



CASE STUDY

Citrix Access Information for **MANUFACTURING**

Air Liquide America

Air Liquide America is part of Air Liquide Group, a worldwide leader in industrial and medical gases and related services. The company has more than 220 locations across North America.

THE CHALLENGE: DEPLOYING A BUSINESS-CRITICAL ERP APPLICATION

To help employees improve productivity, Air Liquide America wanted to deploy an extensive Oracle 10.7 smart client ERP application across all its 220 locations in North America. The successful implementation of the application would enable employees to have easy access to business-critical data such as financial information, procurement, inventory and project accounting. "However, the roll-out and maintenance of this application posed significant challenges in terms of resources and cost," said Louis Gilbert, Director of Data Center Operations for Air Liquide America. "We needed a secure, fast and dependable solution that would enable us to centralize the application."

In addition, the company wanted to leverage its heterogeneous computing environment to provide users with access to UNIX® and Windows® applications from a single device.

IMPLEMENTING CITRIX METAFRAME PRESENTATION SERVER

With the help of **ThinApe Corporation**, a Platinum-level member of the Citrix Solutions Network™, Air Liquide implemented Citrix® MetaFrame® Presentation Server for Windows — including the web interface and secure gateway features — and Citrix MetaFrame Presentation Server for UNIX. With the Citrix solution, almost 5,000 users across North America have secure Internet access to Air Liquide's ERP Oracle application, from any Web browser, in any location. MetaFrame Presentation Server protects users of Citrix Independent Computing Architecture (ICA®) across the Internet by functioning as a SSL gateway between Citrix MetaFrame Presentation Servers and Citrix ICA client devices.

"Security was a big concern for us. With Citrix MetaFrame Presentation Server, we have provided a single point of entry and secure access to our server farms via the Internet."

LOUIS GILBERT

Director of Data Center Operations,
Air Liquide America

Key Benefits

- Fast roll-out of business-critical Oracle ERP application via the Internet
- Savings of \$1.5 million
- Enhanced Internet security
- Reduced IT administration and support costs

Applications Deployed

42 applications deployed, including:

- Oracle 10.7 SmartClient ERP application
- Maximo by MRO Systems
- Labware LIMS
- Tivoli Netview



In addition, with the successful rollout of the Oracle ERP application, the company has deployed all of its applications centrally. A user can easily access Maximo, a maintenance application, Tivoli Netview, a UNIX application, and Labware LIMS, a laboratory information application, from the same device via MetaFrame Presentation Server.

SAVINGS OF \$1.5 MILLION, WHILE SECURELY DELIVERING APPLICATIONS

With Citrix solutions, Air Liquide saved money by leveraging its existing technology investments. "Our estimates had indicated expenses of over two million dollars to replace old hardware in Canada," recalled Gilbert. "By leveraging existing hardware with Citrix software, we completed the whole project in Canada for only \$400,000, saving the company more than \$1.5 million." To further decrease the field IT costs, Air Liquide implemented thin-client devices with its server-based solution.

"Security was a big concern for us because we have our most important application on the Internet," recalled Gilbert. "With Citrix MetaFrame Presentation Server, we have provided a single point of entry and secure access to our server farms via the Internet."

Air Liquide routinely hires custom brokers to take care of purchase orders, taxes and duty. MetaFrame Presentation Server has provided these brokers with real-time access to the Oracle ERP application from the border of U.S. and Canada. "Delivering the business-critical ERP application to our geographically dispersed user base would have been impossible without Citrix software," said Gilbert. Since all the application processing occurs on the server, the IT department ensures version consistence of applications across all users. "Our IT team can rapidly deploy new applications without visiting a single desktop," noted Gilbert. "With MetaFrame Presentation Server, our team can easily manage entire load balanced server farms."

Networking Environment

- Citrix® MetaFrame® Presentation Server for Windows® running on 100 servers: IBM X330 Dual Pentium 3. 900 MHz to 1 GHz, 1 GB RAM
- Citrix MetaFrame Presentation Server for UNIX®
- Microsoft® Windows 2000 Servers
- Frame Relay WAN, Internet
- IBM NetVista, Dell PCs

About Citrix MetaFrame Access Suite: The Citrix MetaFrame Access Suite offers organizations the easiest and most cost-effective way to provide a single, secure point of access to enterprise applications and information on-demand. The Citrix Suite ensures a consistent user experience anywhere, on any device or connection, while allowing IT staffs to centrally deliver, manage, monitor and control enterprise resources. Products in the Citrix Suite are fully integrated, making it easy to add and extend the value of your MetaFrame implementation.