

## CASE STUDY

### CAIRN PROVES VMWARE'S GREEN CREDENTIALS

Cairn Housing Association has been in existence for over 30 years and has over 3,000 properties under management throughout Scotland, with offices in Edinburgh, Glasgow, Inverness, Coatbridge and Thurso. Its portfolio embraces sheltered and amenity housing, general and supported needs accommodation, shared ownership homes, and more recently Homestake properties.

Cairn's key objective is to provide good quality, affordable homes and services in communities where people want to live.

With such a geographically widespread and diverse area of operations, Cairn recognised the importance of robust business continuity arrangements and as part of a review of their IT systems identified the need to bolster their existing arrangements. They chose Castle to implement VMware software, delivering a solution that would reduce the need for hardware and provide business continuity, whilst at the same time offer a cost effective platform for back-up and maintenance.

**The results were immediately noticeable to Rory Gaffney, Head of IT at Cairn Housing Association, who commented:**

"Cairn Housing Association is committed to continuously improving what it does and embracing new and innovative technology that facilitates this. The introduction of VMware software allowed us to more than

halve the number of hardware servers that were in operation and it soon became apparent to us that this was only one aspect of the new system. This technology has also enabled us to increase the efficiency of the IT service we provide whilst reducing costs, this has resulted in us being able to do "more with less".

Before the implementation of VMware we were running two large racks of servers in a room that operated at an average temperature of 26°C. Now we are able to operate with one rack at an average temperature of 19°C and only half the power is required to maintain operating temperature. We are getting all the benefits of virtualisation and at half the power, which results in a much lower cost and better environmental impact.

We now have an effective flexible system that meets our business continuity needs and represents a cost effective investment."

**Alan Quinn, Managing Director at Castle Computer Services added:**

"The possibilities that exist for organisations that adopt VMware seem endless. Thanks to VMware technology, Cairn Housing Association has a greener solution that will provide business continuity, while at the same time reducing total cost of ownership."



50% Reduction in Carbon Footprint

Air Conditioning Units Halved

7°C Reduction in Server Room Temperature

VMware Project Management & Support

#### Contact us

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