Hewlett Packard Enterprise

VECTUS ®

Objective
Ensure business continuity with an effective disaster recovery facility

Approach
Considered various vendors but repeated the successful HPE solution already installed in the main datacentre

IT Matters
- Delivers efficient data replication for fast failover in the event of a disaster
- Protects constant access to real-time data
- Eliminates unplanned system downtime

Business Matters
- Ensures business continuity for mission critical services
- Supports new initiatives designed to make Vectus an industry pioneer in operational efficiency
- Increases staff productivity by safeguarding system uptime

Vectus ensures business continuity for mission critical systems

HPE ConvergedSystem 500 for SAP HANA® underpins essential business continuity plan

Fast-developing Vectus Industries Limited is India's leading water storage and transportation company. It relies on efficient IT to support innovation and growth which is why it implemented two HPE ConvergedSystem 500 for SAP HANA in its main datacentre. Following that successful decision, it has installed a third HPE ConvergedSystem 500 at its new disaster recovery site.

Challenge

Need for business continuity
Vectus Industries Limited is India's leading and fastest growing pipe and water storage solution company. Since 1989, it has manufactured a wide range of plastic water tanks, piping systems and various kinds of plastic articles for agricultural and household purposes. In addition to its main office in Noida, it has manufacturing facilities, offices and depots at many locations in India and a staff of around 800 people.

For the last nine years, Vectus Group has been growing at an average rate of around 35% and, in its latest financial year, it achieved an overall sales turnover of approximately 600 Crores (US$ 90 million).

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"As an IT department, we are completely focused on supporting the daily activities of our users and on planning new initiatives. With HPE ConvergedSystem 500 for SAP HANA, we're confident that our business data and mission critical infrastructure are in safe hands. They are supported by the best and most talented industry experts, working for us around the clock across different time zones."

— Manish Sinha, chief information officer, Vectus Industries Limited

Sustaining this level of growth relies on a sound IT foundation but Vectus' legacy infrastructure could not meet the challenge. Vectus decided that its future vision would be best supported by SAP S/4 HANA, the suite of business applications built on SAP HANA, an in-memory database platform that delivers real-time performance. To provide a stable environment for this business-critical application, Vectus implemented two HPE ConvergedSystem 500 for SAP HANA.

These are pre-engineered, fully integrated, performance-optimised systems for SAP with a range of scale-up and scale-out configurations, and can be configured, quoted and installed in as few as 15 days. The Vectus Industries appliances featured the HPE ProLiant DL580 platform with Intel® Haswell E7 8880v3 CPUs, 512GB memory, SUSE Linux® operating systems and 10 x 12000GB SAS drives. One was to run its main production datacentre in New Delhi and the second was for failover data replication.

Because of the business criticality of its SAP infrastructure, Vectus decided to create a whole new Disaster Recovery (DR) site 1,400 KM away in Mumbai.

"Our business operation is mission critical and we have to have replication in place to continue business in the event of a failure," says chief information officer of Vectus Industries, Manish Sinha. "We wanted to be sure that if a disaster happened, the efficient operation of the business could continue and that our employees would have rapid access to the data and systems they need."

Solution

New disaster recovery facility
Having taken the decision to create a new DR site, Vectus needed to equip it with a trustworthy platform. Based on its prior positive experience with the Hewlett Packard Enterprise (HPE) solution, Vectus chose HPE ConvergedSystem500 for SAP HANA with the HPE Serviceguard for Linux high and SUSE for SAP operating systems.

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"We went with Hewlett Packard Enterprise again because of the excellent service they had given us," adds Sinha. "Service plays an important role in terms of mission critical operations and HPE have already proved themselves in this respect. We have confidence in their technical team and the SAP Centre of Excellence and because of that, a high level of trust has built up between Vectus and HPE."

Vectus considered different vendors but felt they could not provide a stable platform. The HPE Serviceguard with failover capability offered protection for the business and the company felt that none of the other vendors could provide the same level of protection for mission critical business operations. Also, it had never had any unplanned downtime with its existing HPE ConvergedSystem 500s.

Because it had successfully taken this route before, Vectus chose to deploy the factory-assembled appliance rather than a Tailored Datacenter Integration (TDI) model to avoid spending IT resource to assemble and configure the new system. The HPE ConvergedSystem is purpose built for SAP HANA and workload optimised. It is fast to deploy, and simple to manage so Vectus can quickly get the system running seamlessly.

Vectus partnered with Progression Infonet for hardware support and with vCentric Technologies for SAP implementation services.

Benefit

Support for award-winning innovation
By working in tandem with Vectus' existing HPE ConvergedSystem 500 landscape in New Delhi, this Mumbai DR implementation underlines the benefits already delivered by those appliances. These include real time data access by 50% faster improving operational efficiency by 60% and reducing unplanned downtime from 24 hours a month to zero. The HPE ConvergedSystem 500 also saved 12 million Rupees (US $178,000) a month by eliminating staff inactivity due to downtime, replaced months of work with real-time data delivery for financial year-end closures and eliminated crippling overtime costs.

A speedy and smooth implementation of the DR solution was a major benefit for Vectus, helped by the fact that this was a repetition of its previous HPE ConvergedSystem 500 implementations.

Customer at a glance

Hardware
- HPE ConvergedSystem 500 for SAP HANA

Software
- SAP S/4 HANA
- HPE Serviceguard for Linux

HPE services
- HPE Lifecycle Services

"When it comes to technology, companies need to have solutions that will support growth. HPE ConvergedSystem 500 does that for us."

— Manish Sinha, chief information officer, Vectus Industries Limited

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Vectus has also taken advantage of the Lifecycle Services provided by the HPE Center of Excellence who assisted it with an HPE Serviceguard upgrade, significantly reducing the upgrade window.

"Traditionally, the turnaround time is 14 days and they did it in one day. They went the extra mile for us and that was beyond expectations," says Sinha.

The creation of this DR facility based on a third HPE ConvergedSystem 500 appliance marks the latest move in Vectus' stabilisation of its IT landscape to support operational efficiency and business growth. Continuing its sprit of IT innovation, the company has also extended its business processes with an intuitive mobile application that encourages people to stay in touch and improves communication across its value chain. The company won a SAP Innovation Award for this Android mobile app and this is just one of 13 industry awards it has won since its SAP implementation.

"The credit for these awards definitely goes to the HPE infrastructure because that is the critical foundation when we are taking new technology initiatives," concludes Sinha. "When you have the right infrastructure in place it gives you the uptime you need to support the business."

Learn more at
hpe.com/convergedsystem

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