100% uptime and 3 times faster load time for Imperia Online's 40 million users after deploying StorPool

About Imperia Online

Imperia Online Ltd. is one of the biggest and most successful game production companies in Europe. It was founded in 2005. Today it has more than 20 released games, including the flagship title Imperia Online with over 40 million users worldwide. They develop games for web browsers, iOS, Android, Windows Phone, and social networks.

IT Stack

200 servers
350+ VMs
Linux, Apache
PHP, MariaDB
10 Gbit network
50 hypervisors

Storage Solution

StorPool
OpenNebula, KVM
pure SSD cluster
x3 replication
10 Gbit network

20+ released games

40+ million users

Played in 170+ countries

*"The users will give you one chance only to like your product. If you do not perform well you are dead in the water before you have even started.
In our business one of the most important aspects is the technology, which you put behind.",* **said Dobroslav Dimitrov, Co-founder of Imperia Online.**

Before StorPool

Prior to implementing StorPool, Imperia Online used DAS storage with a mixture of HDDs and SSDs. They also tried hardware SANs from various vendors. **However, the company was searching for better performance and uptime to keep the customers engaged and satisfied with the game.**

StorPool DISTRIBUTED STORAGE

The Challenges

The biggest challenges in the gaming industry are providing extremely **low latency** of the game, keeping safe the players' data and being always accessible. Players have high expectations. The services Imperia Online offers are data driven. They **needed a storage solution, which provides a competitive advantage, by slashing the latency and page load time and eliminating any possible hardware related downtime.**

The Criteria

The technical team of Imperia Online set out to make their service both highly available and incredibly fast in order to satisfy their customers' demanding needs. They wanted to move from the complicated solution they have built internally to something much more sophisticated.
After testing several other solutions, Imperia Online chose StorPool as the perfect fit, delivering a robust solution with blazing speed at a fair price.

The Solution

"Technical expertise, flexibility and easy process of deployment played a huge role when we chose StorPool.
We are running a never sleeping game, played in the whole world so we have a very high demand for a fault tolerance, where the redundancy is a must. ",
said Borislav Mitev, Head System Administrator, Imperia Online.

By implementing the solution, page loading time **was reduced from 200-300 milliseconds per page to 75-100 miliseconds.** This makes I mperia Online **4 times faster than its biggest competitors.** Migrating the database to software-defined storage with high IOPS numbers played a significant part in the whole optimization. Another great feature of theshared storage is live migration of virtual machines between hypervisors.

Key Benefits After Deploying StorPool

Flexibility & easy deployment

Scalability

Redundancy and no downtime

Data protection

Decreased page loading time

100% reliability

"StorPool was a great fit and a very successful decision we made and I will recommend it to anybody. In the gaming industry you need to be always available and people take this for granted. You need to have an SDS technology to keep the players safe all the time. This technology provides great performance on a reasonable cost and gives you a competitive edge.
You do not have to worry and can start thinking about your core business, which is making games.", **said Dobroslav Dimitrov, Co-founder of Imperia Online.**

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info@storpool.com
www.storpool.com

+1 415 670 9320
+ 44 207 097 8536