

**Objective**

Modernize the network and simplify operations to increase business continuity and deliver higher levels of quality and services to customers

Approach

Take advantage of HPE networking technologies to increase network throughput and availability to deliver an “always on” infrastructure

IT Matters

- Reduced business “loss” associated with unplanned downtime by 85%
- Replaced expensive network redundancy architecture with a simple network design
- Eliminated downtime due to data base corruption and subsequent restore procedures
- Ensured non-disruptive deployment with HPE and a preferred partner

Business Matters

- Eliminates downtime for planned maintenance, increasing productivity
- Ensures the release of products and firmware according to schedule
- Provides reliable performance and availability for quality assurance testing
- Delivers an “always on” network for creating competitive differentiation

New data center network helps Axis Communications ensure security for millions

New HPE network ensures 24/7 availability to enable video surveillance innovation



Axis Communications is the market leader in network video. Axis network video products are installed in public places and areas such as retail chains, airports, trains, motorways, universities, prisons, casinos and banks. By deploying a scalable HPE Data Center Networking solution, Axis Communications ensured “always on” availability for delivering groundbreaking products that help ensure the safety of millions of people around the world.

Ensuring 24/7 availability for worldwide operations

“Axis Communications invented the world’s first network camera back in 1996,” says Dan Lundström, Director of Infrastructure and IT Operations at Axis Communications. “We’re the leaders in video surveillance innovation, ensuring the security of millions of people in retail chains, airports, trains, motorways, universities, prisons, casinos, and banks.”

“The HPE Networking team in Grenoble set up a replica of the network we needed, successfully demonstrating the use cases we’d put together. The HPE reference customer showed us everything we wanted to see. They did hosting and often didn’t even know what kind of traffic patterns the hosted services used, but it all worked perfectly together. That was really the deciding factor for us.”

— Dan Lundström, Director of Infrastructure and IT Operations, Axis Communications

“Our network is critical to our business,” adds Lundström. “We require 24/7 support for over 70 sales offices, production plants, and distribution centers around the world. Our ‘always on’ initiative entails creating a backend that is completely redundant—from storage to networks to virtualization—to ensure the availability of our services.”

Demonstrating the ability to meet the technical requirements

“Layer 3 redundancy protocols were impacting our entire network,” continues Lundström. “We had problems failing over between our two data centers. We lost packages, services went down, and we had a lot of congestion issues. Basically, we had outgrown our old network. We wanted to create a modern network with no bandwidth restraints and the ability to do maintenance without taking down any part of the network. We also wanted to get rid of all Layer 3 so we could aggregate and move loads any way the business required.”

“We created a detailed technical design and sent it out to three different vendors, including HPE,” says Lundström. “We did workshops with each and visited reference

customers, quickly eliminating the other two vendors. The HPE Networking team in Grenoble set up a replica of the network we needed, successfully demonstrating the use cases we’d put together. The HPE reference customer showed us everything we wanted to see. They did hosting and often didn’t even know what kind of traffic patterns the hosted services used, but it all worked perfectly together. That was really the deciding factor for us.”

Increasing availability with innovative technology and proactive support

“We worked closely with HPE and a preferred HPE partner to deploy the data center core and Top of Rack switches,” says Lundström. “We eliminated layer three protocols like Spanning Tree, implemented ISSU (In Service Software Update) and IRF (Intelligent Resilient Framework) as core technologies providing ‘always on’ functionality. Now all of our core switches, top of rack switches, and servers are redundantly connected, and we can do online upgrades without any downtime. We successfully carried out a fail over test between our two data centers during working hours, and nobody even noticed.”

Case study

Axis Communications

Industry

Electronics (Security Equipment)

Customer at a glance

Application

- Axis Communications takes advantage of HPE FlexFabric architecture to reduce network complexity, eliminate proprietary and costly protocols, and increase network throughput and availability.

Hardware

- HPE FlexFabric 5900 Series Switches
- HPE FlexFabric 12900 Series Switches

Software

- HPE Intelligent Resilient Framework (IRF)
- HPE In-Service Software Update (ISSU)
- HPE Intelligent Management Center (IMC) Enterprise Software Platform

HPE Services

- HPE Datacenter Care Service

“The increased availability of the new HPE network and elimination of bottlenecks has allowed us to increase staff productivity, accelerate time-to-market, and improve client satisfaction, all of which enable us to strengthen our competitive advantage.”

– Dan Lundström, Director of Infrastructure and IT Operations, Axis Communications

“Because it’s a new platform, we also decided to go with HPE Datacenter Care which provides us with the proactive support we’re looking for,” adds Lundström. “We met with the HPE team to discuss what kind of support we wanted, and they created a custom support package to meet our specific requirements.”

Building a network for the future

“In addition to resolving our congestion issues,” explains Lundström, “we’ve also seen other benefits from the new solution. Previously, we used to run quality assurance tests on our own products over weekends. If the network had a problem, the test would fail, resulting in a product or firmware not being released on schedule. In addition, lost packets often resulted in data base corruption, requiring recovery which incurred downtime. Since the new HPE solution was deployed, we haven’t experienced any of those problems.”

“The increased availability of the new HPE network and elimination of bottlenecks has allowed us to increase staff productivity, accelerate time-to-market, and improve client satisfaction, all of which enable us to strengthen our competitive advantage,” summarizes Lundström. “I am very happy with the HPE organization. Their support has been excellent. They’ve provided us with the right partners, and they’ve been here throughout the process which has been critical for the success of the project.”

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