Vibro-Meter increases performance and reduces costs with HP servers and storage

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Based in Fribourg, Switzerland, Vibro-Meter SA is a world leader in the design and manufacture of vibration monitoring systems for the propulsion units and machinery used in commercial aircraft, helicopters, military aerospace, industrial and marine installations.

It is one of five companies that make up Aerospace Systems, one of six divisions of Meggitt PLC, the multi-national, high-tech manufacturing company that is traded on the London Stock Exchange and achieved recent annual sales of more than £402 million.

High quality vital

As a supplier to the aerospace business, Vibro-Meter SA must produce work of the highest quality and to support that, it is equally vital to have effective data storage and disaster recovery (DR) capabilities.

"We needed a new solution that would cope with the increased demands of our SAP R/3 enterprise resource planning software, would enable us to reduce maintenance costs, would cover our DR needs and also help us to consolidate our Novell servers," said network and server administrator with Vibro-Meter SA, Roland Rothen. "We also needed a company that could provide consultation around our decision to migrate SAP R/3 from AS/400 to Intel W2k3 Microsoft SQL Server and who could design and implement a Storage Area Network (SAN) for us.

Group leader

"We have been using HP/Compaq products for more than ten years and although we received offers from DELL, IBM and HP we kept the most serious one of the group. We chose HP because it had a good understanding of our needs, presented a well designed solution and were very co-operative."

The Vibro-Meter solution included an HP StorageWorks EVA3000 high performance, high availability "virtual" RAID storage array with HP ProLiant DL380 and DL580 servers running Novell NetWare (file and print) and GroupWise (groupware) for 315 users, and SAP R/3 for 170 users. SAN switching was provided to duplicate storage for DR, and 24x7 HP support completed the solution.

Performance and cost benefits

"This HP solution has not only increased availability for our SAP system, without a single problem since installation, but it has also made SAP dialogue response times between five and ten times shorter and cut our maintenance costs. In addition, we no longer need AS/400 knowledge and training," added Rothen.

Customer at a glance

- Industry sector: Aerospace
- **Company:** Vibro-Meter SA (Member of the MEGGITT Aerospace Systems Division)
- Headquarters: Fribourg, Switzerland
- Founded: 1952
- Telephone: +41 26 407 1111
- URL: www.vibro-meter.com

Why HP?

- Vibro-Meter had been a satisfied customer of HP/Compaq for ten years.
- It felt HP demonstrated a good understanding of its needs.
- HP presented the best designed solution.
- HP had specialists and references on AS/400 migrations
- Strong HP local competence on SAP

Hardware

- HP ProLiant DL380 servers
- HP ProLiant DL580 servers
- HP StorageWorks EVA3000 storage array
- SAN switching

Software

- Novell NetWare
- Groupwise

HP Services

- SAP Competence centre (Geneva)
- 24x7 support



Challenge

- Manufacturing critical vibration sensors and electronics for the aerospace industry means that Swiss company Vibro-Meter must deliver high quality, and that reflects in its computing environment.
- It needed to increase performance for its SAP R/3 enterprise resource planning application and to improve its disaster recovery capability.
- It also wanted to reduce maintenance costs.

Solution

- HP provided consultation for Vibro-Meter's migration of SAP R/3 from an AS/400 to Microsoft SQL Server base.
- It designed and installed a SAN with HP ProLiant DL380 and DL580 servers duplicated for disaster recovery.
- An HP StorageWorks EVA3000 storage array, Novell NetWare and 24x7 support completed the solution.

Results

- Availability of the SAP application has increased without a single problem since installation, and SAP dialogue response times are between five and ten times shorter.
- Maintenance costs have reduced.
- Using EVA3000 virtualisation has provided Vibro-Meter with a more efficient overall solution and it no longer needs to provide AS/400 training.

For more information on how working with HP can benefit you, please contact your local HP sales representative or reseller, or visit www.hp.com.

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