

CASE STUDY: Marvell

SUMMARY

Industry

- Manufacturing

Challenge

- Speed communication and collaboration between offices

Solution

- Riverbed Steelhead appliances

Benefits

- 60 times faster throughput for Windows file sharing
- LAN-like access and performance for employees in remote sites
- 80% reduction in bandwidth use



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Riverbed Steelhead® Appliances Accelerate Applications and Improve Collaboration Between Offices

Background

Marvell (www.marvell.com) is the leading global semiconductor provider of complete broadband communications and storage solutions. The Company's diverse product portfolio includes switching, transceiver, communications controller, wireless, and storage solutions that power the entire communications infrastructure, including enterprise, metro, home, and storage networking. Headquartered in Sunnyvale, California, Marvell operates major manufacturing sites in the U.S., Asia, and the Middle East.

The Global Collaboration Challenge

As Marvell expanded its operations worldwide, the company's IT department was faced with continuing pressure to deliver higher quality services so users could collaborate more easily between far-flung locations. Applications such as Windows file sharing and Web-based programs were painfully slow.

In addition, many key employees travel extensively to overseas offices, and require access to their files and data from headquarters' servers. However, performance was abysmal for them due to low bandwidth, high latency connections.

According to Marvell CIO Walter Curd, the company had several key objectives, including:

- Faster Windows file share access
- Accelerated web applications
- Improved Exchange communications
- High performance VPN access
- Reduced WAN bandwidth consumption

“Employees working at the Steelhead-deployed sites can share data, collaborate, and access remote IT resources with essentially LAN-like performance.”

“We were looking for a solution that optimized a wide variety of traffic in both directions,” said Curd. “In addition to file access for general office documents and marketing materials, we also use an HTTP-based Web application to exchange large engineering files and other technical data.”

Solution: Steelhead Appliances from Riverbed Technology

Curd deployed Steelhead appliances at four sites in the U.S., the Middle East, and Asia, and said the results have been “astounding.”

Immediately the company saw up to 60 times faster throughput for file sharing over Windows, while simultaneously saving about 80 percent of their WAN bandwidth. “Employees working at the Steelhead-deployed sites can share data, collaborate and access remote IT resources with essentially LAN-like performance,” noted Curd. “Employees who travel to distant offices can get to their home file shares and access files over Windows almost as easily as they can in their own offices.”

About Riverbed

Riverbed Technology is the pioneer in wide area data services (WDS), a fast-growing product category that solves the problems of high latency and limited bandwidth that plague a wide variety of applications over distributed networks. Riverbed's Steelhead appliances provide the highest level of WAN performance at a lower cost, reducing WAN traffic by up to 95% and accelerating applications by up to 100 times. By providing optimizations that are orders of magnitude greater than what users experience today, Riverbed is changing the way people work – and enabling, for the first time, a truly distributed workforce. InfoWorld named Steelhead a “Product of the Year” for 2005 as the “Best WAN Accelerator.” Steelhead appliances are available worldwide directly from Riverbed and through global partners, including HP.