PostgreSQL

POSTGRESQL MAKES BUSINESS A HOLIDAY FOR TRAVELPOST.COM

TravelPost.com is the premier source for unbiased hotel reviews and personal travel blogs. The company develops and markets a website that collects and organizes user-generated travel information in order to fundamentally improve the way people research and shop for travel.

In order to successfully launch its product, a low cost, high performance and feature rich database was required. TravelPost selected PostgreSQL.

WORKING ON A START-UP BUDGET

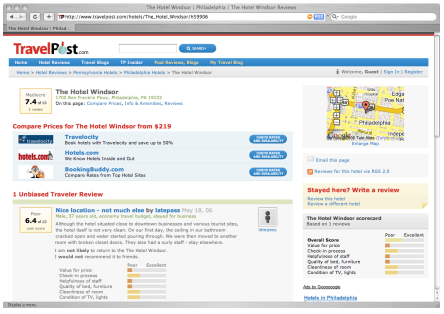
For a start-up company with a limited technology budget, PostgreSQL proved itself an excellent choice, both in the early stages of product development when simplicity and speed of deployment were crucial, and over time as GIS functionality, replication and point-in-time recovery became priorities.

PostgreSQL stepped up to meet growing expectations and requirements as the company's product became more complex.

SHORT LEARNING CURVE

As with most start-up companies, TravelPost wanted to develop and launch its first product as quickly as possible. The development team had Oracle, Sybase, and SQL Server on its resume, but no PostgreSQL experience.

However, this proved not to be an issue. PostgreSQL has outstanding online documentation, offers the features you'd expect in an advanced database platform, and follows widely accepted ANSI-SQL standards. "Our first PostgreSQL development project was a positive experience," according to developers at TravelPost.



"Learning how to build an application on top of PostgreSQL never became a burden and no major 'gotchas' emerged during implementation or launch."

LOOKING FOR PERFORMANCE

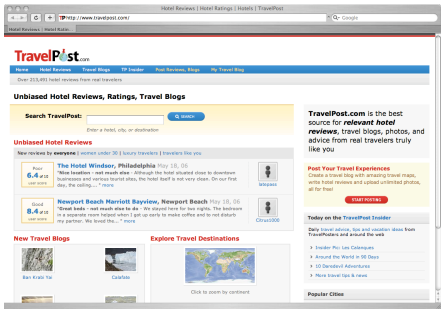
Because TravelPost displays information about millions of places in the world, queries that join million+ row tables must be highly performent. Any delay in retrieving query results directly affects page load times -- a serious business issue for a consumer-oriented website.

PostgreSQL proved itself to TravelPost developers when queries of large tables that included multiple, complex joins met or exceeded performance expectations.

In several cases, PostgreSQL features such as functional and conditional indexes proved invaluable to maximizing page load time.

INTEGRATION WITH MICROSOFT .NET

For environments based on the Microsoft .NET framework, connectivity between ADO.NET <http://ado.net/> and PostgreSQL is a requirement. Npgsql, a native .NET provider for PostgreSQL, offers a highly functional, fast and stable point of integration with Microsoft .NET. Npgsql <npgsql link> allows Windows and ASP.NET <http://asp.net/> developers to quickly establish a connection with PostgreSQL whether it's running on a Windows or Linux server. As a result, .NET shops can easily tap into the benefits of Linux, including 64-bit sup port, when implementing a database server.



IMPLEMENTING A REDUNDANT, WARM STANDBY ARCHITECTURE

In order to ensure 24x7 uptime, TravelPost selected a fail-over strategy that would ensure the website remained alive in the event of a serious hardware or operating system falure. The company was able to fully implement a warm stanby server in less than 30 hours of planning and execution, leading to a major improvement in systems architecture and stability at a very modest price point.

"PostgreSQL has ushered in a new era of the relational database by introducing a cross-platform open source database platform that easily beats established products on the features-performance-cost matrix. It's a proven and solid technology with an active and supportive community, large developer base, and impressive library of modules and third party products to back it up," says Jon Asher, VP of Technology.

MORE ABOUT TRAVELPOST

http://www.travelpost.com/

MORE ABOUT POSTGRESQL

http://www.postgresql.org/