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Kiwibank switches power off, cuts costs

By CIO New Zealand | Wednesday, June 15 2011

Bank will save up to \$24,570 within the first year of deploying a PC power and patch management solution

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The deployment of a PC power and patch management solution will see Kiwibank saving up to \$24,570, reducing energy use by 163,800 kWh and cutting down CO2 emissions by 32 tonnes within the first year of deployment.

Through its New Zealand distributor Transend, 1E has installed the NightWatchman and WakeUp solutions in Kiwibank's IT infrastructure.

"Educating employees to switch computers off was one option but IT often needed computers to be left on so that patches and security updates could be applied at night rather than during working hours," explains Esme Petelo, Kiwibank Information Technology.

With basic energy metres predicting that over 50 percent of computers were being left on at nights and weekends at Kiwibank, the company decided that it was time to cut both costs and energy usage, as part of its wider corporate sustainability goals.

Kiwibank chose 1E's NightWatchman and WakeUp solution because, among other reasons, it integrated seamlessly with the bank's existing Microsoft Configuration Management (ConfigMgr) system.

According to 1E, a report built into NightWatchman showed that 52 percent of computers were being left on overnight on weekdays. Over the weekends, 50 percent of computers were left on, with only 9 percent of those actually being used.

To save money and energy, Kiwibank decided to set up three distinct policies, to meet the needs of different areas of business. Office-based staff had computers turned off at 7pm and on again at 7am, while computers in the call centre were set up to be turned off at 10pm and on again at 6:30am.

Kiwibank sought funding by applying for an Energy Efficiency Conservation Authority (EECA) technology grant, which involved an independent verification process. The verification confirmed that, at an average of 15 percent per kWh, the bank will be saving approximately \$27.32 per computer per year.

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CIO Insights Breakfast - June 2011 Wellington
Date: Wednesday, 15 June 2011
Venue: Amora Hotel (previously The Duxton Hotel) 170 Wakefield Street, Wellington
Time: 7.30am - 9.30am
Speaker: Nigel Prince, Deputy Director, General Business Services, Ministry of Agriculture & Forestry
Topic: Object Lessons on Business Continuity
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