

Productos Superiores chooses Zentyal for its infrastructure, domain and file servers



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Edgardo Montiel
Chief Technology Officer
Productos Superiores, S.A

Productos Superiores was looking for a secure and affordable server solution to upgrade their entire network infrastructure when they discovered Zentyal. Thanks to Zentyal, distributed among several servers, they provide the services necessary for the daily operation of the company and offer internet connectivity to their almost 300 users.

The challenge

The network infrastructure of Productos Superiores ran on Windows Servers that had already reached their end-of-life date. Due to the age of the Operating System (OS) they were using, the services were running slowly and it was necessary to restart the servers almost under any circumstance. In addition, since the official support for the OS had already ended, the bugs that were being found no longer had any solution. Likewise, every year External Auditors would find vulnerabilities at the Operating System and Active Directory level.

Due to the high investment cost involved in implementing a new system based on Windows Servers, Productos Superior was interested in evaluating Linux alternatives. It was very important that the new server solution offer the same domain and directory services as their existing servers, including support for Windows clients. It also had to help them ensure the security of their systems and allow remote management by their trusted ICT provider.

After Productos Superiores discussed the requirements with their local provider, Redes & Sistemas, they were recommended to replace their current system with Zentyal Linux Server.

The solution

After successfully completing all initial tests, the local IT provider of Productos Superiores, Redes & Sistemas, carried out the deployment from scratch. The implementation consists of four Zentyal servers, serving about 300 users. The installation process, final testing and tak-

ing into production of each of the servers took about 5 days. Simultaneously, a remote Help Desk was established in order to carry out the management and maintenance of the system remotely. The standard server hardware chosen has a processor with 2 sockets and 4 cores, 32 GB of memory and a 500 GB HDD.

As Zentyal is being used mainly to manage the network infrastructure, the domain and file server, the most important modules are Network, DNS and Domain Controller and File Sharing. Thanks to the users and groups management options, it is possible to make group or policy level configurations to establish privileges or restrictions for greater network security. Additionally, modules such as NTP, Firewall and Logs are used, helping to complete the services required by Productos Superiores and increase the security of the system.

The experience

Zentyal Server has helped Productos Superiores to reorganize and upgrade their entire network infrastructure at a very affordable cost. At the same time, it has allowed them to increase the security of their systems. Thanks to all this and the support offered by their local IT provider and the Zentyal Team, Productos Superiores considers that the three main objectives they had when they chose to deploy Zentyal have been met: increase the security of their systems, reduce ICT management and maintenance costs and have high-quality technical support online.

About Productos Superiores

Productos Superiores S.A. (Grupo SUPRO) is a private company, founded on June 18, 1949. With more than 70 years of experience as a local and regional distributor of prestigious brands, they have always focused on offering "superior" products, that is, products of excellent quality.

Over the course of time and growth of the market, the catalog of brands and products managed by Productos Superiores has split into six important divisions: Music, Sports, Electricity/Lighting, Hardware, Entertainment and Automotive. Each one of them has a wide and varied range of popular products.

Currently, the Supro Group is made up of the following allied companies: Supro (Panama City), Supro Mundial (Colon Free Zone), El Lantero, La Nota y El Deportista and Abernathy.

About Zentyal

Zentyal Linux Server has been developed since 2004. Zentyal Server incorporates all the network services required in corporate environments, most importantly the first-ever native Microsoft Active Directory® implementation on Linux that is easy to use.

With Zentyal Server there is no need to use command line, but system administrators can manage all the network services via graphical user interface. Zentyal-based solutions allow businesses and organizations to reduce and rationalize IT investments, improve the security and minimize system downtime.

Zentyal Linux Server is widely used by businesses of all sizes independently of their activity or location, as well as by public administration or the education sector.

