On the Road to Timely Deliveries

USA Truck relies on its IT infrastructure to deliver mission-critical performance and availability 24x7—to drive its reputation for exceptional customer service, reliability and on-schedule deliveries.

Business needs

USA Truck has been a premier North American transportation solutions provider for 35 years. As part of its effort to continue to improve efficiency and meet the capacity demands of a rapidly growing business, the company modernized its data center with the latest all-flash storage and hyperconverged IT infrastructure.

Solutions at a glance

- Dell EMC Unity All-Flash
- Dell EMC VxRail
- VMware vSphere
- Simple to manage, leaving more time for projects that grow the business
- VxRail scales to accommodate ever-expanding requirements
- Reduces licensing costs to ensure excellent value

Business results

- Continuous access to critical data keeps deliveries on schedule
- Streamlines operations by exceeding expectations on speed, reliability and efficiency

Keeps

5,600 Trailer loads on the road and on time

Provides

Five 9s of availability
USA Truck, Inc. is a leading capacity solutions provider. The firm is one of the nation’s largest transport companies, meeting the needs of customers throughout North America. Relying on its main fleet of 2,000 tractors, more than 5,600 trailers, plus a team of over 2,300 staff members, USA Truck serves organizations, large and small—including Home Depot, Lowe’s, Kimberly-Clark and Walmart.

The company goes beyond traditional over-the-road trucking to also offer dedicated solutions for unique needs, Mexico transborder solutions, intermodal service that includes expedited segments on rail, sophisticated logistics support and more.

Keeping Critical Workloads Rolling
USA Truck’s IT infrastructure is at the heart of its success. Systems and workloads are absolutely critical because the company relies on technology to track its fleet and communicate 24x7 with drivers—ensuring that deliveries are on schedule. With business demands growing steadily, the company was looking for innovative new IT solutions. “Dell EMC Unity All-Flash provides improved response with our databases,” says Joel Webb, senior manager for information technology. “We can deliver timely data to our end users, both internal and external. This allows us to plan the best route for our trucks, so they arrive on schedule, while minimizing emissions to protect our environment.”

Dell EMC Unity offers the enhanced speed, efficiency and five-nines of availability to streamline operations, eliminate downtime and reduce costs. USA Truck’s IT team also likes how easy the arrays have been to deploy and manage.

“We had everything up and running the same day,” Webb remarks. “Migration went seamlessly—our customers and drivers never knew we changed storage platforms. In addition, because provisioning is so easy with Dell EMC Unity All-Flash, we now have more time for other creative projects that add value to the business.”

“We are well-positioned for expanded growth in the years ahead. This can’t happen without reliable storage and IT infrastructure from Dell EMC.”

Joel Webb
Senior Manager–Information Technology, USA Truck, Inc.

Staying Ahead of Company Growth
With its business expanding, USA Truck recognized that it needed to modernize its data center. The answer was the Dell EMC VxRail hyperconverged infrastructure appliance.

The only fully integrated, pre-configured and pre-tested system powered by VMware vSAN consolidates compute, storage and virtualization with end-to-end automated lifecycle management and a single point of support, so USA Truck can focus on serving customers. The company
“Dell EMC VxRail helps us deliver innovative new solutions for both customers and our own use, and enables us to easily grow as our business does.”

Bryan Rogers, Senior Director–IT Infrastructure & Operations
USA Truck, Inc.

USA Truck uses VxRail for every application and workload—including its core truck management system.

“Dell EMC VxRail helps us deliver innovative new solutions for both customers and our own use, and enables us to easily grow as our business does,” says Bryan Rogers, senior director of IT infrastructure and operations. “With VxRail, we’ve reduced our licensing costs, so it’s also been an excellent value proposition for us.”

One of the areas in which the company is innovating is the development of a sophisticated telematics platform. “Our new telematics solution provides enhanced capabilities with navigation, hours of service and communication with our drivers,” Rogers explains. “It’s put us on the cutting edge and will be a real game-changer for us.”

Mapping a Data-driven Future

USA Truck continually seeks to improve its performance and efficiency with the help of Dell EMC. The company is currently exploring ways to use VMware NSX Data Center to connect and protect applications across its data center with a complete networking and security virtualization platform— for greater agility, automation and cost savings.

“From food and beverages to paper products and raw materials, most consumers have no idea how many goods arrive in stores via trucks,” notes Webb. “USA Truck is well-positioned for expanded growth in the years ahead. This can’t happen without reliable storage and IT infrastructure from Dell EMC.”

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