

Data Backup Tailored to Growth

Ubitronix System Solutions, GmbH, an Austrian firm, is a fast-growing mid-size firm that offers communication, instrument-reading and load-management products to energy suppliers and distribution-grid operators. In the process of consolidating their server environment, Ubitronix has set its data backup on a solid foundation: With Tandberg Data's StorageLibrary T24, the company chose a proven automated tape system capable of handling their present and future needs.

Ubitronix System Solutions, GmbH, a company headquartered in Hagenberg, Austria, offers total solutions, from intelligent energy management, automated meter management (electric, gas, water, heating), network quality control, load management for reductions in peak load times, and house and building automation to supplying remote-controlled street lighting. The company's typical customers are power-grid operators, energy suppliers and public utility companies. Ubitronix uses a product widely used in the industry, Networked Energy Services (NES)-System, from the Echelon Company, and adapts it to the customer's specific or regional needs and develops different hardware- and software-based communications, instrument reading and load-management products which are then seamlessly integrated.

The company, founded in 2004, profits not only from the demands of strict legal restrictions for energy efficiency placed on energy suppliers, but also from the liberalization of the energy market, which increases the number of potential customers. Since 2006, the company has operated as one of Echelon's eight Value Added Resellers (VAR). Through this cooperation, both companies expect future growth, which in turn means an increase in data volumes.

Automated Backup is a Must!

The growth the company has undergone so far has been reflected in the IT department. A variety of systems was enlarged, expanded and diversified so that administration, operation and support operations became very complex for the IT staff. As a result, the company decided to carry out a comprehensive consolidation of all its applications (SQL Databases, Office, mail and web services, configuration tools, etc.) onto a central server system. Additional flexibility was achieved by adding virtualization software by means of which most of the test systems and pilot projects could be handled on short-term virtual machines.

Together with an outside consultant, the management at Ubitronix began its planning and selection of a new backup solution in October 2007. After a two-month, intensive research and test phase of various automated tape solutions, the company chose to go with Tandberg Data's StorageLibrary T24 with an LTO-3 Drive.

Solution Overview



- == **Tandberg Data StorageLibrary T24 with 1 x LTO-3 Drive**
- == **Symantec Backup Exec. 12**
- == **Windows Server 2003 64-bit**
- == **SAS Disks Integrated into the Server**



We were at a point in our consolidation where we needed to take the next logical step: we were looking for an automated backup solution for the central servers."

Engelbert Detter, Software Development Manager at Ubitronix

“We were at a point in our consolidation where we needed to take the next logical step: we were looking for an automated backup solution for the central servers. We took our current needs into account, but an equally important selling point was that we wanted the solution to be very expandable in order to meet the demands of our expected future growth,” reports Engelbert Detter, Software Development Manager at Ubitronix. “We found this solution in Tandberg Data’s StorageLibrary T24.”

Flexibility and Easy Expansion

Tandberg Data’s T24 scales up to 38.4TB (compressed) and 864GB per hour and can be equipped with one or two LTO drives; it can also be easily expanded through the Capacity on Demand (COD) and Performance on Demand (POD) features. By adding a second array, the number of inserted tapes can be increased from 12 to 24. The professional backup software that comes with the system allows for automation of data backup routines so that the only manual task is removing tapes for archiving purposes.

“Tandberg Data’s StorageLibrary T24 is perfect for small and mid-size companies like Ubitronix, because it is hard to predict the amount of growth that our data needs will undergo and how fast it will occur. Because of the product’s flexible design, we can be sure that we will be able to work with this system for years to come,” states Engelbert Detter. “Mid-sized companies need fully automated solutions. Tandberg Data’s T24 offers the kind of reliability one would expect from a professional solution, and it is also easy to operate.”

The system was delivered about three weeks after the contract was awarded. The IT staff installed the server rack and the SCSI connection without any problems. Symantec Software Backup Exec, Version 12, also delivered with the system, was installed on both machines, running Windows 2003. The software manages the automatic backup of the entire primary drive, which is integrated into the server.

Archiving Requirements Fulfilled

The LTO-3 Drive took care of the initial full backup of all the data in one hour at a maximum rate of 80MB/s. The different backup routines were setup thereafter, during which the email servers and SQL databank were given priority. Now only daily incremental backups (of any changes made since the last backup process) are recorded on the tapes. A full backup is

completed each Friday. The most recent full backup is removed and stored at the end of each month. This allows the company to comply with the legal archiving requirements. Removing the tapes is the only manual procedure that Ubitronix has to carry out on a regular basis.

Ubitronix has been using the StorageLibrary T24 for about six months without a single interruption or malfunction. The restoration backup is tested regularly. Should a problem occur, the company has a Next Business Day On-site contract with Tandberg Data.

Equipped for the Future

Ubitronix is currently planning an additional expansion of its server environment in order to keep the IT capabilities in line with the company’s growth. This means that the data backup’s capacity and performance requirements will continue to increase.

“With Tandberg Data’s solution, we have placed our data backup on a firm footing and built the foundation for future growth. For mid-sized companies who are increasingly operating internationally, data growth cannot be precisely predicted in advance. The StorageLibrary T24 gives us the flexibility we need. For the next three to four years, it is the optimal backup solution for us,” stated Engelbert Detter.

“With Tandberg Data’s solution, we have placed our data backup on a firm footing and built the foundation for future growth.”

Engelbert Detter,
Software Development Manager at Ubitronix



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

In addition to the offices above TANDBERG DATA ASA has branch offices in the United Kingdom, France, Italy, India, China (PRC), Thailand and Brazil. TANDBERG DATA ASA is a publicly held company based in Oslo, Norway and is traded on the Oslo Stock Exchange (ticker=TAD). Specifications subject to change without notice. RDX QuikStor, BAKStor, and SLR are trademarks of Tandberg Data ASA. RDX is a registered trademark of ProStor Systems. LTO is a trademark of HP, IBM and Quantum. All other trademarks are the property of their respective owners. ©2007 TANDBERG DATA. All rights reserved.