

# Organization Streamlines Database Management with Nutanix

Nutanix empowers single administrator to support database operations across the entire organization



## INDUSTRY

Healthcare

## BENEFITS

- Nutanix Era simplifies and automates manual database administration steps to help control management costs and accelerate innovation
- Resilient hyperconverged infrastructure helps development teams meet business needs faster
- Rapid deployment accelerates database from two days to a few hours, for faster service deployment and time to value

## SOLUTION

- Nutanix Enterprise Cloud OS
- Nutanix Prism Pro software
- Nutanix AHV
- Nutanix Era
- Nutanix Move

## Applications

- Microsoft SQL

## BUSINESS BENEFITS

For nearly 40 years, the member-based not-for-profit organization has been responsible for promoting safe, competent practitioners in its industry. The organization's network infrastructure supports a variety of resources for licensing boards, but as its databases grew, performance began to suffer. The organization rapidly consolidated its multiple siloed databases onto a single hyperconverged infrastructure (HCI) platform from Nutanix. Utilizing the Nutanix Era database-as-a-service solution, the organization has dramatically simplified its database management lifecycle, automating time-consuming tasks like provisioning, patching, and upgrading.



“We purchased Nutanix two years ago, and it was instrumental in enabling us to cut over to a new environment, cutting our lead time in half. Nutanix enables us to keep our databases refreshed and our environments intact. It's a world of difference.”

- Brett Lubeck, Information Systems Configuration Manager at the member-based not-for-profit organization.

## CHALLENGES

The organization protects the public by providing service and leadership that promote safe, competent industry practices. The organization strives to achieve a high level of public protection through a strong foundation of laws and

regulatory standards in its industry, effective tools and systems to assess entry-level and continuing competence, and public and professional awareness of resources for public protection. To serve its members and provide resources to consumers, the organization relies on ten different database servers and more than 50 databases. However, its diverse applications and environments made its environment complex and difficult to manage and maintain.

“We were throwing all kinds of databases in different environments all on one server, which was good for licensing, but bad for performance,” said Brett Lubeck, Information Systems Configuration Manager at the member-based not-for-profit.

As the only database administrator within the organization, Lubeck is under constant pressure to manage multiple servers and databases. With only so many hours available each day, Lubeck needed to simplify his workload, even while expediting and improving delivery of services to business stakeholders. Lubeck and his team were looking for a solution that could enable faster database provisioning, improve performance, and make their environment simpler, consistent, and easy to manage.

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## SOLUTION

After exploring a variety of solutions, the organization chose a Nutanix HCI solution. “We attended the Nutanix conference in New Orleans, and we realized that the solution would help us save time and effort,” said Lubeck. It is so much easier, with a single interface that makes our infrastructure and databases easier to manage with one-click operation, as opposed to requiring manual scripting.”

The organization had been running SQL Server 2008/R2, and as support for the platform ended, the organization needed to move over to SQL Server 2016. Migrating to a more scalable, flexible Nutanix hyperconverged platform helped to prompt the move—and made it smooth and simple. Nutanix Move enabled the organization to automate the time-consuming processes needed to manually migrate the firm’s legacy VMs to the new platform.

“Our new solution replaced our previous SAN and VMware environment,” said Lubeck. “VMware lacked the scalability we needed, and we could never have made the migration under our previous platform. I can tell you with 1000 percent certainty that the whole Nutanix experience for me has been awesome.”

To take some of the heat off the lone database administrator, the organization deployed Nutanix Era to simplify the company’s complex database administration operations. This solution eases administrators’ day-to-day tasks, automating their ability to manage its dozens of databases across production, development, and testing environments.

The firm also deployed Nutanix AHV, an enterprise-ready hypervisor featuring integrated virtualization, management, and security.

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## CUSTOMER OUTCOMES

With Nutanix Era running on the Nutanix HCI, the organization is enjoying not only more efficient database administration, but improved resilience. “For refreshing data, I had been looking forward to the day when I could refresh all our databases from the top down,” said Lubeck. “Under our past environment, nodes would go down, and we would not be able to complete the process. Nutanix got me to the point where I could refresh the data down the line, and it was beautiful.”

The Nutanix environment also enables the company's development teams to respond faster and scale more easily to tackle changing business requirements. Now they can continually refine systems like customer-facing interfaces for clients who are making online purchases, registering for exams, or taking practice exams.

"Our development and testing teams use Nutanix for continuous software development," said Lubeck. "In the past, they would ask us to set up an environment, and it might take a day or two. Now we can spin up entire environments in hours—not only databases but web servers. They were very much pleased with how quickly we could get these resources out to them."

Nutanix also enables the not-for-profit to handle more of its development processes in-house, which is less costly than hiring third parties to do the work.

"Before, we had a third-party firm doing a lot of the software development working in conjunction with our team," said Lubeck. "I wish I had had this product years ago, because it would have enabled us to increase productivity and save time on bug triage and other processes."

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## NEXT STEPS

Nutanix is continually improving and expanding its solution capabilities, and Lubeck plans to take advantage of new capabilities to make his centralized database management even more efficient. "We are looking forward to new features that will enable us to use a single instance of Nutanix Era to manage all our other instances, whether they reside in the public cloud, regional sites, or on multiple clusters," he said.

With the Nutanix environment in place to streamline his administrative tasks, Lubeck spends less time evenings and weekends managing his databases, and more time focusing on adding value to the business. With its databases and platform functioning flawlessly, the organization can innovate to deploy new service offerings and resources for its members and consumers, instead of worrying about the network.



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