

Healthcare

The Client: A large Healthcare Organization in the Midwest

The Issue: Our client had purchased Exadata to support their Epic Clarity Data Warehouse. The incumbent systems (IBM Power 7 and 8) were already at their limits of capacity from both a CPU as well as IO standpoint. In addition, the client was being asked to make multiple copies of the 4TB data warehouse to be used by multiple divisions. With the existing IO and CPU overload issues, making copies of this sizeable data set only exacerbated the issues.

The Solution: Exadata was evaluated via a Proof of Concept to determine its capability in relieving some of the performance and IO issues. The tests proved that Exadata was able to provide the performance the client was looking for, so two machines were purchased.

The incumbent systems' CPUs were so taxed that adding compression / decompression to the load was impossible. Because Exadata provides so much better performance along with lower CPU utilization, Oracle's Advanced Compression could be utilized. The 4TB data warehouse became 900GB with Advanced Compression while read performance was still 10's of times greater than the incumbent systems. Although multiple copies of the data warehouse were still required, copying the 900GB compressed data set was much faster and required significantly less network bandwidth than the uncompressed volume.