



LiteSpeed™ for SQL Server Streamlines Retail Distribution and Storage Operations

Starting as a part of E. Land Group, one of the major fashion and distribution companies in Korea, 2001 Outlet Co., Ltd. merged with EL International and E-Land World in November 2004. Emerging as the nation's major distribution company with a comprehensive portfolio including distribution, fashion, foods and hotels, E-Land World has become one of the national brands such as Lotte, Hyundai, Shinsegae and GS.

Through recent acquisitions including Haitai Stores, a chain of 32 supermarkets, and Newcore Outlet, which operates 17 department and discount retail stores, 2001 Outlet Co., Ltd. Has emerged as a major distribution brand in Korea.

With such rapid business expansion, the ongoing challenge of system integration to accommodate growth remains omnipresent. This is particularly true in the amount of data that needs to be stored and managed. With limited capacity available in the existing data infrastructure, 2001 Outlet's E-Business team selected LiteSpeed for SQL Server from Quest Software to meet its long-range backup and recovery needs and satisfy increased storage demands. When 2001 Outlet postponed the purchase of additional media for storage, they recognized both lower costs and more efficient backup management for their 32 and 64-bit SQL Servers.

The Challenge

Up until its acquisition of Newcore stores in 2004, 2001 Outlet operated Windows 2000 Advanced Server and 32-bit SQL Server 2000 to support their SAP R/3 processes. However, once Newcore's retail stores were brought online and their storage needs were evaluated, the company realized that the existing operational and production systems were not integrated and required extension. 2001 Outlet decided to build a new foundation for ERP operations that would accommodate the company's growth, including the migration of their existing system to a 64-bit environment that included 64-bit SQL Servers.

At the same time, 2001 Outlet's E-Business team was faced with another challenge—how to extend its storage infrastructure. Once 2001 Outlet integrated with Newcore's system, the demand for storage capacity increased exponentially. Disk storage volume grew from 500 GB to 1.4 TB between 2003 and the first half of 2005, creating an urgent need to establish a strategy to store, backup and recover data. This became as important as the migration of the system infrastructure itself.

"We thought that adding new disks was the only way to meet the increasing demand for more storage," said Ki-young Han, assistant manager of E-Business Team, 2001 Outlet. "However, we serendipitously came across the alternative solution that we really needed—LiteSpeed for SQL Server."

The Quest Solution

"We first came across LiteSpeed for SQL Server in a newsletter for SQL Servers," recalled Han. "According to the article, it was purported to offer several impressive benefits, including 50 percent less time for backup and restore processes and up to 95 percent file compression, which resulted in reduced disk and tape storage requirements. After the evaluation version was downloaded and tested, we were pleasantly surprised. The evaluation version delivered everything that it promised. It saved both disk space and time for file backup and restore."

Han and his team were also impressed with LiteSpeed for SQL Server's track record and broad, international reputation. "After collecting a variety of information, we learned that LiteSpeed for SQL Server was certified by Microsoft as a third-party SQL Server solution and utilized by many companies abroad. Both of these facts were pluses, in our opinion," added Han.

Outlet 2001's storage infrastructure is based on EMC technology, with HP/Compaq disk backup. The company also uses tape to back up important information culled from the data backed up on the disks. Ultimately, Han purchased LiteSpeed for SQL Server for 32-bit as well as 64-bit SQL Server versions; the 32-bit was implemented for Web-related work such as the Enterprise Portal, while the 64-bit version was used to support the company's SAP R/3 ERP and SAP Business Information Warehouse operations.

Overview

"According to our analysis, we would have needed to add six 73-GB disks in a period of 10 months as opposed to adding just one more disk with LiteSpeed for SQL Server. We saved about \$600,000 USD, even after factoring in the cost to purchase the product."

- Ki-young Han,
Assistant Manager of E-Business Team,
2001 Outlet Co., Ltd.

Headquarters

Seoul, South Korea

Services

Water utility

Critical Needs

- Manage data integration and storage intelligently
- Extend and optimize the company's existing storage infrastructure
- Execute a proven strategy to store, backup and recover data more rapidly
- Postpone the purchase of additional disks to meet increased storage demands

Solution

LiteSpeed for SQL Server

Results

- Disk space usage optimized by 80 percent
- Backup times reduced by 75 percent
- New disk infrastructure purchases reduced to one-tenth of anticipated needs
- Equalized savings realized of more than \$600,000

Following installation, Han tested backup and restore capabilities of the LiteSpeed for SQL Server solution on 1-TB data. He quickly discovered that he was able to reduce his disk space usage by 80 percent, which compressed the terabyte backup file down to just 210 GB. Time was also a critical factor. When managing terabyte-sized data, Han and his team spent a significant amount of time on backup and restore, resulting in system downtime and, ultimately, service downtime. With LiteSpeed for SQL Server, Han was able to complete his entire backup, one that had previously taken an average of five hours to complete, in just 90 minutes. Moreover, with the use of LiteSpeed for SQL Server, Han was able to cut his total restoration time by a third—from nine hours to just three, which represented a “significant savings” in time.

Han has also been pleased with LiteSpeed for SQL Server’s manageability. “Like using the backup wizard for SQL Server, LiteSpeed for SQL Server provides an intuitive and easy to use management environment,” explained Han. “Since LiteSpeed for SQL Server enables script writing by supporting T-SQL, now I can easily perform tasks like split backup that SQL Server did not support by itself.”

The Bottom Line

The most significant benefit Han has realized by implementing LiteSpeed for SQL Server is in the area of cost reduction. As he observed, for any company with a terabyte-sized database, the cost savings from the increased database space will exponentially grow. “We evaluated the cost reduction effect of LiteSpeed for SQL Server against the cost of adding more disk space. We based this cost on the increased amount of database size from August 2004 to May 2005. What we discovered is that the bigger the database becomes, the higher the amount savings we recognize,” said Han.

For example, in 2004, 2001 Outlet had an 860-GB database, requiring 910 GB of physical disk space. By May 2005, to support its growth in both areas, the company would have needed a database of 1.3 TB and backup space of 1.33 TB. By using LiteSpeed for SQL Server, the company needed only 210 GB of disk space, which resulted in an 80 percent savings on media.

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For 2001 Outlet, the value and cost reduction benefit that LiteSpeed for SQL Server offers will be even greater in the future. By the second half of 2005, the size of the company’s database is expected to grow to 1.8 TB. Moreover, the demand for more disk resources will steadily increase due to the system integration with the newly acquired Haitai Stores and the increased usage of business systems including Data Warehousing and Customer Relationship Management solutions, which started to run on full scale in 2005.

“Any company that has a disk size in excess of 1 TB will benefit from using LiteSpeed for SQL Server rather than adding more capacity,” said Han. “2001 Outlet will stand by its motto, ‘optimization and streamlined purchases’ and continue to extend its disk infrastructure efficiently, just like it always has.”

About 2001 Outlet Co., Ltd.

Starting as a part of E. Land Group, one of the major fashion and distribution companies in Korea, 2001 Outlet was merged with EL International and E-Land World in November 2004. The merger brought the company’s total asset to 799.5 billion won and 1,600 employees. The projected revenue for 2005 is 760 billion won. Emerging as the nation’s major distribution company with a comprehensive portfolio including distribution, fashion, foods, and hotels, E-Land World has become one of the national brands such as Lotte, Hyundai, Shinsegae and GS. For more information about E-Land World and 2001 Outlet, visit <http://www.eland.co.kr>.

About Quest Software, Inc.

Quest Software, Inc. delivers innovative products that help organizations get more performance and productivity from their applications, databases and Windows infrastructure. Through a deep expertise in IT operations and a continued focus on what works best, Quest helps more than 18,000 customers worldwide meet higher expectations for enterprise IT. Quest Software can be found in offices around the globe and at www.quest.com