

Rittal chooses new features and hassle free backup with Tandberg Data's StorageLibrary T40

Rittal is a leading manufacturer of instrument cases for computers and enclosures for industrial use, as well as enclosures for flat screens, touch screens and power distribution systems. Rittal also builds computer rooms and security solutions.

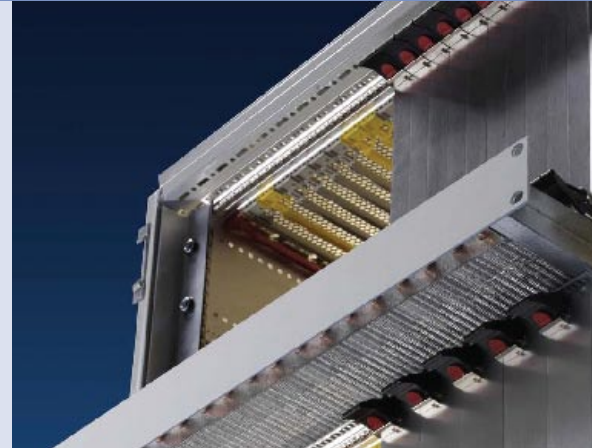
Over the years, the volume of Rittal's customer data has grown exponentially, and the old backup system, also a tape library, did not have enough capacity to cope with this data growth.

It became clear that a new strategy was required, involving more secure, faster, continuous backup to disk first, followed by a backup of the data to a tape library. The Tandberg Data StorageLibrary T40 and IBM Tivoli StorageManager was the solution of choice.

Competition is tough in Rittal's core areas of industrial enclosures, power distribution and computer rooms, so maximum efficiency is required. Convincing customers that Rittal's high-quality products are worth the investment compared with cheaper equipment is a daily challenge. "The sales situation can be compared with the interplay between the automotive giants BMW and Volvo," says Mats Stenberg, IT Manager at Rittal Scandinavia.

He continues: "The IT Department is responsible for all internal systems, hardware, software and telephony, and is responsible for our operations in Sweden, Norway and Finland. The network is a traditional one, with all the servers centrally located in Ängelholm and all data stored centrally on the servers' internal hard drives. The online shop is also managed from this network. Our previous backup solution became too small and it was obvious that we needed a new, higher capacity solution. Our supplier Addpro recommended the Tivoli Storage Manager backup software. They also recommended Tandberg Data's StorageLibrary T40, together with a disk based backup solution from Nexan. We decided to follow their recommendations and implement the suggested solution. We did consider outsourcing our backup to an external centre but after review it became obvious that it was not cost effective."

"The Tivoli and Tandberg Data combination works well. We currently hold approximately one terabyte of data and the StorageLibrary has plenty of spare capacity to cope with our future data growth. An important aspect of our new strategy was to introduce version management. This is required as we are planning to store more and more information on customers and we want to ensure that the information is continuously updated. The data has grown from simple customer data to entire customer cases, drawings and images that require a lot of space. Data exists in every conceivable form: Notes databases, SQL databases, Excel sheets, etc."



Solution Overview



1 x StorageLibrary T40 with 24 slots and 2 LTO-3 SCSI drives

1 x 1TB Nexan disk system

Tivoli Storage Manager



"It is like having a copy in a safety deposit box. It is all so smooth that we are not aware of the process."

Mats Stenberg,
IT Manager at Rittal Scandinavia

Easy installation

The installation was straightforward. Rittal submitted its requirements to the reseller, who did all the work and supplied a turnkey solution.

The tape library and backup server are located in the computer room, while the disk cabinet is placed 50 metres away, for security reasons (enclosed by one of Rittal's own industrial enclosures, of course) and it is connected by optical fibre. The initial backup is made to disk, followed by a backup to tape. This means that data is always in three places; on the servers, on disk and finally on tape.

Automated backup

The backup strategy is designed so that the tapes constantly rotate and the oldest tapes are always overwritten. Rittal does not feel the need to export tapes monthly or weekly and store them off-site, on account of the reliability of the disk system. Therefore, they don't change the tapes in the library.

"It is like having a copy in a safety deposit box," says Mats Stenberg. "We run incremental backups, and it is all so smooth that we are not aware of the process. All we notice is the report we get every morning, saying that everything is working well."

"After the installation of the new system, we have been able to focus on our business, rather than spending time, worrying about our data. It all works perfectly. The backup does not require us to spend any time. We usually use Addpro for jobs that we feel we don't want to, or don't have the resources to do. They always meet our expectations."

It is hard to find a more satisfied IT Manager than Mats Stenberg, who has nothing much more to add than: "It just works. I never need to change a tape. It just keeps spinning."



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"We had an old tape station that we grew out of, so we bought the Tandberg Data product. It just works. We never touch it. We are completely satisfied."

Mats Stenberg,
IT Manager at Rittal Scandinavia

www.rittal.se
www.tandbergdata.com

About Tandberg Data

Tandberg Data is a leading global supplier of backup and archiving technologies. Tandberg Data offers a complete range of tape libraries, tape autoloaders and tape drives (based on the LTO™, SLR™, VXA® tape technology platforms), storage software, data media and disk-based storage such as the RDX™ QuikStor. These solutions are marketed exclusively through a channel of qualified resellers and distributors. These solutions are underpinned by OEM agreements with major server manufacturers including IBM, Hitachi, Fujitsu, Fujitsu-Siemens, Apple and Dell and supported by all major operating systems and storage software applications to operate in heterogeneous network environments. All solutions are designed to meet the growing storage requirements of small and medium-sized organisations with scalability, reliability and backward compatibility features that ensure cost effective operation and long-term investment protection.

Tandberg Data ASA
Økernveien 94
N-0579 Oslo
Norway
Tel: +47 (0) 2218 9090
Fax: +47 (0) 2218 9550

Tandberg Data Corporation
2108 55th Street
Boulder, CO 80301
USA
Tel: 303.442.4333
Fax: 303.417.7170

Tandberg Data GmbH
Feldstrasse 81
44141 Dortmund
Germany
Tel: +49 (0) 231 5436 - 0
Fax: +49 (0) 231 5436 - 111

Tandberg Data (Asia) Pte Ltd
20 Bendemeer Road
#04-05 Cyberhub
Singapore 339914
Tel: +65 (0) 6396 0786
Fax: +65 (0) 6396 0787

Tandberg Data (Japan) Inc.
Eitaibashi Eco-Piazza Bldg., 8th floor
29-13, Shinkawa 1-chome,
Chuo-ku, Tokyo 104-033, Japan
Tel: +81 (0) 355 662 871
Fax: +81 (0) 355 662 875

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