Asia Pacific IT infrastructure market characterized by 'low server profile' and 'high client profile', finds Springboard Research

Organizations grappling with 'limed IT budget' and 'growing storage needs'

The main infrastructure-related challenge faced by the Asia Pacific (excluding Japan) organizations is around storing and managing their data infrastructure, finds the latest 'IT Infrastructure in Asia Pacific 2010/11 – End-User Adoption Trends' report from Springboard Research, an IT market research firm. Organizations are struggling with a dual challenge of 'constrained IT budgets' on one hand and the ever growing need for more storage on another. While limited IT skills availability also remains an ongoing challenge, the respondents consider it secondary and do not currently view it as a major issue.

"Given the key concerns, we expect increased investments in data archiving, storage virtualization, IT security, desktop virtualization and data de-duplication among Asia Pacific organizations over the next 2-3 years", noted Seepij Gupta, Associate Research Manager, IT Services at Springboard Research.

IT Infrastructure Penetration - servers, clients, storage

According to the Springboard Research report, Asia Pacific (excluding Japan) organizations have a relatively 'light' server profile, with only 35% of respondents having more than 25 servers in-house. The report also confirms Microsoft Windows to be the leading server operating system in the region, followed by Linux.

In terms of clients, 58% of Asia Pacific organizations have more than 250 clients. The report also found that the highest %age of respondents with 500+ clients is either in India or in China. "The research confirms that desktop

management remains a major concern for the organizations, primarily due to the vast sprawl. This will drive strong growth opportunities for Managed Service Providers (MSPs) and also open up more opportunities for this clients", noted Fred Giron, VP, IT Services at Springboard Research.

For storage infrastructure, SAN is the most preferred storage type among Asia Pacific organizations, with 60% of respondents (mostly large enterprises with 1000+ employees) having already invested in such technologies. Springboard Research believes that the emergence of Cloud based hosting and backup services will drive strong growth in this market over the next 2-3 years.∎