Industry Solution

Services/Employment & Recruitment

Michael Page International

Challenge:

Michael Page International's individual and specialist businesses source permanent, contract and temporary staff for a world-wide client universe. A reliable and state-of-the-art network was implemented to meet the demanding needs of their fast growth business.

At their offices (London and Paris) Michael Page International has implemented a thin-client architecture running Citrix MetaFrame on their Windows NT server. The TCP/IP network at each location also supports several hundred WinTerms and includes a powerful IBM NUMA-Q (formerly Sequent) server. Michael Page International stores their candidates' resumes as Microsoft Word files on a Sequent system using an Informix database engine.

The IBM NUMA-Q server contains critical information that needs to be shared by the whole company. They wanted to implement a cost-effective solution where the users would have easy, immediate and sharable access to the centralized data, without providing local disk storage at each desktop.

Solution:

Upon the recommendation of IBM (Facet*Corp* OEM partner), Michael Page International evaluated Facet*Win*.

As Michael Page International immediately recognized, Facet *Win* does not require any software to be loaded on the client because Facet *Win* is loaded on and administered from the UNIX server. Facet *Win* uses CIFS (formerly known as SMB) technology for file and print services, not NFS.

"Facet Win transparently allows our users to share the lifeline of our business; MS Word documents on the IBM NUMA-Q server," said Graham Taylor, senior technical support engineer with Michael Page UK.

Originally implemented for 1,000 users, the Facet *Win* installation at Michael Page has now grown to 1,700 users, with 1,000 users in the UK and 700 in France

Taylor summarized Michael Page International's overall experience with Facet *Win*, "Facet *Win* worked as advertised and easily met the technical objectives we set out to accomplish,"

"Facet *Win* transparently allows our users to share the lifeline of our business – MS Word documents on the IBM NUMA-Q server"

-Graham Taylor, Senior Tech Support Engineer, Michael Page International



SUMMARY

Corporate Profile:

Michael Page International is a global recruitment consultancy, with 55 offices and 1,700 staff in 12 countries around the world. Founded in 1976, the group operates in the recruitment of junior, middle and senior management across the following sectors: accounting & finance, banking & financial services, marketing, sales, legal, technology, consultancy, taxation and retail.

Dilemma:

Within a thin-client architecture, Michael Page International needed a way to access and share important MS Word documents on the UNIX server, without having to load any software on the client side.

Resolution:

A 1,700 user license of Facet *Win* gave the Michael Page International users access to the corporate data stored on the IBM NUMA-Q UNIX server.

System Snapshot:

UNIX Servers: IBM NUMA-Q (Sequent) Clients: WinTerms, Citrix MetaFrame Facet *Win* User Count: 1,700



