

How SPARC Technology Drives IT Modernization

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IT modernization is a priority for the federal government and as many agencies aggressively pursue these objectives, one of the most common barriers to implementation is funding. A prime example of this challenge is SPARC infrastructure – a technology that has been a workhorse within federal agencies for many years is now presenting IT leaders with a difficult decision. That decision is whether to migrate the often mission-critical workloads from SPARC to another platform or to upgrade their environment with the next generation of physical servers. While there are merits to each approach, both options come with their own unique

challenges, as well as a common problem – the financial burden.

The Defense Information Systems Agency (DISA) needed to upgrade its SPARC servers. The agency's servers were aging and required on-going system maintenance just to be able to keep pace with the increasingly demanding workloads the agency was being asked to manage. One of the key impacts of this expanded workload was that it was adding to the costs associated with supporting this environment. With an established preference for selecting as-a-service solutions

because of their ability to deliver cost savings and streamline operations, there was no question that the agency would continue to operate SPARC as-a-service. With a roadmap for the new M12 chipset from Fujitsu, DISA could capitalize on the increased performance, reduced power, cooling and space consumption, greater scalability and agility of the new SPARC technology while continuing to contain its maintenance and operations costs.

In this case, DISA partnered with ViON for as-a-service delivery that enabled them to maintain the power and performance of their SPARC servers while streamlining costs and passing through those OPEX savings to their mission customers in the Army, Navy, Air Force, and Marines. They also realized savings by paying for only the capacity they used while reducing the footprint and, in some instances, eliminating entire data centers.

“Smart spending and investment will involve being able to capitalize on savings from modernization activities and seeing the value of the as-a-service or consumption-based model. Now it’s not only capacity that agencies can expect to be available as-a-service, but rather everything in the IT realm, from storage to AI.” said David Kushner, Vice President of Federal Sales at ViON.

Modernizing IT in the face of budget limitations is an issue that has challenged IT leaders for years. Taking a creative approach to acquiring new technology as DISA has done helps agencies drive innovation and meet their strategic goals. By leveraging as-a-service options, agencies can more

effectively manage their budgets while ensuring that their infrastructure is optimally maintained and updated regularly. This enables them to meet not just IT goals, but funding goals, supporting mission success for all.