FUJITSU

ProMinent GmbH

Safeguarding SAP HANA® with a view toward the future

ProMinent was looking for a robust 24/7 data availability solution for the global operation of its SAP landscape, which was about to be migrated to SAP HANA®. Impairment of the production system was to be prevented so that all locations could continue to operate without restrictions. It was a perfect job for the team made up of Fujitsu, Veeam and the Fujitsu SELECT Expert partner idicos. The result impressed the customer with a performance that even exceeded the SAP requirements.

Challenge

ProMinent was looking for a robust 24/7 data availability solution for its global operations.

Solution

- Fujitsu Storage ETERNUS AF all-flash storage cluster
- Fujitsu Integrated System PRIMEFLEX for SAP HANA® with Fujitsu PRIMERGY servers
- Fujitsu Storage ETERNUS LT tape library.

Outcomes

- More than 3,000 MB/s with the new landscape instead of the required 250 MB/s in the "Read" category of the HWCCT test
- Reduction of rate of losses in the event of an outage and relieves the load on the overall system
- While the backup used to interfere with the system for an hour, the company now prepares a snapshot every 60 minutes.

"With Fujitsu and Veeam, we have achieved a new level of data availability – without increasing complexity."

Alexander Gaber, IT Director, ProMinent GmbH

Industry:
Metering Technology

People:
2,700

Location:
Germany

Website:
prominent.com

About the customer

Headquartered in Heidelberg, Germany, the ProMinent company group has been manufacturing components and systems relating to all aspects of metering liquids as well as solutions for water treatment and disinfection since 1960. More than 2,700 employees in around 50 branch offices and 11 production facilities guarantee service and availability in more than 100 countries.

more than 3,000 MB/s

the new landscape reached this figure instead of the required 250 MB/s in the "Read" category of the HWCCT test

From Heidelberg out into the whole world

Europe, Asia, North and South America: With locations in more than 100 countries, ProMinent needs to have a robust SAP® system, not least because all these sites work on an SAP system hosted centrally in Heidelberg. Neither maintenance work nor backups should impair the production system. This is the only way to ensure efficient 24/7 operation around the globe.

"We found the right solution for this as much as a decade ago with the combination of PRIMERGY servers from Fujitsu, virtual machines running under VMware and the backup and recovery solution from Veeam," says Alexander Gaber, IT Director at ProMinent. "In addition, backups to the Fujitsu ETERNUS LT tape library let us sleep well at night. This means that our mission-critical data is fully protected even in the event of a disaster." It is a good feeling, one that even the pending migration of the existing SAP cluster to SAP HANA® will do nothing to change.

Why roam so far afield?

"In close coordination with ProMinent, we again put together the Fujitsu, Veeam and VMware triumvirate for the new SAP HANA® landscape," explains Dr. Michael Melter, Managing Director of the IT system provider and Fujitsu SELECT Expert partner idicos, which has been assisting ProMinent with the operation of its system landscape for many years. This decision was based on many years of good experience and full trust in the partner's approach toward integrating the new SAP HANA® cluster into the existing system landscape. The system would thus continue operating easily and seamlessly.
"It was the right decision," Gaber adds. "Our IT team was able to immediately begin working with the new SAP HANA® landscape. They didn't need much training, which is exactly how it should be."

There was another reason why ProMinent chose the Fujitsu ETERNUS AF all-flash storage cluster – aside from its excellent benchmarks: The backup software from Veeam generates snapshots via a special storage plug-in for ETERNUS. These snapshots of the system require very little memory and can be used for backups or virtual test environments.

Small snapshot, big impact

We no longer obtain our backups from the production data today, but rather from a storage snapshot," Gaber says. This reduces the rate of losses in the event of an outage and relieves the load on the overall system. In addition, ProMinent generates on-demand labs from snapshots in just a few minutes, for example to test patches for the SAP HANA® landscape. The RPO and RTO times were also reduced. While the backup used to interfere with the system for an hour, the company now prepares a snapshot every 60 minutes – without the users who work on the production system having to accept performance losses.

"We benefit from the snapshots every day. But what really impresses me and many other people is the performance of the new SAP HANA® cluster. The system is incredibly fast," Gaber concludes. "Our IT landscape was recently validated as being ready for SAP HANA® during an HWCCT test. We exceeded many of the KPIs required by SAP by a factor of more than 10."

In collaboration with:

idicos

veeam

Fujitsu

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