



Consolidated
Container
Company

WHO:

Consolidated Container Company, CCC is a leading developer and manufacturer of rigid plastic packaging solutions in North America

CHALLENGES:

Slowing applications, slow storage performance & latency, systems aging and hitting max capacity, costs, data growth, & labor Intensive data management

IT ENVIRONMENT:

Microsoft Windows/Office 365, CRM, JD Edwards ERP, HyperV and VMware

SOLUTION:

Kaminario K2 delivering performance, 25x latency reduction, scalability, simplicity & compact footprint

BENEFITS:

Simplified IS operations, scalability, and latency reduced by 25X

Fast, Simple, Scalable

Consolidated Container gains IS operational simplicity and future-proof performance

Executive Summary

Information Services operations for Consolidated Container Company connects complex manufacturing operations dispersed across the US. Their central site manages all data flow, and it was experiencing performance bottlenecks. Unacceptable storage latency was the cause. After intense proof of concept trials, they swapped their aging storage systems for Kaminario K2 all-flash storage. The results were immediate. Latency dropped to less than 1ms, allowing IS operations to be simplified and positioned for growth.

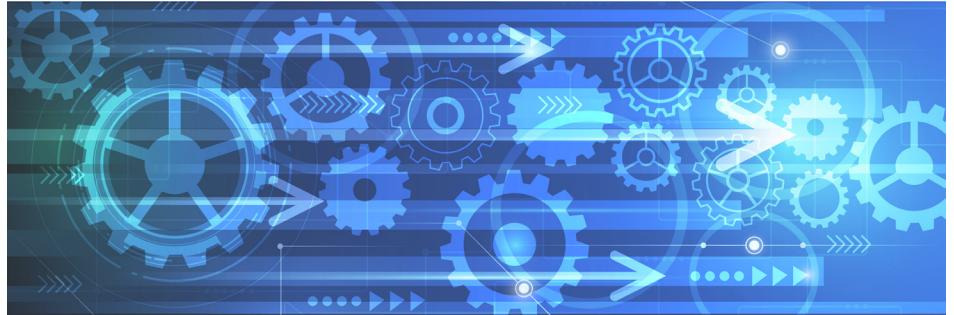
Consolidated Container Overview

The business of rigid plastic containers may not be central to our collective thinking, but it's central to our lives. Just ask the people at Consolidated Container Company (CCC). CCC specializes in customized mid- and short-run packaging solutions, serving a diverse customer base in the dairy, household chemicals, food/nutraceuticals, industrial/specialty chemicals, water, and beverage/juice markets. With 53 rigid plastic packaging manufacturing facilities, two recycled resins manufacturing facilities, and 2,300 employees, CCC has an integrated, nationwide network that consistently delivers reliable and cost-effective packaging and recycled resin solutions to meet the needs of a wide range of customers and markets.

Challenges

With 2,300 people working in facilities spread across the country CCC Information Services (IS) is an integral element of a data-driven business. They track manufacturing, scheduling, staffing, product quality and more for over 500 business lines. With a hub-and-spoke design, all data passes to, through and from their Atlanta data center. Speed, reliability and flexibility are essential to keep the business running and customers satisfied.

CCC's NetApp storage was aging. Bottlenecks from lagging latency and slowing performance were beginning to impact the responsiveness of critical applications. Storage capacity was maxed out, with no capability to expand. Manual workarounds were required to complete their post-process dedup cycles, which only increased the difficulties arising from non-existent storage headroom. User complaints hadn't started yet; but, as an experienced and forward-looking IS team, they knew complaints would come if changes weren't made, and soon.



“We were stuck. Our system was maxed out and had to be replaced. Flash seemed like the best option to carry us forward, but we needed proof.”

James Little – Senior Director of Infrastructure

Examining Options

With the wider availability and decreasing costs of flash storage, CCC looked at several all-flash systems. Any replacement solution needed to provide the performance, low latency and capacity for growth that they needed. They also wanted a future-proof choice. There would always be unpredictable demands, such as increasing requirements for virtual machines.

Working through the Kaminario reseller, VeriStor, CCC gained agreement for a proof of concept (POC) of the K2 all-flash array in their own environment. “VeriStor was great, very responsive. They provided all the support we needed and brought in Kaminario for help when needed. It was a collaborative effort all the way through,” said Little. The choice was obvious. The results were just what they were looking for in every dimension.

“It’s great that Kaminario was willing to do the proof of concept. We hammered away at it in our own environment. That’s not something other vendors are always ready to do. Having the ability to do that meant we could prove K2’s potential to satisfy our specific requirements. It provided a lot of value helping us to make our decision.”

James Little – Senior Director of Infrastructure

IMMEDIATE BENEFITS:

- Application latency decreased from 25-30ms to ½ to 1ms, even under a full load.
- Simple operations, including set-and-forget dedup and compression
- Increased virtual machine count by 30+ without disruption or loss of performance
- Reduced co-lo data center rack space and power expense by 10%

The Solution

Kaminario provided not only the performance CCC needed but also a latency reduction from 25-30ms to a reliable ½-1ms, even under heavy loads. System capability and flexibility were beyond their expectations. In just a few months, for example, they were able to add an unexpected increase of 30+ virtual machines with K2 providing all the needed IOPS and no impact on production.

In-line data deduplication and compression significantly simplified IT operations: “You just set it and forget it,” said Fleischman. “It took a lot of guesswork out of the process.” The K2 is providing CCC the required low latency, performance and capacity for current IT operations. But they’re confident that the flexible architecture can easily and quickly scale in every regard as needed.

“Kaminario keeps it simple, not only in the operation of the system but in licensing. Unlike other vendors where each function means paying added license fees, K2 includes everything. All the functionality is ready to use when you are.”

Mike Fleischman – CCC Systems Engineer

What’s Next

The simple and non-disruptive scalability of Kaminario’s K2 eliminates any future capacity headroom problem for CCC. Now, as they grow, they have the flexibility to easily add capacity, processing power, or both.

“It’s powerful and still super easy to use. If you want excellent, fast, general purpose storage, there’s really no other place to look. It’s a wonderful product.”

Mike Fleischman – CCC Systems Engineer



Contact

Contact a business development representative to answer any questions you may have.



Schedule a Demo

Schedule a demo with an engineer and learn if Kaminario's solution works for you.



Request a Quote

Request a quote for your application from our business development team.

About Kaminario

Kaminario, the leading all-flash storage company, is redefining the future of modern data centers. Its unique solution enables organizations to succeed in today's on-demand world and prepares them to seamlessly handle tomorrow's innovations. Only Kaminario K2 delivers the agility, scalability, performance and economics a data center requires to deal with today's cloud-first, dynamic world and provide real-time data access -- anywhere, anytime. Hundreds of customers rely on the Kaminario K2 all-flash array to power their mission critical applications and safeguard their digital ecosystem. Headquartered in Needham, MA, Kaminario works with an extensive network of resellers and distributors, globally.

For more information, visit www.kaminario.com

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