

Case Study: **National Bank** Vanuatu's Own Bank

SQL Server High Availability in one of the world's most earthquake prone regions. The National Bank Vanuatu supports rural communities throughout Vanuatu through the provision of relevant and affordable banking services, including microfinance loans for small and micro-enterprises. The bank has a network of 21 branches extending from the Banks Islands in the north to Aneitym in the south.

Overview

By leveraging the skills of WARDY IT Solutions and introducing a core banking system based on Microsoft SQL Server the National Bank Vanuatu was able to continue the banks mission of leading the country in the development of accessible rural banking services whilst capitalising on opportunities within the business markets.

Vanuatu is an archipelago, which is of volcanic origin, some 1,750 kilometres east of northern Australia. Vanuatu is one of the most earthquake prone regions in the world with the Australasian and Pacific plates running through the centre of the nation. In the last 18 months there have been eight earthquakes with a magnitude greater than 7.0. As a result there was a need to implement a High Availability and Disaster Recover solution that was extremely robust to deal with the environmental influences of the region.

Solution

WARDY IT Solutions designed a SQL Server topology using SQL Server 2008 R2 Enterprise Edition that was able to meet the recovery objectives of the bank. As a developing nation with extreme mountainous terrain without any optic fibre communications WARDY IT Solutions needed to design a solution that was able to meet the objectives using the existing microwave technology from the head office of the National Bank Vanuatu to a remote island bunker three islands from the primary site.

The SQL Server High Availability solution designed by WARDY IT Solutions provided the National Bank of Vanuatu with a solution that provides zero data loss without the need to upgrade the existing communications infrastructure available in Port Vila. By utilising the out the box features available with SQL Server 2008 R2 Enterprise Edition the bank was able to reallocate funding throughout the brank network to deploy a Bank Interface for a Mobile Money system and introduce electricity and satellite communications to the remote island branches.

"The team at WARDY IT Solutions were able to leverage the features in the Enterprise Edition SQL Server 2008 R2 to design a High Availability solution that met the localised challenges in Vanuatu. Their professionalism and ability to understand the problem and assist train our operations team in the solution is to be highly commended"

- Stuart Mathison
Head of Operations

With WARDY IT Solution and Microsoft SQL Server, the National Bank Vanuatu was able to design a robust High Availability solution to meet the challenges of being located in one of the world's most earthquake regions.

Solution Overview

Organization Profile

The National Bank Vanuatu (NBV) is the only commercial bank in Vanuatu that supports the wider national interest. With a network of 21 branches extending from the Banks Islands in the north to Aneitym in the south, NBV is the only bank that provides services outside the main population centres of Port Vila and Luganville.

Business Situation

In the last 18 months there have been eight earthquakes with a magnitude greater than 7.0. As a result there was a need to implement a High Availability and Disaster Recover solution that was extremely robust to deal with the environmental influences of the region.

Solution

With the help of WARDY IT Solutions, National Bank Vanuatu adopted a SQL Server 2008 R2 topology that was able to meet the bank's recovery objectives.

Benefits

- SQL Server High-Availability and Disaster Recovery solution with Zero Data Loss
- Leverage out-of-box SQL Server functionality to allow funding to be reallocated throughout the brank network

Software and Services

- Recover corrupt data pages from a mirror server
- Reduce backup volume size with the support for backup compression
- Reduce downtime for hardware maintenance with Hot-Add CPU capabilities
- Improve concurrency with locking enhancements
- Use Resource Governor to proactively control workload prioritization



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