



Technology Partner



# Dell and PerfCap: Description of Solution & High-Level Benefits

PerfCap Corporation's PAWZ software provides a highly automated **Performance and Capacity Management** solution for Windows, Linux, Solaris, and VMware platforms. PAWZ enables the user to:

- **Economize** – Affordable solution for servers
- **Scale** – Supports from 10s to 10s of thousands of servers.
- **Virtualize** – Manage virtual/cloud environment and model physical to virtual consolidation
- **Predict** – Future Performance
- **Simplify** – Computes and predicts future Capacity headroom
- **Model** – Predicts responsiveness with changes in workload and configuration
- **Automate** – Mundane activities run automatically
- **Alert** – Email and online reports as and when needed
- **Activate** – Simple installation and configuration.
- **Interface** – All via web browser

## Business Challenge

A rapidly growing options exchange needed to stay competitive by:

- Maintaining market-share growth
- Supporting stringent SLAs to remain competitive
- Controlling IT expenditures to ensure profitability

The server estate encompassed several hundred servers. Rapid workload growth was causing constant tension between the ability to support competitive performance demands and timely expansion of server infrastructure. The business strategy to meet these challenges encompassed several activities:

- Continuous monitoring of workload growth
- Ongoing prediction of IT resource requirements
- A just-in-time resource acquisition process

While these activities were obvious, the tools to realize these activities required specialized performance and capacity management tools.

## The Solution

PerfCap's PAWZ software provided the necessary tools and capabilities to economically and rapidly implement the solution strategy:

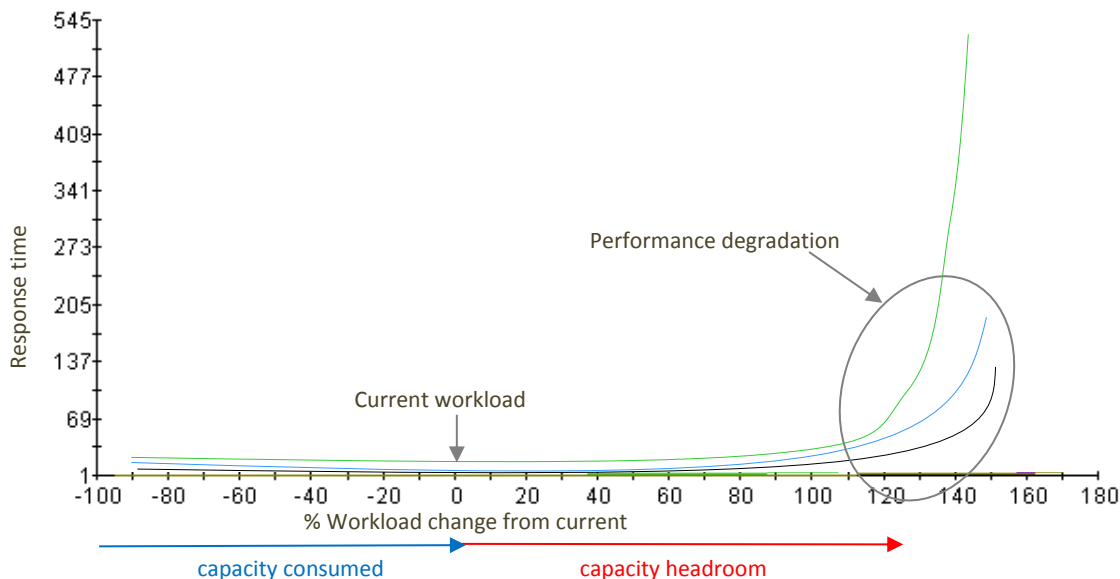
### Automated Data Collection

PAWZ automatically captured detailed performance and resource usage data from each server critical to the performance of the exchange. Data collectors exhibited an extremely small footprint while collecting extensive data, down to the process level. The data was captured automatically and periodically transported to the PAWZ server.

### Data Analysis and Reporting

Collected data was automatically analyzed by the PAWZ server to recognize and alert performance issues. E-mails and on-line reports illuminated the daily performance of the exchange servers. This data proved extremely useful to both development and operational staff.

## Response Time Saturation Analysis



### Daily Peak Minutes Headroom Determination

Operational capacity headroom was determined for peak daily workloads (usually market open) using PerfCap's proprietary analytical modeling software (see illustration).

### Predicted Future Capacity Exhaustion Risk

Headroom trends were analyzed to determine future risk of dropping below acceptable headroom levels and projected the time of such an event, providing management the intelligence to plan timely expansion of capacity.

### Evaluation of Various Upgrade Scenarios

Using PAWZ web-based modeling software, various upgrade scenarios were evaluated to determine the upgrade providing the optimal performance and capacity. This intelligence enabled the intelligent selection of the optimal hardware and configuration upgrade path, ensuring desired performance.

### Result

Exchange was able to efficiently implement configuration change and maintain required levels of performance. PAWZ provided capacity planning intelligence on an ongoing basis for the exchange.

### **About PerfCap**

PerfCap Corporation, formed in July 2001 by industry leading experts in performance management and capacity planning, is headquartered in Nashua, New

Hampshire, USA. It is privately held, and continues its focus on the development, deployment, and support of world-class performance management, capacity planning, asset management and software solutions for open system environments.

PerfCap builds solutions for IT organizations that need to monitor and plan their expanding server environment while balancing the cost of their IT Operation, business requirements and required performance.

### **The Dell Technology Partner Program**

PerfCap Corporation is a Dell Technology Partner and PAWZ is certified by Dell to run on the Dell platforms specified in the technical architecture section.

The [Dell Technology Partner](#) program is a multi-tier program that includes ISVs, IHVs and Solution Providers. This global program helps partners build innovative and competitive business solutions using Dell platforms. Program resources keep customer costs low and help sustain competitiveness.

The program has a structured and streamlined process that combines technology and business strategies with Dell Solution Center expertise to onboard and test partner products on Dell platforms. This testing process helps ensure that products have met the technical requirements to perform well on Dell platforms.

