

Paragon Software - Use Case

Paragon Alignment Tool



Customer Industry

Financial Services

Company Size

140 branches
2,000-plus employees

Key Challenges

Realign 220 virtual servers, misaligned during P2V migration project

Environment:

Microsoft 2003, XP, VMware, Linux and NetApp

Software Solution:

Paragon Alignment Tool Enterprise Edition

Business Benefits:

Save time and money by leveraging PAT's quick and efficient alignment technology

Paragon Alignment Tool (PAT) Boosts Performance of a Bank's 220 Virtual Servers

PAT's Flexible Command Line Feature Saves Administrators Time and Money with Fast, Effective Partition Alignment

The Challenge and the Search for the Perfect Solution

A financial services company experienced significant server performance loss due to partition misalignment after what seemed to be a fairly straight forward physical-to-virtual (P2V) migration project. The operating environment incorporated Windows 2003, XP, Linux, VMware and NetApp storage systems. After completion of the migration project, server performance was sluggish, and a simple alignment test revealed that the VM partitions of the NetApp storage array were misaligned.

After evaluating, the VI administrators selected the [Paragon Alignment Tool Enterprise Edition](#) based on its demonstrated speed and minimized downtime. In addition to its GUI mode, PAT can be run without any interaction with the host's OS, using its no-install WinPE version, and also can be used for scheduled, unattended operations, using its embedded command line in combination with easy-to-build PowerShell scripts.

Feature Highlights: Paragon Alignment Tool

Misalignment of the logical partition sectors and actual physical sectors leads to redundant read/write operations, which results in a critical decrease in I/O performance and drive longevity. With the Paragon Alignment Tool (PAT) Enterprise Edition, you can quickly and easily align your drive to eliminate these problems.

Other available editions are: [PAT ESX](#), [PAT Scriptable Staging Edition](#) and PAT NetApp Edition.

Key Features

- Aligns partitions in a single operation and "in place" (no swap space is required in virtual environments)
- Guarantees safety for the on-disk system and data
- Boosts performance of disk subsystems up to 300 percent
- Significantly increases longevity of SSDs and HDDs
- Aligns partitions inside virtual containers and the host
- Aligns partitions on advance format 4K disks (AFDs)
- Offers flexibility for fine tuning the behavior of the alignment operation
- Automated restart of alignment in case of an emergency during the alignment process