

Enable efficient and reliable cloud migration of large-scale ERP Cloud migration solutions with FreeStor Data Migration Technology, as rated by one of the leading Japanese IT service vendors

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Masato Shirakawa,
Deputy Manager, Cloud Service Dept.
netX Data Center Business Div. IT Management Group
SCSK Corporation

Cloud service solution "USiZE", provided by leading Japanese IT service vendor SCSK Corporation (hereinafter SCSK). FreeStor Data Migration Technology is among their menu of services, deployed as one of the important technical components to support cloud migration and back-up/disaster recovery (DR) services. We explored with them in detail the background and important aspects of FreeStor Data Migration Technology.

USiZE frees businesses from the issues associated with cloud use

Cloud environments are increasingly used in communication infrastructure such as informational systems and email. Nevertheless, with regards to the operation of mission-critical system, many businesses remain hesitant to commit to operating in cloud environments due to concerns such as those surrounding security, performance and migration risks. However, businesses attuned to the progress of cloud-supporting technologies and solutions which are taking steps to strategically transition to cloud environments with mission-critical system migration have come to the fore. At SCSK, they provide USiZE as a total system solution to leverage a diversity of services to resolve issues associated with the cloud in pioneering businesses with preferences for it, and moreover offer such in-house support to businesses for which there are difficulties associated with cloud computing.

FreeStor Data Migration Technology, supporting "cloud migration" and "back-up/DR" services

USiZE is offered as an All-In-One Environment, covering the entire line-up of services, from infrastructure through applications and their assessment, to design, construction and operation. Among these services, FreeStor Data Migration Technology is deployed as one of the important technical components to support "cloud migration services" and "back-up and DR". The two factors that led the company to deploy FreeStor Data Migration Technology were "on-premises and cloud integrity" and "minimization of downtime", said Hideyuki Ebihara, Manufacturing IT Architecture Integration Dept. at SCSK.

"Migration of systems to the cloud or construction of a DR environment greatly differs from circumstances where you simply copy data to a newly constructed system in the cloud or cases of migration and synchronization of on-premises environments. Maintaining data and system integrity by simply copying the data and system environment is no easy matter, because even if the system content is the same the instrument (infrastructure) will differ. In addition, as this operation has to be implemented without business disruptions, the question of enabling ever quicker migration and synchronization becomes critical. The minimization of downtime in mission-critical systems is particularly imperative." said Hideyuki Ebihara.

The speedy system synchronization made possible by FreeStor Data Migration Technology is highly valued as one means to easily address this particular issue.

According to Masato Shirakawa of SCSK, there are real-world cases where 9TBs of data were synchronized in actual times of less than one hour during completion of the cloud migration of an ERP (SAP) operated in an on-premises environment.

"While there are still only a few success stories such as this, both in Japan and overseas, it would have been difficult to achieve this level of ease and speed in cloud migration of an SAP operational environment by any other method." said Masato Shirakawa, Deputy Manager, Cloud Service Dept. at SCSK

About SCSK

Company name: SCSK Corporation

Industry: Information and Communications

Japan's leading IT services vendor created through the merger of Sumisho Computer Systems Corporation and CSK Corporation, in October 2011.

Providing the full line-up in the IT services spectrum as required by businesses, from system development, through IT infrastructure construction, IT management, BPO (Business Process Outsourcing), and IT hardware and software sales.

SCSK supports new value creation and global expansion for businesses.

They aim to facilitate the continued growth of companies by working with customers to "create together" the future which customers envisage and seek.

System Overview: Cloud Service Solution
(USiZE)

Focus Product : FreeStor Data Migration
Technology

Interview Date : January 2016

ISSUES

(Accompanying cloud migration of mission-critical systems)

- On-premises and cloud integrity
- Minimization of downtime

RESULTS

- Speedy data synchronization to cloud environment
- Reduced verification and migration review and workload
- Low-risk completion of cloud migration



The “USiZE – Cloud Migration Service” menu using FreeStor Data Migration Technology is now available

“Select the ideal combination of solutions for the specific environments and requirements of customers with “USiZE”. It goes without saying that SCSK have considered the merits of many other company’s products besides FreeStor Data Migration Technology. While there are cases when you must use the right tool for the right job, the usefulness of FreeStor Data Migration Technology in terms of “licensing structure”, “performance”, “versatility”, “low burden”, “scalability” and “decreased risk” is unrivalled when compared with other company’s products.

“Of particular note is the pay-as-you-go option. This is a decisive factor in choosing to deploy FreeStor Data Migration Technology, and is consistent with a fundamental concept of “USiZE” – that IT resources are deployed as IT services.” said Nobuyuki Asanuma, Manager of Sales Section II at SCSK.

The six points presented are recognized as the FreeStor Data Migration Technology service’s core products for “cloud migration” and “back-up/DR”, as components of the USiZE service line-up.

① Seamless performance

- Data is transmitted after compression and fragmentation, minimizing network burdens and enabling rapid synchronization even over low bandwidths.
- Data is quickly synchronized during cloud migration, allowing more time for confirmation and adjustment following synchronization, even given the limited time it takes to implement the migration.

② Reduced risk

- Data and structure are duplicated as they are, eliminating the need for data conversion or integrity checks following synchronization.
- Downtime in the operation of the old system during migration is eliminated, ensuring continuity of operations under the previous environment even in the case that the synchronization does not proceed smoothly, to minimize disruption of day-to-day operations.

③ Low system burden

- Eliminate burdensome system recovery or updates with a dedicated agent continuous (resident) on the synchronizing system. Rapidly complete preparation, verification and post-migration adjustments.
- Minimal impact on the performance of the system itself due to low burden of agent action.

④ Optional subscription license (on demand)

- Optional pay-as-you-go licensing structure charged by data volume, when using for cloud migration. No obligation to purchase product, facilitating reduced customer cost burden and alleviating accompanying anxieties.

- First to provide a license model tailored to use objective at a time when no other vendors or products offered subscription licenses.
- High cost performance when compared to equivalent product and application maker’s products and services.

⑤ High scalability

- Scalable, wide-ranging solutions tailored to objectives and utility both for cloud migration, DR, back-up and their combinations

Ex.: Migration of on-premises environments to the cloud.
 Management of on-premises environment as DR site following migration

⑥ Low dependence on systems and applications (versatility)

- Support for a wide range of systems, applications, non-dependent on hardware or software.
- High versatility with no system compatibility limitations. High cost-benefit tailored to a range of clients and customer requirements.
- Support for VMware to enable cloud-native computing.

Into the era of optimized data protection solutions with FalconStor

As has been demonstrated, FalconStor is highly valued at SCSK. However, when we compare the enthusiasm associated with transition to cloud computing and changes in corporate mindsets, expectations with regards to solutions to storage and management issues are even greater.

In this context, at SCSK there is also considerable excitement about FalconStor’s data protection for “Re:Baas”, a remote back-up and DR service using FreeStor Data Migration Technology which like USiZE is an established vendor providing integrated cloud solutions, as Nobuyuki Asanuma explains.

“There is an increasing call for flexible and effective data management, which is not dependent on hardware or software. We are directly engaged with the issue of how to practically cater to such customer needs – how we will protect and manage data, in a manner which is both non-disruptive and time-efficient, and at reasonable cost.

In order to offer a solution to this kind of issue, we would like to roll-out deployment of high-value-added products such as FreeStor* includes high functionality, versatility and high scalability of FreeStor Data Migration Technology. We continue to look forward to even more fully realized information provision and a strengthened support structure” said Nobuyuki Asanuma

*FreeStor is a horizontal heterogeneous SDS (Software-Defined Storage) software enabling the provision of an integrated data service in hybrid cloud environments and is also equipped with capability of FreeStor Data Migration Technology.

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