



Business

Developer and distributor of Web online games and peripheral products

Challenge

Install high speed, high capacity data storage for uninterrupted service and 24x7 operation

Solution

EonStor® RAID subsystems met the challenge for:

- high capacity
- high availability
- high performance

Infotrend Works with Wayi to Start a New Page for Online Games

In terms of both history and scale, Wayi International is Taiwan's leading developer of online games. After a long time of planning and development, Wayi announced an online game masterwork Fei Xian On-line this April. This game takes a classic Chinese swordsman story as its background. Since Wayi released it for public play testing, many players have been attracted by the settings and characters portrayed in ink and wash painting and the various unique task designs. To provide players with quality service, Wayi needs RAID arrays which can serve as the storage for the game server and meet the demand for high performance and service reliability. Infotrend's new-generation RAID subsystem is their final decision.

IT Environment Needs

"In the operation of an online game company, information system is a vital element. To produce a successful game, powerful and reliable servers and storage systems are both indispensable. Therefore, our purchase decision should be carefully made," says An Xie, CIO of Wayi International. "Fei Xian On-line is Wayi's key product of this year. To make this game run online smoothly, our IT staff have dedicated much to comparing different hardware equipments. We expect to find the servers and storage systems with good price/performance ratio, manageability and reliability."

For servers, Wayi chose the 1U and 2U products from foreign leading companies but for storage, they turned to Taiwan's local company, Infotrend. Infotrend's EonStor A12F-G2422 is used to do disk-to-disk backup for the gaming database.

"In the past, we used the arrays from other local companies but felt unsatisfied with their performance," says An Xie. "But the arrays from foreign leading companies are not affordable to us. Moreover, since they regard DAS RAID arrays as entry-level products, the scalability and flexibility can't meet our requirements. At the time when we were worrying about this issue, Infotrend's subsystems attracted our attention."

EonStor A12F-G2422 Chosen as the Ideal Storage

Infotrend's EonStor A12F-G2422 is a 2U, 12-bay, FC-to-SATA RAID subsystem. It provides 4Gb FC host channels and supports 12 SATA-II drives for large capacity. Comparing to the products from foreign companies that provide only 2G FC host channels and support SATA-I drives, EonStor A12F-G2422 is significantly better. However, Wayi understands that satisfactory specification does not necessarily lead to satisfactory performance in practice. Therefore, before they did the purchasing, they compared many RAID subsystems of different brands and conducted strict testing at our installation site. Since EonStor A12F-G2422 led the ranking in many aspects, without any hesitation, Wayi chose it as the backup storage system for Fei Xian On-line gaming database.

“To an online game company, ideal RAID storage systems should provide good price/performance ratio, stability for long-term operation and comprehensive management features. Until now, we are quite satisfied with using EonStor A12F-G2422 as the storage for Fei Xian On-line database in our data center.”

– An Xie, CIO of Wayi International



According to An Xie, Wayi believes cultivating experienced information management staff is a necessary step to provide players with the best service quality. Therefore, besides the technical personnel with expertise on Internet technology, database and information security, Wayi also employs those with storage expertise. Few Taiwan's local companies do the same. “We always do the testing comparison carefully. When designing the testing, we take into consideration our real needs and conduct it in the real environment following the self-developed process. The testing scope includes Read/Write performance for different block size settings, capability for remote management, burn-in and etc.” After the strict testing, Wayi found that EonStor A12F-G2422's performance was significantly good in reading and writing the files whose block size was larger than 64 KB. IT personnel can access the GUI of Web-based RAIDWatch management software via Internet. In Wayi's IT environment where multiple installation sites are dispersed at different locations, the intuitive design of RAIDWacth can help the company largely reduce management tasks. Wayi also configured RAID5 arrays and conducted fault-tolerant testing about the hot-swap capability of hard drives on it. As a result, the system functioned normally, the data were intact and array rebuilding was done in a short time.

Proven Benefits EonStor Array Brought

An Xie states: “To an online game company, ideal RAID storage systems should provide good price/performance ratio, stability for long-term operation and comprehensive management features. Until now, we are quite satisfied with using EonStor A12F-G2422 as the storage for Fei Xian On-line database in our data center. We once held stereotype for the storage systems from local companies, assuming that their cheap price implies bad quality. Infortrend's products totally overturn this stereotype. In the future, when we need to expand the database of Fei Xian On-line or purchase storage systems for other games, Infortrend's arrays will surely be our first choice.”

EonStor A12F-G2422: 2U/12-bay, 4G-FC to SATA RAID subsystem

- Two (2) 4G-FC host channels
- Twelve 3Gbps SATA-II hot-swappable drive trays
- Supports RAID 0, 1 (0+1), 3, 5, 10, 30, 50, and JBOD
- Redundant, hot-swappable hardware modules
- RAID5 end-to-end configuration performance
Sequential Read: 545MB/sec
Sequential Write: 345MB/sec



About Wayi International

Founding time: 1993

Employees: 165

Capital: 607 million

Annual revenue: 290 million

Main business

1. Research, development, distribution, and sale of online games
2. Copyright authorization: including selling and authorizing the oversea copyright of self-produced products or the products it distributes
3. Distribution channel: distribute the software and account points for the games produced by other companies
4. Peripheral products: online game packages, journals, terminal software and figures; card games; and etc.
5. E-business: provide e-business service and sell peripheral products on its website
6. Media program planning, advertisement and marketing



RELIABLE NETWORKED STORAGE SOLUTIONS

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