IS315 – [redacted]

Week One – Individual Project

Enterprise WorkStation Management System (EWMS)

Problem Statement

For nearly a decade Duke Manufacturing has been producing aeronautical gaskets and seals that have been utilized on various models of aircraft for nearly a decade. They have been running operations on a rather small scale out of their local shop in Flint, MI. The infrastructure has generally consisted of a few servers and thirty workstations that have been managed manually by two network administrators. Until recently this method of managing the computer hardware has been effective, however Duke Manufacturing has been recently awarded a ten million dollar contract from the United States Air Force to manufacturer parts to be utilized on the new F-22 Raptor. As a result of this, Duke Manufacturing is expanding and will be opening a new facility near Nellis Air Force Base, Nevada. This facility will be substantially larger than the existing facility and will require a more structured approach to managing and maintaining their network infrastructure. The company does not want to necessarily hire a large IT staff within the next year; instead they would like to remotely manage the site from its facility in Flint, MI. This will be challenging request due to the distance between the facilities and the limited budget. Senior leadership at Duke Manufacturing wants to look into developing a solution that allows for remote administration and management of these IT resources at different sites. This approach is being explored due to additional Department of Defense contractual awards requiring opening of other facilities' within the next five years.

Recommended Solution

I recommend developing and implementing an Enterprise Workstation Management System (EWMS) that will be used as a standard configuration management tool. EWMS will be able to provide several core functions to include the following: remote administration over TCP/IP, provide a centralized work order tracking system, management of OS deployment and patches, software and license management, asset inventory, metrics capture, and centralized reporting analysis. This will allow for Duke Manufacturing to have centralized control of its remote IT infrastructures while maintaining standardized workstation configuration ensuring security compliance and data integrity. This will allow the company to maintain a limited IT presence at offsite facilities reducing the total cost of ownership (TCO).