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Division of Premier Technologies, Inc

A division of Premier specializing
in Business Resiliency

E-Safe Technologies Case Study: McKesson Automation, Inc.

Cranberry Township, PA 16066

Company profile

- McKesson Automation Inc, a 550-employee division of McKesson Corporation, makes products that automate the drug-dispensing process from the pharmacy to the patient's bedside. These include a robotic pharmacy system and a medication cabinet dispensing unit used by many of the nation's hospitals.
- Based in Western Pennsylvania, McKesson Automation has been a fast-growing company as hundreds of hospitals across the country have bought many of these products.
- McKesson Automation manufactures their in-hospital pharmacy robots at their Cranberry Township headquarters.
- McKesson Automation's AccuDose drug-dispensing cabinets are made at their Thorn Hill Industrial Park location in Western Pennsylvania.

Business & Technical situation

- McKesson Automation's development shop for the software that drives the robot RX interface is an "on-demand" environment.
- McKesson Automation's processing requirements had outgrown the capabilities of existing systems.

Solution

- Virtualize their IT infrastructure, create an on-demand High-Availability environment, reduce operating expenses, bring their process environment to a manageable state, and expand desired results to include Disaster Recovery between locations.
- Redesign the infrastructure with VMware
- Implementation of virtualization with a VMware ESX environment
- Expand the role of the virtual infrastructure to encompass Disaster Recovery
- Migrate servers into virtual environment on IBM BladeCenters with redundant EqualLogic Storage Array Networks
- ESX - production server environment
- Roll systems into a virtualized environment and move secure platform
- Bring development/Q&A into virtualized on demand environment

Benefits

- Leverage new technology
- Greater business resilience
- Overall business efficiencies and cost savings
- Reliability
- More efficient backups using disk-to-disk
- Quicker recoverability
- Tighter security