

## US DIGITAL

US Digital Modernizes Their Data Center with VxRail Hyperconverged Technology



### SOLUTION OVERVIEW

When US Digital's aging infrastructure neared end of life, they chose Dell EMC hyperconverged technology to power their next-generation data center. Dell EMC recommended Cerium Networks as an experienced technology partner to help with design and implementation.

### About US Digital

US Digital, a worldwide leader in motion control components, designs and manufacturers optical encoders, magnetic encoders, and inclinometers from their state of the art, 118,000 square foot facility in Vancouver, Washington, USA. Since its beginning in 1980, US Digital has been revolutionizing the motion control industry with innovative products, exemplary customer service, and competitive pricing.

### The Challenge

No data center lasts forever. At some point, the hardware grows old and aging infrastructure can't keep up with increasing business demands. As their data center infrastructure neared end of life, US Digital saw an opportunity to move from their traditional three-tier architecture, with separate silos for compute, storage and networking, to a hyper-converged model offering

better interoperability, ease of integration, improved performance, simplified management, and more robust data protection. With a hyper-converged data center, US Digital could centralize the management of the virtual, storage and network infrastructures under a single pane of glass and enable their IT Team to refocus their energy, time, and resources on the projects most valuable to their organization.



## The Solution

After investigating a wide range of potential alternatives, US Digital landed on Dell EMC hyperconverged technology to power their next-generation data center. US Digital realized they needed an experienced technology partner to help with the design and implementation, and Dell recommended Cerium Networks. Dell knew that Cerium's highly-qualified team of certified solution architects, engineers, and project managers had the hands-on experience to help US Digital find the right combination of hyperconverged hardware and server-virtualization technology to replace their current infrastructure.

Cerium worked with US Digital's IT Team to design a fully-redundant hyperconverged infrastructure based on Dell EMC VxRail E Series appliances and VMware virtualization software. VxRail appliances deliver highly predictable performance across millions of configuration options to meet any HCI use case. They offer a wide range of configurations based on Dell PowerEdge servers, with low-profile nodes containing one node per 1U chassis, enabling clusters to optimize storage and compute resources in a small footprint. VxRail appliances support single-node scaling and storage capacity expansion for a predictable, "pay-as-you-grow" approach to scaling up and out as US Digital's business and user requirements evolve.

Cerium provided turnkey on-site installation of the data center along with new Cisco switches to facilitate network connectivity. Cerium services also included a thorough product review, knowledge transfer session, and day one support for all hardware and software.

## Results

Now, US Digital's state-of-the-art data center is delivering outstanding reliability, agility and economics. VxRail's linear scalability ensures US Digital can grow and evolve without outpacing their infrastructure. Freed up from managing and maintaining an extensive collection of aging servers, US Digital's IT Staff has more time to spend more time on strategic initiatives. The new architecture also enables new services to be rolled out more efficiently and effectively. Performance has also improved. The memory capacity and storage space on the VxRail appliances is exponentially higher, and they respond much faster than the older gear.

Steven Johnson, US Digital Senior Data Center Engineer, expressed his satisfaction with the results, "*We are already experiencing huge benefits just from the increased performance of the solution over our old systems.*" Steven went on to say, "*We look forward to the reduced complexity and simplified administration as the solution decreases our operational costs going forward.*"

## Why Cerium

A complete data center solutions and services provider, Cerium Networks can help you maximize your IT investments. With extensive storage, server, and network expertise, Cerium delivers greater business value. We design what we sell, deploy what we design, and support what we deliver.

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