solution

Pythian was engaged to plan and execute the migration to the new cluster environment working alongside Tower and its 3rd party service provider. It sent an on-site implementation team to develop the migration strategy and setup production cluster infrastructure. During that time, Pythian mentored Tower employees on Oracle RAC implementation and operations best practices. Following the initial implementation the Pythian team provided remote support for the migration to the new platform and continues to provide proactive and reactive services related to the production Oracle RAC Linux cluster, including consolidation of a number of additional environments to the existing cluster.

The Results

Tower Automotive witnessed a flawless migration to its new Oracle RAC cluster for its Peoplesoft applications. By retaining Pythian for ongoing Oracle RAC support, it has a specialized and focused set of resources that play a key role in maintaining system availability. This comes at a fraction of the in-house cost of hiring and retaining a specialized Oracle RAC DBA. Tower Automotive took full advantage of the cost savings of system consolidation without compromising on key skills needed to maintain system availability.

Contact Us Today

Pythian is a global industry-leader in remote database administration services and consulting for Oracle, Oracle Applications, SQL Server and MySQL.

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