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Frank Uittenbosch
IT Administrator



SRON

Netherlands Institute for Space Research

Situation

SRON (Netherlands Institute for Space Research) chose SEP and reduced their backup window from four days to four hours! What does a company do if their mission-critical backups are taking over four days? If you are SRON, The Netherlands partner for NASA and the European Space Agency, you call SEP Software and implement SEP in your environment.

CHALLENGE

Unacceptable backup performance was causing SRON (Netherlands Institute for Space Research) to lose valuable computing time and forced the IT department to skip or stagger backup tasks for mission-critical data. A test of the existing Yosemite backup software from Barracuda proved that the product had to be scrapped. A test of Syncsort proved that the software was both under performing and overpriced.

SOLUTION

The SRON Data Center was looking for a new backup software that could handle huge file sets and massive amounts of data residing on their central server. Using SEP's patented Multi-Streaming Technology, a performance milestone was surpassed beyond all expectations. The IT staff set up backup tasks running 16 data streams at once, but could easily increase the amount of data streams as needed to take full advantage of their state-of-the-art tape auto loaders.

Luckily, another division of SRON had been using SEP to back up Linux servers and positive reports flowed in to their main IT department. Upon implementation, the SRON staff was ecstatic about the software's performance. Not only did it outperform the competition and the existing product, SRON added more backup volume and the backups still finished in less than four hours – instead of four days!

SEP Software is the premier technology leader providing high performance backup and disaster recovery solutions for professional IT infrastructures of all sizes. SEP delivers seamless solutions with one central interface to easily manage backups for heterogeneous environments.

SEP's software ensures that data security for both virtual and physical environments can be easily and cost-effectively achieved. SEP is the ultimate expression of German engineering and attention to detail. Design and programming originate from SEP offices in Weyarn, near Munich, Germany, where overall performance and reliability are of the utmost concern.

RESULTS

According to Frank Uittenbosch, administrator for the Windows/Linux infrastructure, "The result was just astonishing! SEP was able to do a full backup within 3 to 4 hours when our existing solution took 4 days to perform the same tasks on exactly the same hardware." Several vendors, including Barracuda, wanted SRON to purchase almost \$250,000 in additional hardware. The acquisition cost of the new software was significantly less than that, according to SRON.

One of the Utrecht offices of SRON had moved to a Linux environment in 2008 and at that time evaluated SEP. Yosemite was out of the running immediately, lacking the desired type of Linux support. "We went for SEP because it offered a comprehensive feature set and an intuitive user interface – all at a compelling price," said Gert van den Bovenkamp, Systems Administrator at Utrecht. "We have never regretted the decision."

SRON has a large diverse IT environment with data centers in Utrecht and Groningen, Netherlands. The heterogeneous environment has around 400 – 500 servers/clients. In the past, the Linux, Novell and Windows infrastructures were backed up using two different backup solutions. Today SEP performs the task for everything.

ABOUT NETHERLANDS INSTITUTE FOR SPACE RESEARCH

Netherlands Institute for Space Research (SRON) is the Dutch national center for the development and utilization of satellite technologies for astrophysical and earth-oriented research. The institute is the Dutch national agency for space research and is the liaison for the Dutch government to the European Space Agency (ESA). SRON is part of the Netherlands Organization for Scientific Research (NOW).

ABOUT SEP SOFTWARE

SEP Software has been delivering the widest range of backup and disaster recovery products for enterprise-level customers since 1996. With thousands of installations worldwide, SEP has developed the fastest and most reliable data backup solution available today. Its flagship product is ideal for businesses of all sizes and has proven its value to thousands of organizations across the globe. SEP has delivered unsurpassed performance to numerous industries including retail, education, health care and governments worldwide. Thousands of customers spanning six continents rely on SEP to attain their data protection strategies on a daily basis.