Small Business Server SBS2003 Upgrade Success Story

Recently (August 2013) we signed up a new client who had been asked by their previous IT support company to upgrade to a new system. The customer was dead against hosting their system in the cloud and thus loosing control over their sensitive data.
Our new customer was quoted $18,000 for a soon to be obsoleted[1] Win 2011 SBS server and peripherals. Our quote came in at $4950 for the same functionality and far better security[2].
Part of the migration was the Exchange mail to Zafara. As there are only 3 users in the office who use Outlook and share their calendars we elected to use the free Zarafa Community which comes with 3 connectors. The connectors make for all intent and purposes, like they have connected to an Exchange server. Other email users as well as the 3 Outlook users could use the excellent Zarafa web app delivering the Outlook experience which can be used in house or externally. There are no restrictions or licences on the number of users who can access the web app.

We elected to use an IBM 2582B2M x3100 M4 Xeon E3-1220v2 server and extended the memory to 8G. Operating system was Centos 6.4 64bit with KVM virtualisation for legacy Windows apps like MYOB.
The installation was scheduled over the weekend with minimal disruption to business.

The system included nightly backup of data and profiles, remote desktop logins, active sync for mobiles, configured firewall, shares and printers.

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1   SBS 2011 will be sold until Dec. 2013 according to this technet article
    http://social.technet.microsoft.com/...iscontinuation
    and this defining the mainstream support end date for SBS2011 as 13th Jan 2015 as the base Operating System is Server 2008 R2.
    http://support.microsoft.com/lifecyc...ilter=FilterNO

2   SELinux is fully implemented and enforced.