

Renta 4: Spanish Leader in Investment Services Maximizes Its Client Relationships

Key Challenges:

- Adapt to increasing customer demand with regard to connections and clients
- Extend the useful life of its servers
- Exploit the full potential of the bandwidth contracted
- Delay the increase of its servers and communication lines

Key Benefits:

- Compressed data by 45 percent
- Provided better working conditions for current servers
- Reduced encrypted-traffic response time to client
- Freed Web servers from encryption tasks

Renta 4 is one of Spain's leading investment services companies, specializing in savings and investment products. Its network of 45 offices and services via telephone, i-mode mobile telephone, WAP, and the Internet enable the company to have continuous communication with each of its clients and to constantly evaluate its objectives. Renta 4 currently operates in 10 different markets and has agreements signed with various bodies. As a result, it is able to offer all the investment funds available in the world, without losing sight of its specialization model in savings and investment products.

A Growing Internet Base

More than 60 percent of Renta 4's clients make contact with the company over the Internet. The number of transactions over the Internet is greater than 60 percent. Since that number increases every year, the Data Processing Centre must deal with more visits, more information, and better content in a secure and seamless manner for clients.

To guarantee continuous technological excellence and to provide support for all these connections, Renta 4 considered increasing its communication lines and its 20 latest-generation servers, which are capable of supporting up to 30 Mbps of information. Prior to a communication and server upgrade, however, it decided to study the market to see whether there was any tool that would enable it to optimize its resources and thereby delay such a costly expansion.

Paying Dividends

Renta 4 started looking for high-technology products that would cover all its needs with support in Spain, quality references, and a competitive price.

After investigating various solutions, Renta 4 found itself most impressed by the DX™ application acceleration platform from Juniper Networks offered. The company studied a Juniper DX platform deployment in the London Underground and agreed to try it out. After seeing the product operating, Renta 4 was able to check its capabilities. In the words of Carlos Vitón,

"All of the systems that provide service to the Internet channel are now freer."

Carlos Vitón
Webmaster, Head of Perimeter Security
Renta 4

Webmaster and head of perimeter security at Renta 4, “We were pleased to find a solution that covered all our needs and that could be configured in a couple of minutes without any impact on the rest of our equipment.” Renta 4 decided to acquire a DX platform cluster solution.

Making the Investment Grade

“Not only have we not had to increase our communication lines, but because of the encrypted compression capacity of the DX devices, we were able to halve our current throughput,” Vitón stated. “All of the systems that provide service to the Internet channel are now freer, since a DX platform offers similar performance to five Apache servers over Linux.”

“In our case, 90 percent of R4.com information is encrypted traffic, as we need to guarantee all of our clients’ information and transactions. In addition, each secure transaction has a high system cost, as the encryption process is very laborious,” said Vitón. “Thanks to the Juniper Networks DX platform, we were

able to solve this high system cost and free up the Web servers. As a result of the ability to re-utilize the capacity of the SSL (secure sockets layer) tunnels, we reduced the amount of time this costly process had to be performed, and speeded up the encrypted response of every request.”

Vitón was surprised by the high compression capacity of the DX solution – more than 45 percent. Looking to the future, he believes that the Juniper Networks solution will continue to be equally useful “because of all its benefits: compression, acceleration, and great reduction of the load on Web servers.”

Consequently, for Renta 4, the final assessment is very positive: “Juniper Networks has met all our needs very satisfactorily, at a very competitive price and with practically no impact on our infrastructure,” asserted Vitón. “I recommend you try it; it will end up convincing you. We can confirm that this solution more than fulfills what is indicated on its data sheets.”



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