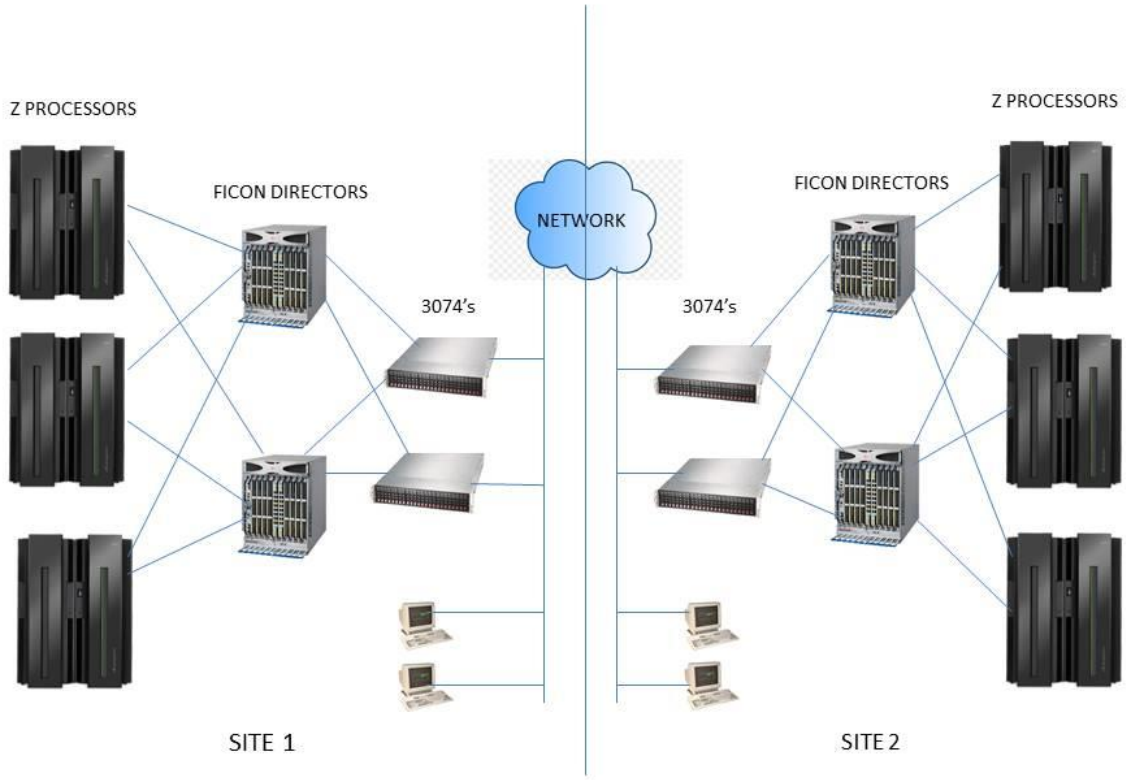
Global Energy Provider

Overview

This customer's environment consists of 2 data centers that mirror each other for the purpose of redundancy and reliability. Each Data center consists of 3 Z-Processors with FICON directors interconnecting the processors and console controllers. The customer wished to replace the older Visara SCON controllers with the newer CCA-3074 controllers that provide additional flexibility, redundancy and security features. The data Centers are mirrors of each other and the operators can control and monitor each data center from either site. They are routinely "swapped" for the purpose of continuity testing.

The Visara Solution

The solution involved replacing the older SCON controllers with the FICON capable CCA-3074 controllers. The CCA-3074 offers many features that the older SCON controllers did not. The 3074 is a server based control unit that provides internal redundancy for power supplies, fans, and OS disk drives. All redundant components are hot swappable and the OS disk drive are RAID 1 redundant. Additionally, the 3074 provides email alerts for hardware events that indicate the need to replace a component. Configuration is done via a browser as is continuous status monitoring of connections. The 3074 offers security features not available with the OSA adaptor. The 3074 allows hundreds of listening ports vs 1 for the OSA. This allows users to be segregated according to the access they are allowed within the network. Additionally, the 3074 has built in SSL encryption for secure communications both locally and remotely to the attached TN3270 workstations. There are 2 3074's at each allowing for both primary and alternate console connections to each mainframe. Each 3074 has multiple FICON channels providing redundant connections to the Z Processors and multiple Ethernet connections providing redundant network connections. By utilizing connections via the FICON Directors, each 3074 can provide console access to any Z Processor and any LPAR. The addition of the MCC (Master Console Center) to the 3074 allows preprogramed alerts from any LPAR to be presented to all users as well as the ability to automate processes that require operator intervention. This is especially useful for controlling and monitoring dark data centers.



Energy Provider Solution Diagram

Solution Benefits

- Provides a redundant console management system for multiple processors
- Allows users at either site to monitor and control either site via secure communications channels.
- Allows multiple listening ports for added security.
- Provides browser based configuration and status monitoring.