IBM

IDS Scheer AG shows how virtualization dramatically simplifies a complex IT infrastructure

Overview

IDS Scheer AG
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Industry
• Computer Services

Products
• IBM System x x3850 M2 servers
• IBM System Storage DS3400
• IBM System Storage DS4300
• IBM System Storage DS4700
• IBM System Storage DS4800
• IBM System Storage SAN
  Volume Controller (SVC)

"As a managed service provider, we can take advantage of the IBM System Storage SAN Volume Controller's ability to cater to each customer's requirements individually, according to SLAs."

—Markus Peltz, Configuration Manager, IDS Scheer

IDS Scheer AG is a worldwide market leader in business process management (BPM) software, solutions and services. The company offers an integrated solution portfolio for the strategic planning, design, implementation and controlling of business processes. Their managed service offerings include the provision and hosting of SAP applications, which include almost every SAP software component.

Challenge

Historically, IDS Scheer has operated its hosting services with one server for each application. The resulting infrastructure has grown dramatically in complexity, reducing flexibility and increasing costs. Similarly, the storage model has been to add new devices to the SAN to meet growing requirements. As each SAN device reached its capacity limits, new systems were added, resulting in a range of different technologies, performance and connections. In some cases, data would have to be moved to new storage servers, which would require new drivers, creating additional administrative workload and potential risk.

Solution

IDS Scheer made the strategic decision to virtualize the server and storage infrastructure, using VMware vSphere on IBM System x3850 M2 servers, and introducing IBM System Storage™ SAN Volume Controller (SVC) to manage its IBM storage devices. The result has been a dramatic simplification of the technology infrastructure. IDS Scheer has been able to eliminate more than 120 servers and integrate more than 30 storage systems into the single SVC management solution.

Benefits

• Reduces costs by consolidating 131 servers on 9 physical servers

• Provides capacity for workload increases with highly scalable servers

• Enables recovery of failed systems within just 10 to 15 minutes

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