

Case Study

Stadt Wermelskirchen

»We now have a secure, mirrored solution that integrates perfectly into our operating concept and can manage all of the demands of our service-oriented civic center.«

Lutz Betke, IT technician for the administrative and HR departments, Stadt Wermelskirchen



The customer

The city of Wermelskirchen is located in the German state of North Rhine-Westphalia, approximately 35km from Cologne. It is part of the Rheinisch-Bergischer Kreis district and the Bergisches Land nature reserve. Once famous as the heart of Germany's shoe trade, the city is now home to 34,500 inhabitants and is considered an important center for the metalworking, mechanical engineering and tool making industries.

The challenge

Stadt Wermelskirchen (Wermelskirchen City Council) had been using its existing IT infrastructure based on virtualized servers and a SAN storage system for many years, but the systems were no longer up to current standards and therefore could not provide the level of reliability the council needed. The council's increasing demands on the IT system were becoming too great for the existing systems, and growing data volumes meant that a new storage system was required, as well as an appropriate data infrastructure. The city also wanted to acquire, implement and maintain a modern, flexible IT infrastructure to prevent IT errors that would otherwise have a significant effect on services for its inhabitants, and therefore increase personnel costs and financial losses. The Windows 2003 operating system also had to be replaced as the support contract with Microsoft had expired.

"When we issued the tender, it was particularly important to us to find a partner with a solution that would ensure we could maintain secure IT operations throughout the entire lifetime of the system," says Lutz Betke, IT technician for Stadt Wermelskirchen.

The solution

The tender was won by FUJITSU SELECT Expert Partner SVA System Vertrieb Alexander, which was then tasked with designing and implementing the project. The company planned to migrate the complex infrastructure with its many specialized procedures, implement a redesigned DMZ with a mail server connection and migrate all of the servers (including mail, SQL and web servers) to a modern operating system.

The customer

Country: Germany
Industry: Public sector
Employees: 300
Website: www.wermelskirchen.de



The challenge

- Replacing and updating the entire IT infrastructure including all software and hardware
- Implementing a highly available solution with automatic failover
- Carrying out a wide range of tasks on the Windows platform
- Migrating the Microsoft Exchange environment from Exchange 2003 to Exchange 2013
- Setting up a second server location to increase reliability

The solution

New server and storage infrastructure consisting of four ESX servers and two DataCore servers, each with a SAN storage system. The systems are installed at two separate locations.

The benefit

- Secure, mirrored solution integrated into the operating concept
- High level of flexibility and sufficient space for further expansion

The project involved many complex tasks on the Windows platform, such as migrating the Exchange environment from Exchange 2003 to Exchange 2013, replacing or updating all of the hardware and software, and implementing a highly available solution with automatic failover. The company also duplicated the systems at a second location to increase reliability. In order to ensure that this would all run smoothly, the new infrastructure was initially installed in parallel to the existing one. The old systems were then moved to the new servers as part of a coordinated procedure.

The benefit

Due to the close collaboration and efficient teamwork between the parties involved, the implementation took just six weeks. The infrastructure was delivered, constructed and specially configured to ensure that the administrative applications could be migrated as quickly as possible. SVA only made slight adaptations to the council's original concept for the design of the data center in order to account for the actual migration process required. Thanks to SVA, the council now has a modern IT infrastructure consisting of four Fujitsu PRIMERGY RX300 S8 ESX servers and two Fujitsu ETERNUS DX100 S3 DataCore servers split across two sites.

Products and services

- 4x FUJITSU Server PRIMERGY RX300 S8
- 1x FUJITSU Server PRIMERGY RX2520 M1
- 1x FUJITSU Server PRIMERGY RX100 S8
- 2x FUJITSU Storage ETERNUS DX100 S3 + 4x Brocade B300 SAN switches
- 1x FUJITSU Tape Library ETERNUS LT60 S2
- Citrix NetScaler
- Veeam Backup & Replication Enterprise
- 4x Cisco Catalyst 4500-X 16 port 10G
- SVA installation, configuration and migration services for Fujitsu, VMware and Microsoft

Conclusion

Around 300 employees at Wermelskirchen Town Hall are now benefitting from the new infrastructure, and the fire service, maintenance depot, public library, cultural center, all school secretariats, kindergartens and a number of remote workspaces have already been connected to it. Creating a second site makes the new infrastructure much more reliable, and the new backup technology installed enables the council to run comprehensive backups quickly and regularly. The storage system also provides sufficient space and the necessary flexibility for future expansions.

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Lutz Betke, IT technician for the administrative and HR departments, Stadt Wermelskirchen

In collaboration with

BROCADE 



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