

Parallels® Virtuozzo Containers

Customer Success Story

Parallels Virtuozzo Containers Enables Cost Effective Disaster Recovery Solution

When SMS Central wanted to implement a disaster recovery solution across its global infrastructure, it turned to Parallels Virtuozzo Containers. With its flexibility, scalability and remote administration tools, Parallels Virtuozzo Containers was the optimal solution.

Business Challenge

Mobile communications technology is ubiquitous. Every text message sent between carriers or mobile systems must be translated and exchanged through the appropriate networks.

SMS Central provides services across four continents and manages interconnects to every mobile service provider. Its infrastructure includes shared servers in locations across the globe. While the services were particularly reliable in a shared server configuration, there was a long-term failure exposure. Any effect on service levels and business continuity for its end users is unacceptable; mobile communications is a zero-downtime service industry.

Adding to the infrastructure management complexity was a particularly temperamental Java application. If allowed, the Java application would use all system resources and required strict isolation.

Evaluation

In order to provide the redundant and always available server configuration required by its business model, SMS Central explored three virtualization solutions: Microsoft Virtual Server, VMware ESX, and Parallels Virtuozzo Containers.

“I first evaluated Microsoft’s Virtual Server which was technically very clever but was a real brute-force attempt at virtual environments. It was very tempting as the price per server was very low” said Aron Steg, Managing and Founding Director of SMS Central. Factoring in significantly higher hardware requirements, the multiple OS licenses, the cumbersome maintenance and the installation time, he eliminated Virtual Server.

“I then evaluated VMware’s products and found them to be much the same but slightly faster and significantly more expensive,” said Steg.

Parallels Virtuozzo Containers Solution & Implementation

SMS Central evaluated Parallels Virtuozzo Containers and was surprised by the technology’s ability to leverage a single OS. Parallels Virtuozzo Containers’ scalability, efficiency and responsiveness made it the best choice for SMS Central’s disaster recovery and infrastructure support requirements.



CENTRAL

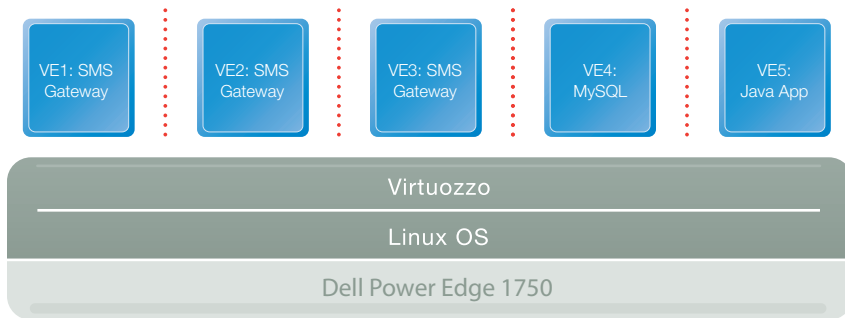
SMS Central provides cutting-edge mobile services to businesses. SMS Central is based in Melbourne, Australia with customer s and partners on four continents.

“Parallels Virtuozzo Containers outperformed the competition and was much more scalable. We currently use Parallels Virtuozzo Containers to efficiently operate our new server infrastructure with a dramatic 85% reduction in total costs...”

— Aron Steg,
Managing and Founding Director,
SMS Central

Parallels Virtuozzo Containers Scenarios

- **Server and OS Consolidation**
- Dynamic Workload Management
- **Business Continuity (DR/HA)**
- Internal and Commercial Hosting
- **Development & Testing**
- Centralized Desktop Management



Hardware

- Dell Power Edge 1750
- CPU: Dual
- RAM: 2 GB
- Storage: 70 GB RAID 5

Software Applications

- Proprietary Gateway Server
- MySQL Server & Replication
- Java Application

SMS Central consolidated three gateway servers in a redundant configuration on a single physical server. Additional Virtual Private Servers (VPSs) house an instance of MySQL and a Java application. Due to its resource consumption patterns, it was impossible to consolidate the Java application onto a server without adequate isolation and control. In addition, the remaining resources on the servers are more usable. Often engineers need server space to develop or test an application. A new VPS with adequate resources is created and ready in a couple of minutes.

In addition to the isolation and virtualization aspects of Parallels Virtuozzo Containers, the management tools have been particularly critical to the implementation. With servers in remote locations and extensive requirements for remote management, SMS Central relies on the Parallels Virtuozzo Containers Management Console (VZMC) to deploy VPSs in minutes using templating and other Parallels Virtuozzo Containers tools and to manage the server and VPS infrastructure in real time.

SMS Central Results

“We currently use Parallels Virtuozzo Containers to efficiently operate our new server infrastructure with a dramatic 85% reduction in total costs,” said Aron Steg, Managing and Founding Director of SMS Central. Parallels Virtuozzo Containers enabled the disaster recover solution and it ultimately eliminated the need to purchase redundant physical servers in every geographical location.

SMS Central's Future Plans

Today Parallels Virtuozzo Containers addresses SMS Central's priorities of disaster recovery and service availability. In the future, SMS Central will evaluate deploying all of its servers with Parallels Virtuozzo Containers. Steg sees the benefit of deploying Parallels Virtuozzo Containers on a server, even if it is a standalone application server. The ability to move applications between servers, manage remotely, and monitor resource growth all make Parallels Virtuozzo Containers a productive server platform.

Learn more at www.parallels.com/virtuozzo



660 sw 39th street
suite 205
renton, wa 98057
USA
main +1 425 282 6400
fax + 1 425 282 6444

13755 sunrise valley drive
suite 600
herndon, va 20171
USA
main +1 703 815 5670
fax +1 703 815 5675

www.parallels.com