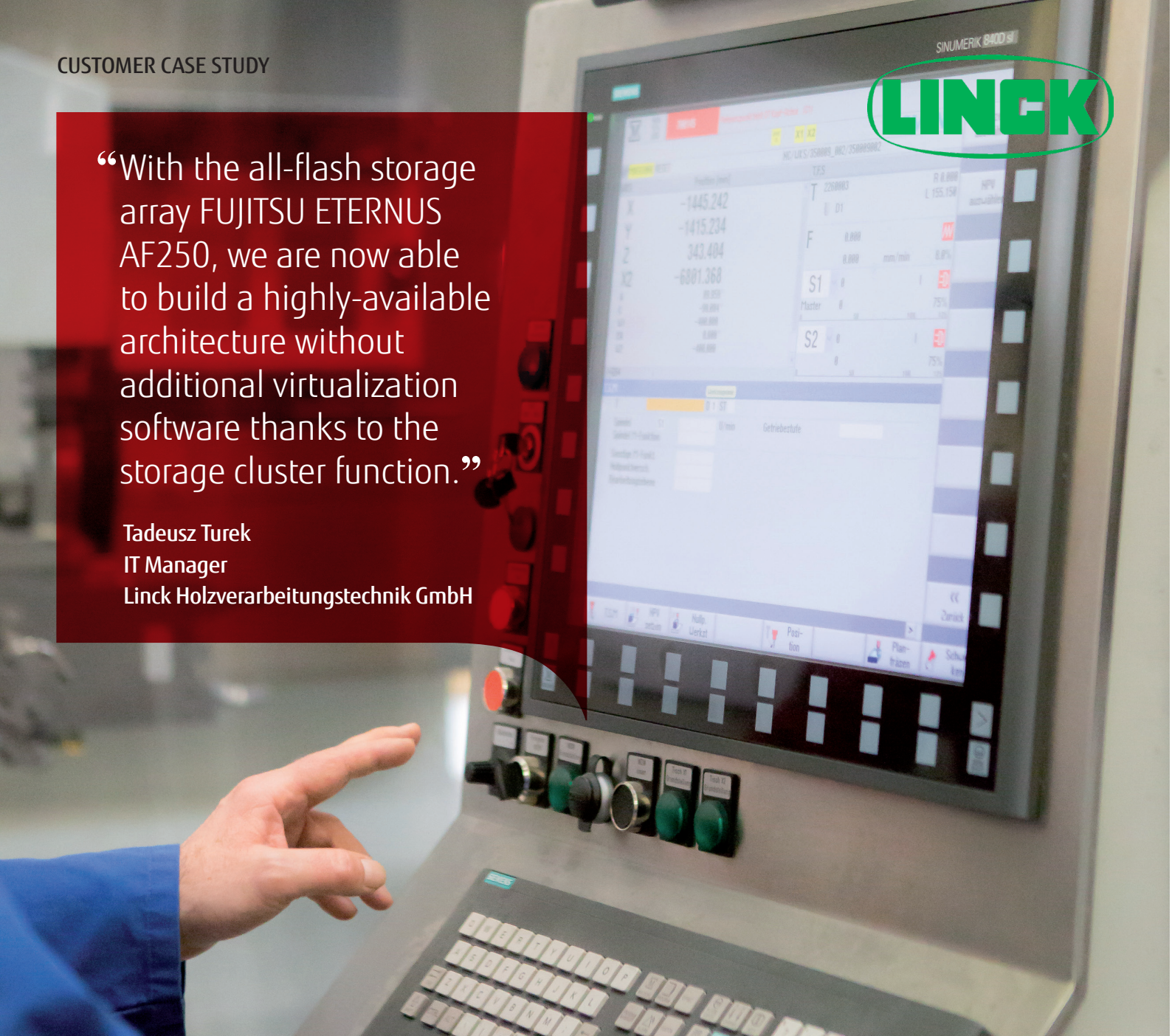




“With the all-flash storage array FUJITSU ETERNUS AF250, we are now able to build a highly-available architecture without additional virtualization software thanks to the storage cluster function.”

Tadeusz Turek
IT Manager
Linck Holzverarbeitungstechnik GmbH



Thanks to FUJITSU Storage ETERNUS AF250, Linck Holzverarbeitungstechnik benefits from a very fast, highly-available and reliable all-flash storage system.

At a glance

Country: Germany
Industry: Machine building for sawmills
Founded: 1840
Employee: 300
Website: www.linck.com

Challenge

Extremely fail-safe and available systems, the fast back-up of data and the reliable restoration of the same are critical to Linck's business. The company previously used outdated storage systems from an American manufacturer for these processes, which no longer satisfied the increased requirements.

Solution

Linck implemented a mirrored storage cluster with FUJITSU Storage ETERNUS AF250 All-Flash-Array, equipped with Intel® Xeon® processors. In the case of a system failure, it can automatically switch the access path for the host to the other side within a few seconds, thus warranting maximum availability.

Benefit

- High-speed data access through all-flash technology
- Maximum fail-safe and availability of data that is critical to the business
- Simple administration thanks to transparent management interface
- High-quality solution with technology Made in Germany
- German-speaking contacts on site for service and support



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Customer

The medium-sized firm Linck is Europe's largest manufacturer of sawmill equipment; it is located at the edge of the Black Forest in Oberkirch, and is a partner to the largest sawmills in Europe. The development of new innovations for higher extraction levels and optimum cuts for timber processing are key factors for the success of the company. Due to its advantageous location with regard to transport, Oberkirch offers many advantages and the opportunity to keep up with the latest trends. Linck offers quality Made in Germany—with a global commitment and a world-leading market position.

Products and Services

- FUJITSU Storage ETERNUS AF250 All-Flash Array
- FUJITSU Server PRIMERGY RX2540
- FUJITSU Storage ETERNUS CS800
- FUJITSU Storage ETERNUS LT40

Fast and reliable storage systems for business-critical processes

Half of Linck's workforce works in administration and engineering. All of the company's departments, which depend on the availability of a powerful and reliable IT system, are located in-house. Extremely fail-safe and available systems, the fast back-up of data and the reliable restoration of the same are therefore critical to the business. The company previously used the storage systems of an American manufacturer for these processes. However, these were outdated and no longer satisfied the increased requirements. "We needed faster, more flexible and more powerful storage systems that warrant a maximum level of fail-safe operations," remembers Tadeusz Turek, IT Manager at Linck. Other important requirements were that the storage architecture can be implemented as a completely mirrored environment, and that downtime phases can be kept as short as possible. "Because of the required speed, we definitely wanted to invest in a modern all-flash solution. In this way, we were also able to meet the requirement of our system administrator Benno Haas, namely to minimize the amount of administrative work," adds Tadeusz Turek.

Linck has previous positive experience with the Fujitsu technology, as the company already uses an IT environment with four PRIMERGY RX2540 servers, a back-up storage appliance FUJITSU ETERNUS CS800 and a FUJITSU ETERNUS LT40 for tape backup. "The Fujitsu systems are very reliable. Therefore it only made sense to also rely on the solutions offered by the proven IT partner when it came to the new storage systems. Now we can benefit from a uniform IT architecture from one source," confirms the IT Manager.

Storage cluster with transparent failover

Based on the high level of satisfaction and trust, the timber processing firm once again invested in the Fujitsu technology. The IT department decided on the all-flash storage system FUJITSU ETERNUS, equipped with Intel® Xeon® processors. "This solution impresses with extremely high performance, reliability and availability," reports system administrator Benno Haas. The medium-sized company was also impressed by the fact that Fujitsu has a production presence in Germany. All of the hardware is developed and made in Augsburg. In addition, Fujitsu offers German-speaking contacts on site, who can answer inquiries and provide service and support, which is a big plus for Linck. Another important decision criterion was the honest and straightforward business conduct of Fujitsu: "While the supplier of the previous system offered us a considerable discount to keep us as a customer, we were nevertheless convinced by Fujitsu's high performance, excellent service and quality Made in

Germany," explains Tadeusz Turek.

Working closely with proven service partner FREICON, the IT team at Linck implemented a mirrored storage cluster with an all-flash storage system FUJITSU ETERNUS AF250 as the centerpiece. The medium-sized company was impressed by the rapid all-flash technology as well as the storage cluster function including the transparent failover. "Now we can build a highly-available architecture without additional virtualization software. In the case of a system failure, it can automatically switch the access path for the host to the other side within a few seconds," says Turek. "Linck benefits from the highest level of fail-safe and availability," adds Rudi Stratz, System Engineer / Systems Technology at FREICON.

All-flash storage cluster for business-critical data

After a project duration of only six months—from the first discussion to go-live—Linck now benefits from an extremely fast and reliable all-flash storage cluster that holds available all business-critical data in a redundant form on a mirrored system. Individuals in charge of IT can rapidly access backed-up application data across all storage hierarchies. Another advantage: The ETERNUS AF250 can be easily administered via a transparent management interface, which saves work and thus costs. Furthermore, the storage solution can be seamlessly integrated into the existing IT landscape of PRIMERGY RX2540 servers. This warrants the uniform and consistent administration of the entire architecture. "We now have an IT environment from one source, and only one contact person in the case of problems or questions," confirms Benno Haas.

The IT Manager is also very satisfied with the implementation partner, Freiburg-based IT service provider FREICON. "We have been working with our system partner for many years. In this project, the experts at FREICON once again delivered proof of their extensive competence, and provided both sound advice and committed service. This enabled us to successfully complete the implementation project in such a short time period," says Turek.

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