CASE STUDY

How did an Online business solve the Mainframe Cost & Performance challenge?

ABOUT THE CASE STUDY

This case study outlines for you how the **zWR (zWorkloadReporter)** solution together with our **IBM zOptimization Professional Services** helped a market-leading specialized retail business to obtain optimal advanced performance tuning on their Mainframe system. This combination of services and zWR enabled the customer to meet their SLOs during peak periods and achieve optimal MSU MLC Cost Reduction savings.

> *"With the implementation of zWR and EPA services, this customer reduced the MSU consumption by 37% along with significantly improved system performance."*

CLIENT

A market-leading specialized online retail business with products distributed all around the United States and worldwide.

CHALLENGE

The online retail business is a very competitive industry with low margins, this business environment requires continuous improvement and cost-saving opportunities across the board. In this context, the customer's senior management requested that the mainframe team reduce the cost to their platform.

This was challenging as this industry is highly sensitive to performance peaks due to unpredictable customer buying patterns. This limitation requires careful analysis of peak period patterns to ascertain optimal MSU reduction without impacting performance and SLOs during peak periods.

SOLUTION

The process started with a zWR Extended Performance Analysis (EPA), which included in-depth analysis findings and recommendations on how far the MSU MC costs could be reduced safely without impacting performance.
In the first phase, we had to optimize the system, especially in the areas of WLM Performance Tuning and PR/SM Weighting Factor & Logical CP Configuration optimization. And then, fully understand the CPU utilization patterns and carry out statistical analysis.

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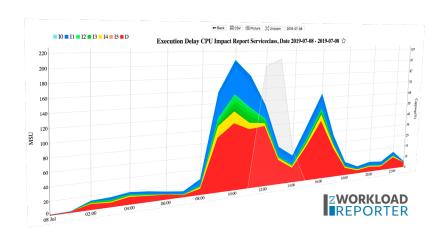
zWORKLOAD REPORTER

BENEFITS

The zWR EPA services engagement provided cost savings beyond what was originally anticipated by the customer. In addition, the performance during the peak periods experienced a boost. After one year the mainframe system achieved …

1 very significant MSU reduction of 62 MSUs

2 an approximate "Return on Investment (ROI)" of 534%

3 Cost savings of $534,000 in the first year

4 a Break-Even point after just 4 months

In the second phase, we analyzed and projected the maximum MSU reduction potential that would not impact performance and SLOs in the peak season.

The advanced Performance Tuning completed and MSU MLC Cost Reduction initiative positioned our customer for optimal performance tuning to meet their SLOs for peak periods and peak season along with very significant MSU MLC cost reduction savings.

As the third and final phase, the customer wanted to quantify "before and after" performance impact and the financial benefits model.

FOLLOW UP

zGuard is a locally installed software, that automates the optimization of HMC configuration. It ensures the right MSU are in the right place and at the right time.

Get zGuard | **Watch video**