DELLEMC

ESSENTIALS

Industry

Financial Services

Organization Size

9 Countries, 15 Locations, 1,750 Users

Business Challenge

- Excessively long backup and recovery put financial data and application performance at risk

- 30 to 40+ hour recovery times for Exchange, SQL and Oracle,

- Fewer than 150 of 380 VMs were successfully backed up daily

- Data growth was driving a constant expansion in backup storage capacity

Results

- A single backup solution for virtual and physical machines

- 30x faster backup of Microsoft SQL data; 13x for Data Warehouse; 5x for Exchange

- 15x reduction in backup storage

- 15x reduction in network traffic

- 10x improvement in RPO

- 5x improvement in RTO

Solutions

- Dell EMC Data Protection Suite for VMware

- Dell EMC Data Domain

HOIST FINANCE

Switching to an all-Dell EMC data protection solution dramatically improved the security of financial data and supported company's aggressive growth

COMPANY'S GROWTH REQUIRES A SCALABLE DATA PROTECTION SOLUTIONS

The challenges facing the IT professionals at Hoist Finance are three-fold: protect the company's business-critical applications, protect its virtualized and physical IT environment (95-percent virtualized using VMware vSphere), and make sure the storage infrastructure can scale to meet the demands of company growth. Data Protection Suite for VMware enables them to meet these challenges, delivering a 30x faster backup of Microsoft SQL, 5x faster access to VMs, and a 15x reduction in backup storage and network traffic. Data Protection Suite for VMware is a collection of best-of-breed software solutions for backup of physical and virtual servers as well as continuous data protection for VMware. It includes Dell EMC Avamar, Dell EMC RecoverPoint for Virtual Machines, Dell EMC Data Protection Advisor and Dell EMC Data Protection Search.

PREVIOUS BACKUP SOLUTION PUT DATA AND APPLICATION PERFORMANCE AT RISK

Until recently, Hoist Finance's data protection solutions were not allowing IT to meet its backup service-level agreements (SLAs). For example, the company's business-critical applications include Microsoft Exchange, Microsoft SQL Server, Data Warehouse and core applications running on Oracle. SQL log files were a problem because the log files were consuming primary storage and often exceeded available capacity, resulting in incomplete backups. VMware image backups were another issue. These were not able to complete on a daily basis, so there was no guarantee that a VM was restorable within the parameters defined by the business.

In addition, because backups and financial applications' batch jobs all need to take place at night, there was the concern that either backups would not complete, or application performance would be affected. Another problem with the previous backup solution was that valuable administration time was spent trying to work around its inefficiencies, such as monitoring space to ensure successful backups.

ONE DATA PROTECTION SOLUTION FOR BOTH VIRTUAL AND PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENTS

Hoist Finance deployed Data Protection Suite for VMware in conjunction with a Dell EMC Data Domain storage system, giving the company a single and reliable backup solution for all systems (VMs as well as its physical servers).

Avamar was an easy and natural progression from the previous backup solution. Avamar and Data Domain leverage client-side deduplication while Avamar tracks unique changes at the block level.

FASTER BACKUP AND RECOVERY INCREASE THE SECURITY OF PRODUCTION DATA AND VMS

Using Data Protection Suite for VMware in conjunction with Data Domain storage, Hoist Finance has dramatically improved the speed of backup and recovery, and more importantly, the security of its data. It has also significantly reduced the amount of data being backed up.

	Before Dell EMC Data Protection	With Dell EMC Data Protection
SQL	Backup = 8 hours Recovery = 10 hours	Backup = 54 minutes Recovery = 1 hour
Data Warehouse	Backup = 15 hours Recovery = 16 hours	Backup = 3 hours Recovery = 5 hours
Exchange	Backup = 16 - 17 hours Recovery = 32 hours	Backup = 4.5 hours Recovery = 8 hours
380 VMs	Fewer than 150 backed up/day Backed up VM in service in 15 hours	Backed up 380 VMs in service in 4.5 hours

Shrinking SQL and Exchange backup time has eliminated the problems that occurred when the volumes holding log files filled up. This brings a huge benefit to data security by allowing Hoist Finance to do log file backups every hour

"On average we have one day less data loss in failure situations due to the Dell EMC solution."

Peter Neuens IT Operations Manager, Germany, Hoist Finance

"When the nightly backup is finished earlier, we have more time to react and can avoid having an unusable system in the morning. That lowers risk for the business and that's a real benefit for Hoist," says Dirk Katschenges, Head of IT-Service for Hoist Finance.

"On average, we have one day less data loss in failure situations due to the Dell EMC solution," adds Peter Neuens, IT Operations Manager, Germany, for the company.

RESTORE PROCESSES HAVE BEEN STREAMLINED FOR OVERALL 5X IMPROVEMENT

Using Avamar, after the first full backup, the software keeps track of changes and only backs up the unique blocks. When it is necessary to do a recovery, Avamar delivers the full back up immediately, reducing the recovery time by a factor of five.

Another issue with the previous process was the amount of time required to recover a VM from the backup (approximately 45 minutes). Using Avamar to back up the VMs to Data Domain, Hoist Finance has instant access to all VMs. They simply mount the problematic VM on Data Domain and have immediate access to that VM. This returns a VM to service in just a few minutes.

EASIER MANAGEMENT; BETTER ABILITY TO KEEP UP WITH COMPANY'S GROWTH

Now that Hoist Finance has an all-Dell EMC data protection solution, managing storage has been simplified since Hoist Finance is interacting with one vendor instead of three.

Another benefit of the Dell EMC data protection solution is its scalability, which will allow the company to meet the increased data storage and network demands resulting from its growth. Because data deduplication shrinks the amount of storage space required by 15X, Hoist Finance can reduce the CAPEX costs of its storage hardware. Similarly, with 70TB less data traveling over its network each day, the company's network expansion costs can be mitigated.

Faster backups and restores, savings on storage capacity, and reduced network traffic all equate to more secure data and more efficient use of IT resources. Perhaps most importantly, with this Dell EMC data protection solution, Hoist Finance has been able to eliminate performance slowdowns during high-volume production hours and gains continuous availability of its critical applications.

CONTACT US

To learn more, contact your local representative or authorized reseller.

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