

Technology Delivers Business Value at Tiger Brands

A standardised enterprise platform reduces overall risk, cost of management and increases employee productivity

Customer Name: Tiger Brands Limited

Industry: Fast-Moving Consumer Packaged Goods

Location: South Africa

Number of Employees: 16,000 plus

Business Impact

- Standardised networking platform reduces overall risk of productivity loss
- Scalable infrastructure allows for integration of incompatible technologies and expands to incorporate acquisitions



Case Study

Business Challenge

Listed on the Johannesburg Stock Exchange, Tiger Brands Limited is a branded fast-moving consumer packaged goods company that operates mainly in South Africa and selected emerging markets. Brand building and innovation strategies remain core to their business with additional growth focus through local and African acquisitions.

Tiger required a robust and reliable IT infrastructure and platform to support their strategy. Working towards a single, IT, ERP platform, it became clear that the data centre, WAN and LAN had to be reliable and fully redundant.

The network was 15 years old and incapable of providing the resilience needed to sustain business growth. All the switches in the WAN and LAN had to be replaced with managed switches.

When the IT team searched for a networking partner, their requirements were to select a company with which they could build a long-standing relationship. Cisco met all of their requirements, and Tiger also found the Cisco® Data Center 3.0 strategy appealing, as it aligned with their own five-year IT roadmap of consolidating, optimising and then virtualising their infrastructure.

Solution and Results

Tiger subsequently built a sustainable, robust and scalable infrastructure with Cisco solutions. They installed 10 Gigabit Ethernet (GbE) switches in the core. All LANs were replaced with CAT6 cable and a Cisco switch architecture. They also upgraded their hosting facility with technologies from the Data Center 3.0 framework. Cisco WAAS (Wide Area Application Services) devices were introduced to optimise bandwidth between the sites and the data centre, improving efficiencies and reducing cost.

The Cisco WAAS devices offer Microsoft® Active Directory services, allowing Tiger to eliminate the need for domain servers at 90 sites and achieve 80% data compression. This has saved both server and line costs. Tiger is not only reducing their carbon footprint, but also experiencing major cost savings in refreshing their server hardware with Cisco NAS devices and in maintenance as the IT department previously had to maintain and update the servers.

The new platform is also scalable. Tiger recently had to deploy a wireless solution at one of their sites, and as a result of the new platform, they did not have to rearchitect their entire environment, but were able to slot in inter-compatible technologies, and the environment just functioned.



“Tiger is empowered with a robust, scalable and reliable infrastructure platform to lead the business where it strategically wants to go. The platform is evidence that technology can deliver business value, improve productivity, reduce cost and lead to a competitive advantage.”

Darryl Thwaites
Chief Information Officer, Tiger Brands Limited

For More Information

To find out more about Cisco Switching solutions, please go [here](#)

To find out more about Cisco Wide Area Applications services, please go [here](#)

To find out more about Tiger Brands, please go [here](#)