

# Velocity Software, and the Economics of z/VM

Barton Robinson  
CTO, Velocity Software  
Barton@VelocitySoftware.com

# Agenda items covered

- **Velocity Software**
- **What keeps executives up at night?**
- **Why Linux on z needs consideration**
- **Velocity Software's contribution**

# Velocity Software

**Global company with customers in 20+ countries**

**Founded 1988 to provide VM performance management**

**Headquartered in Silicon Valley**

**Offices in California, Ohio, Wisconsin, Texas**

**EMEA HQ in Mannheim, Germany**

**Mission: Enhance and modernize the z/VM platform**

# What keeps executives up at night (this year)?

## Environmental

- Carbon footprint – when is your company “neutral”?

## Energy

- Cost factors (especially in 2022?)
- Carbon footprint factors

## Availability (outages due to more extreme weather events)

## Flexibility (data center, cloud)

## People / skills

# What keeps executives up at night (this year)?

## Environmental

- **Citi Vows to Back \$1 Trillion in Sustainable Activities by 2030**
- **Bloomberg:** “On her first day as CEO, Fraser announced Citigroup would achieve net-zero greenhouse-gas emissions in its financing activities by 2050. The bank has said it will produce an initial plan for reaching the goal in the coming year.”

**With the European Climate Law, the EU is committing to carbon neutrality by 2050. What does that mean in practice?**

(This is REALLY GOOD for LinuxOne and Linux on z!)

# Energy, Carbon Footprint – Why Linux on z?

## Environmental – power / energy considerations

- Power requirements **major** consideration in 2022
- Many Data centers have major restrictions based on power
- Major cloud providers build data centers close to power plants
- Data centers move because of power considerations

## Why LinuxOne, Linux on z? Reduced power requirement

- Compare the power requirements for “x” vs “z”. (4:1?)
- “Cloud” is not carbon neutral
- (Our colo manager asked if our mainframe was really turned on?)
- Executives who have committed to LinuxOne can feel good!

# Flexibility is critical to cost management

## Data center relocations

- Power cost differs geographically
- Outages from weather, fires, other environmental
- (In California, recent past, many data centers moved due to fire)
- In Germany, is data center relocation viable (power costs up 150%)?

## Why Linux on z from flexibility perspective?

- Velocity Software moved data centers over the internet
- “[VelocitySoftware.com/MetaltoCloud](http://VelocitySoftware.com/MetaltoCloud)” (2 days to full cloud, z15)
  - Cloned 200 servers in minutes
- Moving virtual servers geographically is common
- Moving standalone servers, applications not trivial

# Flexibility / reliability (why 32 vcpu, 100gb?)

## Server creation / modification

- Servers are over-sized to meet future workload requirements
- Adding hardware problematic, wiring, power requirements
- Avoid Changes to hardware , **get largest available**

## Why LinuxOne, Linux on z? Huge additional savings!

- Servers dynamically sized to meet current requirements
- Servers resized dynamically to meet changing requirements
- **Hardware costs reduced because of flexibility**

**See zVRM to manage server CPU and CMM...**



# LinuxOne Summary: Environmental Savings

## Carbon footprint smaller than any other platform

- Power requirements
- Hardware requirements
- Space requirements

## Offers Flexibility, saving not available on other platforms

- Moving virtual servers between data centers fast
- Re-sizing servers to meet current workload requirements
- Avoid “small” capital purchases/upgrades
- Flexibility not easily done on real servers

# Further Reducing Carbon Footprint (Velocity)

If already 4:1 savings from moving to LinuxOne, don't stop there

Large savings if you increase processor utilization 10%

- **10% less hardware needed**
- **10% less software licenses needed**
- **10% less energy needed**
- **10% better carbon footprint**

Higher utilization requires management

- **Manage throughput**
- **Manage response time**

# Velocity Software Carbon Contributions

## Our objective for 30+ years: Reduce customer's z/VM Costs

- Manage Performance to higher utilization
- Reduce Hardware (and software) requirements
- Support a reduced carbon footprint

## Velocity Software Performance Management Offerings

- zVPS for performance management
  - zOPER for operations console
- zTUNE for fast performance problem diagnostics
- zVRM: dynamically size servers for workload requirements

# Performance Management Components

## Four “pillars” of performance management

- Performance Analysis to diagnose problems
- Capacity Planning / Trend Analyses
  - Understand trends and future requirements
  - Avoid performance issues in future
- Accounting and Chargeback
  - Encourage user good behavior
  - Align IT with Business Focus
- Operational Alerts when potential issues
  - Detect performance issues as soon as possible

**Performance management must include all 4**

# zVPS for z/VM, Linux (and VSE) Performance Management

## zVPS is the low cost solution for z/VM and LinuxOne performance management

- Modern web interface for all components
- Minimal Operational cost of Linux agents (.1% per server)
- Accuracy of data (virtualized, SMT), high capture ratios
- **VSE, CICS (no charge feature of zVPS).**
- **zOPERATOR (no charge feature of zVPS)**
- Distributed server performance management at no charge

**zVPS Provides ability to greatly increase utilization and lower costs**

# zTUNE – Automated Performance Analysis

## Automated Tuning Recommendations

Rules Based on our 40+ years of experience

Configuration check for best practices

Health check

Ensure highest level of performance

## Includes Help with resolving Performance Problems

- Velocity provides assistance in all areas of Linux on z/VM and z/VM performance management

**zTUNE is an EXCLUSIVE from Velocity Software**

# zVRM and the case for the 32 CPU 100GB servers

## The Velocity Software Resource Manager based on zVPS Server modification “happens”

- More CPU, RAM needed and must be added
- Application resource requirements grow

## Why Excessively large servers?

- Avoid future outage, hardware changes

## zVRM, Velocity Resource Manager automates management

- CMM to reduce over sized storage when not needed
- CMM to provide storage as workload increases
- Vary vcpu on/offline to meet demand
- Allows definitions of oversized servers to operate efficiently
- Requires zPRO APIs, zVPS for data input
- Evaluates server by server

# Skills and people are an issue

## Skilled people are in high demand

- Partly pandemic related, partly retirements

## Skill requirements (real)

- System installations and upgrades
- LPAR implementations
- Software installations / maintenance

## Skill requirements (menial, mundane)

- Cloning Linux servers
- Server “upgrades” requiring directory update
- Any cloud will do...



# Velocity Software Modernization Contributions

- **Modern interfaces critical with current generations**
  - VM is 50 years old, so are the (3270) interfaces.....
- **Velocity Software's zVWS**
  - The only general webserver for the platform
  - Allows APIs with z/VM (no SMAPI!, no Linux)
  - Utilized by zVPS for performance management interface
  - Utilized by zPRO to modernize z/VM management
  - Runs many websites including VelocitySoftware.com
  - Supports all current browser security
  - Installs in minutes, non-intrusive

# Velocity Software Modernization Contributions

- **zPRO: Modernization and Simplification**
  - Web based interfaces vs 3270 based interfaces
  - **Full onprem cloud**, Installs in minutes (No SMAPI, Linux)
  - Server management for Linux, VSE, z/OS, TPF, and CMS users
  - Partners cloning z/OS for education purposes
  - Includes simple APIs for other products and functions
  - Create any servers in seconds
  - Full inventory readily available

# zPRO by Velocity Software

## **Modernized z/VM Systems Management**

- Simplified interfaces for RACF, VMSecure, DIRMAINT
- Includes modern zDIRECT for directory management
- Installs in minutes (not days, weeks, months)

## **Improve productivity for the skills available**

- Allow delegation of “menial” tasks to users
- Replaces traditional 3270 only products with web based interfaces (zDIRECT, zSPOOL, zSCHEDULE)
- Management for Storage pools, SFS, LUNs, servers

# zPRO Case Studies, task delegation

## Linux administrators: Manage their own servers

- Users provided defined set of shared resources
- Create, modify and delete servers within constraints
- On prem cloud at a lesser cost than public cloud
- Pools of CPU, memory, LUNS, disks, IP addresses

## Modernizing Operations

- Operations can stop / start / restart servers
- Password resets
- Other “contained” functions

# zPRO Case Studies: Modernization, Productivity

**Modernize** systems programming – reduce 3270 requirements

Many zPRO **No charge features** to modernize z/VM

- zDIRECT – Optional directory manager, NON-Intrusive
- zSPOOL – Manage, view spool files,
- zSCHEDULE – Schedule events, one time, recurring
- Backup / Restore for z/VM
- Management for SFS, LUNs, RACF, VMSecure

**Simplified management, Better productivity**

**Easy installation, reliable, inexpensive**

# zLinux With Velocity Software Summary

## Reduced carbon footprint

- Managed performance allows higher utilization
- Managed servers allows for smaller footprints

## Improved productivity for skilled systems programmers

- zVPS for Performance Management (VM, Linux, VSE)
- zTUNE for diagnosing performance problems
- zVRM for managing server resources
- zVWS to provide modern generalized webserver, APIs
- zPRO for modernization, simplification

# Thank you! Questions?

**Great to be back**

**Contacts:**

[Maggie@VelocitySoftware.com](mailto:Maggie@VelocitySoftware.com)

[Barton@VelocitySoftware.com](mailto:Barton@VelocitySoftware.com)