

# CASE STUDY

## State of California

### The Golden State Gets Serious About Setting a Green Computing Example

When directed by the Governor to reduce energy consumption of the State Government's 225,000 computers and 9,500 servers, the State of California CIO understood that the first step in meeting these ambitious goals was to first get an accurate inventory of the organization's IT infrastructure. The sheer number of computers is daunting in itself, but try doing this for more than a hundred government agencies with facilities large and small in every corner of the state. Furthermore, obtaining an accurate census of the state's IT assets is just the beginning. The CIO's team also required energy consumption data on every device – information not normally reported in a basic asset inventory exercise. The Office of the CIO turned to BDNA's IT Genome solutions to quickly, accurately, and non-disruptively gain a single pane-of-glass view of the state's IT infrastructure and its energy consumption profile.



#### **BUSINESS PROFILE**

The largest state government in the US, with 240,000 employees, 225,000 computers including 9,500 servers, serving the state's 34,000,000 people.

#### **INDUSTRY**

Government

#### **BUSINESS CHALLENGE**

Implement a green computing initiative across the state government's IT infrastructure.

#### **SOLUTION**

BDNA IT Genome™ products and solutions including BDNA Discover™ asset inventory informed by BDNA Technopedia.™

#### **BENEFITS**

Projected savings of \$40 million per year in electricity costs.

First ever single-pane-of-glass view of the state's IT infrastructure across all agencies and facilities.

Leveraging this information for additional savings from follow-on software license management, infrastructure consolidation, and compliance projects.

**CHALLENGE**

Executive Order S-20-04, signed by former Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger, established energy efficiency as a top priority for the State of California's buildings, information technology systems, and vehicles. The goal of the order was to support California's power conservation initiatives and reduce overall energy usage. One obvious candidate for conservation was the state's vast, power-hungry IT infrastructure, which included some 225,000 PCs, 9,500 servers, and more than 100 email systems.

In order to effectively reduce energy consumption of its IT infrastructure, however, the state needed to know what it had, but it lacked accurate visibility of its IT assets. There was no central repository of asset information due to nearly 100 agencies and departments operating independently. And what asset information was available was based on unreliable and often incomplete surveys and manual inventories. What the state needed was a comprehensive, accurate view of its IT infrastructure, an in-depth baseline from which to drive informed decisions about policies and priorities.

**SOLUTION**

After a rigorous evaluation, the State of California Office of the CIO selected BDNA, the leading provider of technology designed to help enterprises discover and eliminate IT inefficiencies. The solution included Technopedia (then known as BDNA Catalog), and BDNA Discover (formerly BDNA Insight).

BDNA Discover, the industry's most comprehensive and fastest-to-deploy discovery solution, creates a trusted, complete system of record for all assets and layers of IT resources, delivering the transparency and insight necessary to measure and manage the business of IT. Technopedia is an encyclopedia of critical information of every major software and hardware product in the technology industry; it drives the discovery, normalization, and enrichment of the IT inventory reported by BDNA Discover.

BDNA's ability to provide a single solution to gather comprehensive inventory information for servers, PCs, printers, storage equipment, and network devices was key to the state's selection of BDNA. Another important capability was BDNA's non-intrusive, agentless approach, which was well suited to gathering data across many agencies' infrastructure and locations with minimal support staff. In addition, the solution also met the state's tight deadline for completing the asset inventory.

The state used BDNA Discover to generate a detailed, accurate inventory of hardware and software across the various agencies supporting more than 180,000 state employees. Next, Technopedia, with its comprehensive power-rating data, was used to automatically match up hardware assets discovered by BDNA Discover with their energy consumption metrics. The intelligence gathered from this baseline data was then used to drive energy consumption analysis across the IT infrastructure.

**BENEFITS**

The information gathered by BDNA is providing the State of California with intelligence to inform and define its ongoing Green IT policy. The state will upgrade equipment to use lower power chips and migrate from desktop computers to laptops, producing long-term financial and environmental gains. The State of California expects to save over \$40 million and reduce carbon emissions by 200,000 tons per year based on analyzing data provided by BDNA.

Although the original mission of the project was to provide an energy baseline for Green IT policies, the information gathered by BDNA facilitates other cost-saving opportunities for the State. These include:

- Standardization of hardware, software (configurations, versions, and editions), and operating systems
- Centralization of inventory control and asset management policies and processes
- Opportunity for fact-based software licensing discussions with vendors
- Enhanced security by identifying non-compliant systems and associated risks

The added visibility into the State's IT infrastructure provided by BDNA will enable it to drive informed decisions around policies and priorities and improve operational efficiencies across all segments of the IT environment.

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