



ALTE LEIPZIGER

SUCCESS STORY

Financial service provider uses Neo Series™ 2000 tape library for new storage structure

BACKGROUND

The Alte Leipziger Versicherung AG, formed in 1819, has both private and corporate clients and provides a wide range of services in property insurance. The company is represented throughout Germany by a network of branches. In Summer 2001, the company underwent a comprehensive restructuring, bringing some IT changes with it. The company consolidated its existing branches into four large service centers in Düsseldorf, Hamburg, Mannheim and Oberursel. Distribution offices were also created in 14 locations.

CHALLENGE

The service centres took on tasks previously carried out in the headquarters in Oberursel near Frankfurt—such as customer service and property insurance claims. This resulted in significantly more data. Backing up the branch data onto DLT tapes using Legato backup software with one employee responsible for changing the tapes manually every day was no longer viable.

“To provide optimal data protection and our customers the same high quality of service, we needed a dedicated backup solution for each service centre independent from the headquarters,”

explains Gerhard Mais, a member of the ALTE LEIPZIGER's IT department in Oberursel.

The service centres were equipped with new servers, including Microsoft Exchange. With Windows NT 4.0/2000/XP, the ALTE LEIPZIGER only runs Windows networks in the branch offices. Alongside the usual Microsoft Office applications, the company uses IBM DB2 or insurance-specific client-server applications for recording business incidents, telephone directories, damages catalogues or court rulings. The data volume of 250 gigabytes per service centre was not viable for central backup via WAN.

The new concept involved self-contained and automated backup with the aim of eliminating the risk of data loss due to neglected changing of the tapes or inserting the wrong cassette.

SOLUTION

Automated tape libraries from Overland Storage were an obvious solution. Their robotics is designed to change tapes automatically and reliably in accordance with the backup plan. The company chose Neo 2000, a multi-modular, scalable tape library, equipped with Super DLT drives from Quantum.

> *"We are more than happy with our Overland product and, if we had to do it all again, would again choose Neo 2000."*

- *Gerhard Mais
IT Department,
Alte Leipziger*



The modular extendibility of the system meant that the company only bought according to their current needs, but can purchase and integrate extra modules, should their storage requirements increase. The library had to be compatible with Quantum's Super DLTape drives, as this combination offers optimal value for money due to high storage density, low storage costs per gigabyte and short backup times.

At the time of the restructuring in Autumn 2001, Neo 2000 was also the only tape library of its kind offering full support for the preferred backup solution Tivoli Storage Manager.

The ALTE LEIPZIGER deploys a total of five Neo 2000. Each service centre has one single module tape library equipped with one Super DLT drive and ten tapes. A further two tape libraries are in the headquarters in Oberursel. One is part of a test network, the other serves as an emergency solution for the branch offices.

Gerhard Mais particularly values the ease of management using WebTLC. "WebTLC allows us to check the status of the libraries at any time via a web browser. Because we don't have any IT staff on site in the branch offices, this kind of remote management is extremely practical. Should there be any disruptions, the system would automatically send us an alert."

All application data are backed up daily onto Neo 2000 using Tivoli Storage Manager, carrying out only incremental backups.

RESULTS

The installation of the five libraries was very smooth. Following a briefing by an Overland technician, the IT staff were able to install Neo 2000 themselves. The systems were set-up and ready for use within half a day and have been running stably and without any disruption since the installation in November 2001.

The company does not plan to expand the decentralized backup in the near future, according to Gerhard Mais. If this situation should change, the ALTE LEIPZIGER has, thanks to Neo 2000, the best prerequisites for an easy expansion.

"We are more than happy with our Overland product and, if we had to do it all again, would choose Neo 2000. The robust nature of the mechanics, the high availability, the simple scalability, not to mention the comfortable management functions are persuasive."

WORLDWIDE HEADQUARTERS

4820 Overland Avenue
San Diego, CA 92123 USA
TEL 1-800-729-8725
1-858-571-5555
FAX 1-858-571-3664
EMAIL sales@overlandstorage.com

UNITED KINGDOM (EMEA OFFICE)

Overland House, Ashville Way
Wokingham, Berkshire
RG41 2PL England
TEL +44 (0) 118-9898000
FAX +44 (0) 118-9891897
EMAIL europe@overlandstorage.com

FRANCE OFFICE

13 rue Camille Desmoulins
92441 Issy les Moulineaux Cedex
France
TEL +33 (0) 1 58 04 25 50
FAX +33 (0) 1 58 04 26 36
EMAIL europe@overlandstorage.com

GERMANY OFFICE

Humboldtstr. 12
85609 Dornach Germany
TEL +49-89-94490-214
FAX +49-89-94490-414
EMAIL europe@overlandstorage.com

ASIA PACIFIC REP. OFFICE

30 Robertson Quay, #02-10
Singapore, 238251
TEL 65-6839-3510
FAX 65-6738-3008
EMAIL asia@overlandstorage.com

WWW.OVERLANDSTORAGE.COM