Partner: Brocade

Website: www.brocade.com

Partner Size: US $2 billion annual, 4,500 employees worldwide

Country or Region: Worldwide

Industry: Networking

Partner Profile: www.brocade.com/lync

BROCADE NETWORKS AND MICROSOFT® LYNC™

BUSINESS NEED

Organizations communicate with many different kinds of devices including cell phones, office phones, voice mail, web conferencing, fax, email, instant messaging, and video conferencing.

A unified communications solution can help solve the complex challenges of managing multiple communication applications and devices by enabling streamlined communications within the applications that users rely on the most. This reduces IT management complexity and resource requirements, and improves user productivity by reducing communication latency.

In order to leverage the benefits of a unified communications solution, organizations must ensure that the network infrastructure is capable of handling increased volumes of voice, video and collaboration traffic and can scale to support future business needs.

SOLUTION

Together, Brocade and Microsoft offer a highly scalable unified communications solution, enabling organizations to consolidate business communications systems onto a single, high-performance network that delivers high levels of reliability, availability, and security.

BENEFITS

Using the power of software to streamline communications, Microsoft Lync Server 2010 ushers in a new, connected user experience that transforms each communication into a more collaborative, engaged, and accessible interaction. Lync Server 2010 is a highly secure and reliable system that works with existing tools and systems for easier management, lower cost of ownership, smoother deployment and migration, and greater flexibility.

Brocade provides a complete set of switching and routing solutions that help organizations implement Lync Server without replacing existing network infrastructures. With a rich set of features that help ensure the highest-quality Lync Server environments, including unified wired and wireless network access, advanced Quality of Service (QoS), and a single, easy-to-use management solution across the local area network (LAN) and storage area network (SAN), Brocade delivers the always-on reliability and network security a unified communications solution demands.

Brocade campus access solutions enable automated port configuration with support for a variety of industry-standard

methods for placing an IP phone on the proper voice virtual local area network (VLAN). With both automated QoS and voice VLAN discovery, an IP phone is automatically given the proper QoS features and placed in the proper voice VLAN with no manual intervention. This decreases the cost of deploying a unified communications infrastructure and service and helps eliminate costly configuration errors. In addition, modular, easily upgradable line cards, management cards, acceleration cards, and switch fabrics provide investment protection.

Brocade's hardware load balancer solutions for Lync Server 2010 provide load balancing capacity-on-demand. Enabled by software license, the hardware load balancer process throughput can gracefully scale alongside the Lync servers.

Other features that enhance Lync Server 2010 include the following:

- Fully redundant internal power management solutions span both high-density stackable and chassis product lines, and include internal, hot-swappable, redundant, load sharing power supplies, and power upgradeability with no system impact.
- Full support for 802.3af PoE and 802.3at PoE+ standards, with integrated and redundant PoE power capabilities.
- Embedded flow monitoring to provide scalable and comprehensive network access control, intrusion detection, and network traffic monitoring capabilities.

A Lync Server 2010 and Brocade solution can cost-effectively scale from the smallest to the largest enterprises, allowing you to seamlessly expand the solution as enterprise demands increase.

VALIDATED AND CERTIFIED PERFORMANCE

As the first networking solution to be validated for interoperability with Lync Server 2010, Brocade Ethernet switches and hardware load balancers successfully demonstrated superior performance by:

- Delivering high availability unified communications through application health checks, resilient Layer 2/3 mechanisms, and network element resiliency.
- Providing the capability for users in remote offices to hold high quality voice and video calls without call drop, echoes, or talkovers under the most demanding network conditions.

ABOUT BROCADE

Brocade networking solutions help the world's leading organizations transition smoothly to a virtualized world where applications and information reside anywhere. These Ethernet, storage, and converged networking offerings are designed for simplicity, non-stop networking, optimized applications, and investment protection.

For more information, please go to www.brocade.com/lync.

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