United States Armed Forces

Customer Quote

Because of U.S. Army regulations and protocols, we were unable to utilize any third-party D/R solutions, since the Army will not allow any outside entity to be connected to its network. Visara's solutions allowed us to devise a plan to accomplish the long-needed D/R requirements.

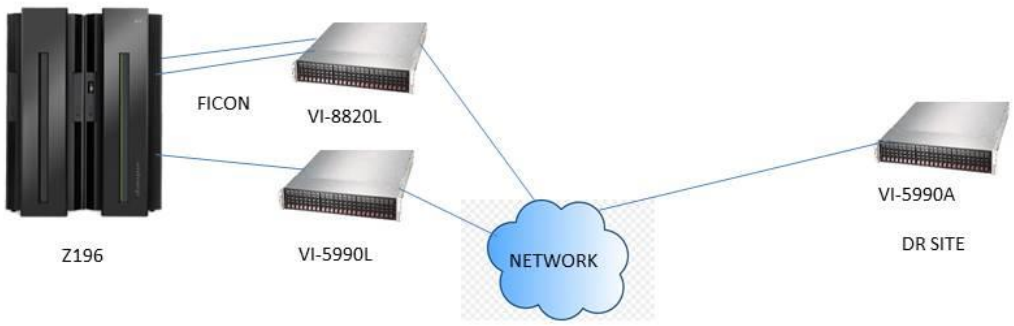
Utilizing the Visara solutions has enabled us to leap forward in our efforts towards modernization and throughput improvement, as well as simplifying our capability to provide an acceptable D/R site. Working with the Visara team has been a wonderfully satisfying experience, and they have been extremely helpful in providing the support and enhancements that our mutual relationship has encountered.

Overview

This customers environment consisted of an IBM Z196 processor and a DS68000 DASD that was maintained by a third party due to it being unsupported by IBM. The maintenance provider was experiencing difficulty in maintaining spare parts. Additionally, the customer was using real tape using IBM 3590 tape drives. The customer wished to move off of the DS68000 and utilize virtual tape instead of real tape and replicate both dasd and tape data to an offsite location.

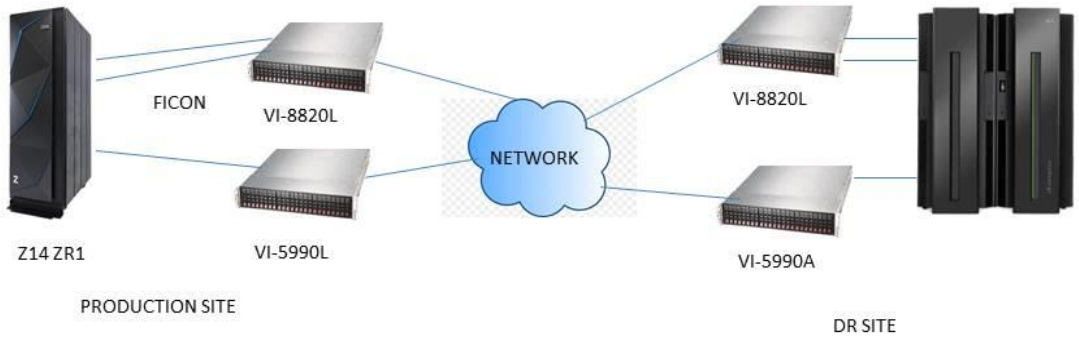
The Visara Solution

The solution involved replacing the DS68000 with a Visara VI-8820L DASD, the 3590 tape system with a Visara VI-5990L Virtual Tape Library and second VI-5990L as an offsite data vault for replicated data from both the DASD and VTL located at the production site.
The VI-8820L has 2 FICON channels and 4.8TB 15K rpm RAID 6 drives. The VI-5990L at the production site has a single FICON channel and 8TB of storage and the VI-5990L being used as a data vault has a single FICON channel and 8TB of storage. The data vault has a single FICON channel as in phase 2 it will become the DR VTL when a second processor is obtained. Replication between the sites is via 1GB link and any information is transferred via a secure SSH connection.



Phase 1 Implementation

Phase 2 of the upgrade involved the addition of a second VI-8820L DASD. This unit has 2 FICON channels and 4.8TB of SSD storage. Both the new VI-8810L and original production VI-5990L were rack mounted within the Z14 ZR1 frame.



Phase 2 Implementation

Solution Benefits

- Eliminated obsolete critical DASD components
- Improved system performance
- Provided off site DR
- Automated existing manual tape operations
- Significantly improved batch processing performance
- Eliminated physical tapes and drives
- Dramatically lowered utilities costs
- Significantly reduced usage of mainframe data center floor space
- Improved security by eliminating physical tapes
- Shortened the backup window
- Saved maintenance dollars by eliminating high-cost maintenance tape drives