

“High availability, good performance and ease of administration were all factors that contributed to our decision to choose Fujitsu’s solution. From a commercial standpoint, the company also made us the best offer.”

Sebastian Fauland
IT Infrastructure Team Leader
Walser Privatbank AG



Walser Privatbank has a new storage solution with transparent failover. It has considerably higher performance and easier to manage storage systems.

At a glance

Country: Austria
Industry: Banking
Founded: 1894
Employees: 170
Website: www.walserprivatbank.com

Challenge

Walser Privatbank was looking for a new storage solution. It wanted a system that could provide high availability and high performance whilst still being cost-effective.

Solution

The two FUJITSU Storage ETERNUS DX200 systems with Storage Cluster License for transparent failover ensure that both data centers work simultaneously, enabling applications to switch between them without interrupting service.

Benefit

- High availability
- Transparent failover with no service interruptions
- Dynamic distribution across different storage media
- Time savings through simpler administration

Customer

Walser Privatbank AG is a renowned private banking institution in German-speaking Europe, with decades of tradition and experience behind it. Originally founded as a regional cooperative, the bank is firmly rooted in Austria's network of Raiffeisen banks, abiding by the values of solidity, proximity and dedication. Values that stem from the bank's roots in Austria's Kleinwalsertal valley. Walser Privatbank specializes in securing and increasing the assets of its upmarket private customers.

Products and services

- 2 x FUJITSU Storage ETERNUS DX200
- Dual Active Storage Controller 8 x 8 GB FC
- 9 x 800 GB eMLC SSD Raid 5 = 4.3 TB usable storage
- 33 x 900 GB 10k SAS = 22.4 TB usable storage
- 17 x 2 TB 7.2 NL-SAS = 21.3 TB usable storage
- FUJITSU Storage ETERNUS SF – Management Software
- Advanced Copy Manager
- Automated Quality of Service
- Automated Storage Tiering
- Storage Cluster License



Challenge

As a financial institution, Walser Privatbank has exceptionally high demands when it comes to the reliability of its IT infrastructure. However, it no longer had enough space to expand the existing storage systems in its data center. "An upgrade would have cost us as much as a brand new solution," says Sebastian Fauland, IT Infrastructure Team Leader, Walser Privatbank AG. For this reason, the bank decided to invest in a new, futureproof system. Financial institutions require high availability, high performance, cost-effective solutions, so it was no surprise that Fauland's tender focused on these key areas. "It was also important for both data centers to work simultaneously, which other providers could only guarantee with an additional solution," he continues. The bank's assessments confirmed that the FUJITSU Storage ETERNUS DX200 systems with Storage Cluster would be capable of meeting its requirements.

Solution

Two ETERNUS DX200 storage systems with Storage Cluster, including SSD RAID and SAS storage options, have now been installed at the bank. "For us, dynamic distribution across a variety of media running at different speeds is a key feature. Data is prioritized automatically, without us having to intervene," explains Fauland. In total, the bank stores 128 virtual servers with data volumes of some 30 terabytes, two terabytes of which comes from databases that are constantly changing, across eight ESX hosts. One of the data security features in the new solution was a key factor in the bank's decision – the option to switch to mirrored data with no time delay at all. This would have only previously worked with a special additional script. Now the areas for the different applications are pre-allocated. Tests carried out with real data showed that this transparent failover would work in practice as well as theory – "It all went perfectly," says Fauland.

To ensure it chose the optimum solution, and to determine the sizes of the individual components required, the bank sought comprehensive technical advice from Fujitsu while it was writing the tender. "It was important to us to ensure that we had both enough storage and the right blend of fast and slow media to cope with our unique requirements," Fauland continues.

Benefit

The simple administration processes for the new solution saves the IT team at least four hours per month. The reporting options are also substantially better than before. "We can now generate fast, meaningful reports," explains Fauland. He also has the option to guarantee response times in the future, as well as provide automated quality of service guarantees. This exciting new feature will come into play with the upcoming introduction of new Oracle systems. These will run on dedicated hardware while the associated storage will be part of the storage area network. As well as providing futureproof technology for the project, Fujitsu also offered its consulting services at the beginning, and continuous support through a German language hotline. "We will definitely come back to Fujitsu next time we need new equipment," says Fauland, confidently.

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Email: cic@ts.fujitsu.com

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