



Dunbia Beefs Up Protection of Production Systems with Marathon Technologies and 24/7 Uptime

THE COMPANY

For any firm involved in manufacturing and processing, ensuring continual operation of production systems is absolutely critical to the business. Any downtime has immediate impact on productivity and profitability as well as serious knock-on effects in terms of customer service levels and damaged reputation. As a leading supplier of fresh meat products to many of the UK's largest retail supermarkets, Dunbia has selected continuous availability software from Marathon Technologies to ensure applications will continue to run regardless of any hardware failure.

THE SITUATION

Dunbia operates in one of the fastest moving, high pressure retail supply chain environments. Customer orders arrive via EDI early to mid morning on the day of production and all orders are manufactured for same day despatch to customer depot. Should the IT systems controlling production and order fulfilment fail for even half an hour, an entire day's orders could be lost.

In a very competitive market, Dunbia can ill afford to let its customers down. With that in mind, the company is working with IT partner, 24/7 Uptime, to install Marathon's everRun fault tolerant software throughout its production estate.

THE SOLUTION

Marathon's everRun software protects Windows applications from downtime in the event of server failure.

everRun pools the physical resources of two or more standard Windows servers into a single, unified operating environment. It virtualizes these servers to appear and operate as one for the purpose of ensuring continuous availability for Windows applications. The environment appears and operates as though the applications were running on a single stand-alone server with one identity and one IP address.

The system does not require complex, costly equipment and has a very low administrative overhead.

THE RESULTS

Thanks to Marathon's everRun software, the risk of system downtime and associated business loss has been virtually eliminated at Dunbia. Jay Adams, IT Service Delivery Manager for Dunbia, commented: "Marathon promises 99.999% reliability of our key production systems. We have used Marathon in one form or another since 2001, and firmly believe it is the best to deliver maximum availability for our business critical applications. Marathon software works seamlessly with our factory floor management, stock and order processing systems. We are therefore working with 24/7 Uptime to implement Marathon everRun throughout the Dunbia estate."

Success Story



ABOUT DUNBIA

Dunbia is one of Europe's leading suppliers of beef and lamb products for retail, commercial and foodservice markets. Dunbia supplies international markets and UK supermarket chains including Sainsbury's, Asda, Iceland, The Co-operative and Morrisons. Formerly known as Dungannon Meats, the group is headquartered in Granville, near Dungannon, Northern Ireland. Dunbia operates from ten sites in Northern Ireland, England, Scotland, Wales and the Republic of Ireland. The firm also includes the former Rose County Foods site in Sawley, Lancashire and the former Oriel Jones & Son facility in Llanybydder, Wales.

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-- Jay Adams, IT Service Delivery Manager for Dunbia

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