



2008 Active Directory Domain Migration and Implementation of Clustered Exchange 2007 For

How a leading TV Broadcast Company Benefited by migrating to a Clustered Microsoft Exchange 2007 Environment



GMTV

Business Situation

GMTV operates as a breakfast television broadcasting company in the United Kingdom. It offers a mix of the day's stories, news reports, topical interviews, political debate, financial reports, and sports coverage, as well as provides content based around news, current affairs, and topical features. The company provides guest interviews, television reviews, and interest strands. It also offers insights and information in the areas of weather, entertainment, lifestyle, fashion, money, shopping, and competitions, as well as provides a mix of children's programming.

GMTV's existing IT systems, built on Microsoft Windows 2003 Domain and Exchange 2003, were struggling to meet the performance needs of the organisation. The systems had become unreliable, prone to error and provided no business continuity; as a result, the risk to the business was increasing.

To overcome these problems, GMTV engaged the services of SDT Ltd to design, plan and implement a domain migration to Active Directory 2008 and a clustered Exchange 2007 environment.

The Challenge

Through a detailed analysis of GMTV's systems which, included EMC Email Xtender for email archiving, EMC Disk Xtender & Centera for data archiving and in excess of 400 mailboxes and 100 Blackberry users, SDT created an Active Directory and Microsoft Exchange Cluster design, to provide optimum performance and redundancy. Being a 24/7 operation with down time only available from Friday evenings to early Sunday mornings, SDT were presented with the a challenge of ensuring that all systems were operational by the deadline. To ensure that this could be achieved, SDT replicated the entire environment in lab conditions and performed the migration documenting the events, timings, points of no return and created a live implementation and testing plan.

By phasing the migration over two weekends, the project was fully implemented with no interruption to the business function.