

Sequent Computer Systems, Inc.

Challenge:

Sequent's corporate distributed systems computing environment consists of NUMA-Q & Symmetry UNIX systems as well as NT servers with thousands of Windows PCs. As one might imagine, this immense data center requires a significant amount of resources to administer. Saving the UNIX System Administrator's time was a priority. Chris LaFournaise, IS Operations Manager with Sequent, explained, "We wanted to avoid having to install NFS on a thousand desktop devices." FacetWin provides connectivity to the UNIX host by using CIFS, an easier to manage alternative to NFS. Sequent was impressed by the technology that FacetWin used, but Sequent also wanted to work with a company that had a responsive and outstanding technical support staff.

Solution:

Sequent Computer Systems implemented a 2,000+ user license of FacetWin at their data-center. Sequent selected FacetWin because of its ease of administration and FacetCorp's outstanding technical support. "FacetCorp's technical support is what convinced us that they were our best choice for Windows-to-UNIX connectivity. They are an extremely competent group of support engineers." commented LaFournaise. "We have used several competing products in the past," LaFournaise continued, "all of which were difficult to install and configure properly." Sequent's choice and successful deployment of this product is proof that FacetWin is a fully scaleable solution. Moreover, FacetCorp's technical support staff has proved, again, that they are indeed a competitive advantage.

"FacetWin allows the networked clients in our complex computing infrastructure to share accounting, database and other server-based corporate information, with uncompromising security."

-Doug Steck
CIO

Sequent Computer Systems, Inc.



SUMMARY

Corporate Profile:

Based in Beaverton, Oregon, Sequent Computer Systems Inc. is a leading vendor of Intel-based data center systems. Sequent provides firms worldwide with the technology and expertise to maximize the business benefits of complex open systems projects.

Dilemma:

Sequent needed an easy to implement & administer and well-supported enterprise-wide Windows-to-UNIX integration solution. Several competitive products were previously evaluated, but were too difficult to install.

Resolution:

Sequent has installed a 2,000+ user license of FacetWin on 18 UNIX servers. The benefits are: 1) PC users are able to share corporate data on UNIX servers, 2) Sys Admin time savings, since there is no need to load NFS on each PC client, 3) If needed, Sequent can immediately contact FacetCorp's technical support staff.

System Snapshot:

UNIX Servers: Sequent DYNIX/ptx
Windows Clients: Windows95 & NT
FacetWin User Count: 2,000+