iTernity

ILLE PAPIER-SERVICE

MORE FUTURE ORIENTED THROUGH INCREASED CAPACITY AND EFFICIENCY

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Timo Kaufmann, IT Systems Administrator, Ille Papier-Service GmbH

Ille Papier-Service: Tailor-made hygiene solutions – Made in Germany.

ILLE PAPIER-SERVICE

Industry:

Manufacturing

Background:

Ille has consolidated its ERP storage and archiving system as well as integrated them in the archiving solution iCAS.

Challenge:

The storage system capacity at Ille Papier Service GmbH was no longer sufficient for its Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) application. Response times for the archiving solution were too long and no longer acceptable.

Solution:

Renewing the storage infrastructure and the archiving solution in conjunction with its long-term partner ProLan. Transferring the archives from Jukeboxes onto hard disks, enabled by the archive middleware iCAS.

THE SUCCESS AT A GLANCE:

✓ Greater efficiency in administration and allocation of the storage to the business processes

✓ Storage capacity has more than doubled from 2 to 4,8 TB

✓ Access times and data access flow-rate have improved to 4 Gigabit

INCREASED DATA VOLUME REQUIRES MORE CAPACITY

Whilst Ille has expanded, the data volume has also continued to grow. "At this moment in time the volume of data we have in Microsoft Dynamics is growing by approximately 3 GB each month," confirms Timo Kaufmann, IT Systems Administrator at Ille.

"We are even expecting an increase in data volume of 5 GB per day in the future. A renewal of the storage system was therefore unavoidable. To facilitate the continued expansion of our business activities, we began our search for a new storage concept with greater data volume and future-oriented expandability."

ARE JUKEBOXES FUTURE ORIENTED?

Ille planned to renew the HPE storage with a greater storage volume for storing Microsoft Dynamics data. The same also applied to the Saperion archive data which was previously stored on MO media. This raised a number of questions. How future-oriented are jukeboxes? Who will supply the media, and how long are they readable or writeable? To what extent will they continue to be supported by the software systems in future? One drawback of jukeboxes is their long access and loading time. In the past, performance shortfalls at Ille were commonplace when it came to accessing jukebox media.

"Sometimes it would take several minutes before an authorized user could view the required document on the screen,"

remembers Timo Kaufmann. As the required storage medium often had to be loaded from the juke-box beforehand, it was not possible to accelerate this process.

THE NEED FOR SYSTEM STABILITY

As part of the IT infrastructure renewal, the stability of the entire system should be incorporated and improved as well. In the future, it needs to be guaranteed that employees will not be interrupted by IT breakdowns in their operations. In order to test the future reliability, the technical developments and expandability of the jukeboxes, Timo Kaufmann contacted his long-term IT partner, ProLan Computer GmbH, as well as the company Saperion. Saperion itself does not supply storage systems, but it relies on the market's storage systems to store data. Saperion-certified iCAS technology emerged as the ideal solution for Ille, as it enables the company to use HPE StorageWorks products for audit-proof archiving.

MODULAR STORAGE ALLOWS FOR FLEXIBLE EXPANSION

The original plans involved a 1:1 replacement of the two existing storage systems with two new ones. Ille based its original planning on the use of a HPE storage solution for Microsoft Dynamics and an additional NetApp solution for the Saperion system's archive data. This, however, would have resulted in two separate storage systems, and consequently two different administration tools. In order to simplify the storage operation and its administration, Ille decided to consolidate the archive data with the ERP data on a combined system. However, the challenge was not merely in the storage itself, but more in ensuring audit-proof archiving of data in accordance with statutory requirements.

AUDIT-PROOF STORAGE ON HARD DISKS

Solutions were also found for these requirements. Using the archiving middleware iCAS running on an HPE ProLiant DL380 G6, the archive data can be stored legally, and in accordance with guidelines, on HPE StorageWorks hard disk systems. Therefore, there was nothing preventing the consolidation of previously separated data onto one system.

"This seemed to us to be far more future-oriented! Instead of having to continue operating and managing two different media and technologies, we were able to implement our storage and archiving requirements with one system," comments Timo Kaufmann.

Today a central HPE StorageWorks EVA 4400 storage system with 4,8 TB gross capacity ensures sufficient reserves and uniform storage management. A highcapacity storage connection to the server systems is guaranteed by a dual controller array with two parallel 4 GB fiber channel switches M6412-A and a fiber channel drive enclosure in connection with the HP 8/8 base. Data is then transferred across the local network via a 1 GB cable.

ERP AND ARCHIVE DATA MAPPED VIA A STORAGE SYSTEM

Timo Kaufmann is now pleased to have accommodated everything. In the future, the archive data from Saperion and the Microsoft Dynamics ERP business data will be combined into one storage system. At the same time, this consolidation of data ensures greater capacity utilisation as free space can be made available on the storage unit of both systems. In order to accelerate the operation of Microsoft Dynamics, the servers have also been updated. Now two HPE ProLiant DL360 G6 servers with 2x Xeon X5550 Quad Core 2.66GHz Processors guarantee sufficient processing power and fast responses. The Navision control system now also runs on one system. To provide the necessary system stability, a second system with identical hardware is intended to deal with faults exclusively. These also have access to the HPE StorageWorks EVA storage system. For Timo Kaufmann, it was particularly important in the consolidation of the storage that iTernity iCAS can be expanded step by step in the future and therefore, can adapt to Ille's storage requirements as best as possible.

"One of our most important requirements for the upgrade of the storage infrastructure is that we should also be able to meet our requirements in the future in the best possible way."

HELP WITH THE MIGRATION FROM THE PARTNER

The planning, as well as the actual implementation, was carried out in cooperation with Ille's long-term IT business partner, ProLan Computer GmbH. Ille's IT experts took care of the basic installation of the systems and set up the operating systems. The ERP system was subsequently added, as well as the SQL server in its basic configuration.

THE LAST STEP

The final stage was the installation of Microsoft Dynamics and its connection to the iCAS storage. The configuration of the Saperion connection was activated remotely by Saperion. iCAS was also configured remotely by iTernity's archive specialists and was connected to Saperion as well as to the storage system. The transfer of data from the existing HPE StorageWorks MSA 1500 to the new HPE StorageWorks EVA was implemented using the prepared data backup options of the SQL server. The migration itself was seamless and nearly failure-free. Users were required to complete their tasks by 3pm. The last data amendments were then transferred to the new system and the new environment was activated that same night. The migration of the existing archive data from the jukebox to the new storage system took place directly after the implementation of iCAS in the day-today operations and without the need to administer it via Saperion. Timo Kaufmann is impressed with the migration and he concluded:

"We don't regret switching to iCAS. Access times to data have been reduced from minutes to seconds. Furthermore, administration is now far easier. Previously, our technicians had to work with two separate management tools - now they can use one single tool. Service is also easier and clearer. Instead of having to contact two separate technicians, as was the case previously, everything is much more centralized now."

DATA ARCHIVING MADE SIMPLE

iCAS is a flexible middleware for retention management & WORM storage. The solution integrates perfectly into heterogeneous infrastructure landscapes. While you take care of your core business, iCAS reliably protects the integrity and availability of your data in the background.

HARDWARE INDEPENDENT

The archive intelligence is tied to the software-layer, not to the hardware

COMPLIANT

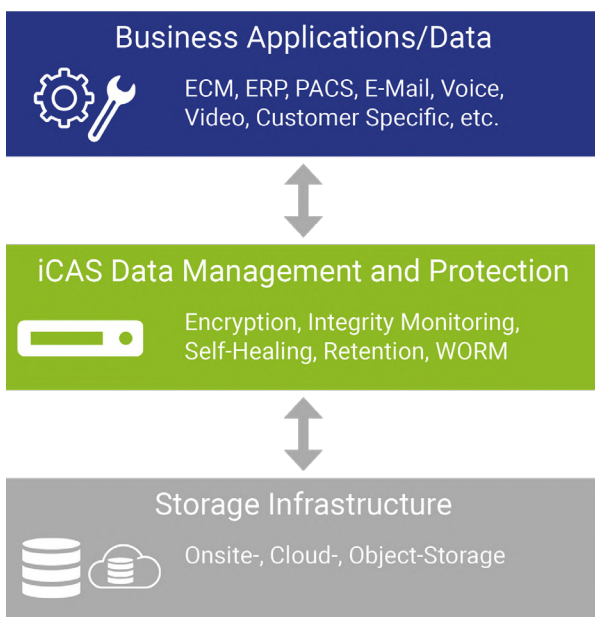iCAS assures regulatory and compliance requirements

FLEXIBLE

Middleware between your business application and the storage infrastructure

TAMPER-PROOF

iCAS provides WORM storage, encryption and retention management

THE CENTRAL PLATFORM FOR YOUR DATA MANAGEMENT

Business Applications/Data
ECM, ERP, PACS, E-Mail, Voice, Video, Customer Specific, etc.

iCAS Data Management and Protection
Encryption, Integrity Monitoring, Self-Healing, Retention, WORM

Storage Infrastructure
Onsite-, Cloud-, Object-Storage

iCAS protects data integrity and availability, even if the underlying storage technology and hardware changes in the future. As a software-defined solution, iCAS lays the foundation for audit-proof data archiving and protects your investments in hardware, software and services.

iCAS adapts to your IT infrastructure and adds compliance, data integrity protection and WORM storage (Write Once Read Many) to your existing systems.

iTernity

WE TAKE YOUR DATA SECURELY INTO THE FUTURE

We protect your business-critical data. The trust you place in us is our motivation and an investment in the future. The result: more security, less effort, no worries.

Our DNA is archiving, our mission the long-term availability and integrity of all types of corporate data. Our focus is on your challenges, whether data protection, cost pressure, data growth, cyber attacks, lack of time, or complexity – we take your data securely into the future.

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