Get

Overview

Challenge
Broadband and digital TV service provider Get needed to invest in a data centre solution to run its all-new business intelligence application. This key function had strict performance and uptime requirements.

Solution
- NetApp HCI hyper-converged infrastructure
- Eight large compute nodes and eight storage nodes (125 TB)
- Proact Premium Support

Benefits
- Ease of management – reduced maintenance and training costs
- Supports Get's digital business transformation
- Incremental upgrades enabled by high granularity in compute and storage
- Designed to integrate with existing FlexPod infrastructure

Get AS

Hyper-converged data centre solution proved the perfect fit for new business intelligence application

When broadband and digital TV provider Get decided to invest in an all-new business intelligence platform, the company accepted that its data centre required a substantial upgrade. Proact designed and delivered a hyper-converged solution that combined high performance with simple management, while also integrating with Get's existing IT infrastructure.

Get A/S is a leading fibre-based broadband and content provider in the Norwegian market. Some 500,000 homes and business are currently connected to Get's fibre-based network. They have access to fast, fibre-based broadband networks, a large selection of digital TV channels and an online video store with more than 6,000 rental titles. Get's fixed broadband customers may also view TV and other streamed content on their tablets and smartphones.

The challenge

In an increasingly complex media world, Get strives to create a superior customer experience. In recent years, the company has received a number of awards for its innovative products, simplicity and excellent customer service. The media landscape is constantly changing shape and is introducing new choices to customers concerning how they spend their viewing time – and money. This dynamic market translates into a clear need for Get to better understand customers, their preferences and experiences.

Get therefore decided to implement a business intelligence (BI) application. However, this strategic investment in sophisticated software called for more data centre resources. It quickly appeared that Get's existing IT infrastructure would not accommodate the new BI application, especially its strict performance and uptime requirements.

The company sought to implement the BI application using a dedicated solution, while staying with the VMware virtualisation platform that was already used in the data centre. From this followed a decision to go with hyper-converged technology, where server, storage and networking elements are integrated in a compact, manageable system.

How we helped

For many years Proact has advised Get on its strategic IT issues and has delivered data centre solutions. This time trusted partner Proact was asked to offer a solution for managing the new BI application workload. Get's IT management defined a set of prerequisites, including availability and performance requirements.

"We are very satisfied with Proact's past contributions to our data centre and the support they have provided over the years. So based on experience, we had great trust in Proact, their advice and ideas for updating our data centre architecture to enable our business intelligence platform," says Jan Kåre Arnesen, Head of IT Operations at Get A/S.

Ease of management was an important requirement from Get. NetApp HCI includes management tools with a convenient user interface that enables staff to control the platform without need for expert skills, e.g. from a storage admin, in daily operations.

The solution

Initially, Proact presented two design options for Get to consider. The recommended solution was based on NetApp HCI, an enterprise-scale hyper-converged infrastructure that delivers predictable performance on a highly flexible, efficient architecture. Such a solution is easy to deploy and manage.

Proact's recommended solution also promised to match Get's other specifications for the BI platform, such as guaranteed performance and data protection.

Another key factor for the decision was the high level of granularity that components could offer. With NetApp HCI, storage and compute resources can be added independent of each other in small increments.

Lastly, NetApp HCI offers smooth integration with Get's existing IT infrastructure, which is based on FlexPod reference architecture and includes NetApp storage. With NetApp Data Fabric as a common denominator, the solution provides investment protection together with a clear upgrade path for Get, and not only for its data centre. As the hyper-converged platform also supports seamless access to, and interoperability with public cloud services, Get will have several options and great flexibility for its future IT service delivery.

Following the installation, Get subjected its new BI platform to rigorous testing, including stress and performance tests as well as redundancy and reliability analysis. The platform passed all tests with flying colours.

"We're quite happy with our BI implementation and the outcome. The NetApp HCI solution fits well into our existing FlexPod environment - operationally and strategically - while delivering the economy, performance and ease of management we expected," says Jan Kåre Arnesen.

The benefits

Cost efficient
Hyper-converged architecture reduces maintenance and training costs

Flexible
Incremental upgrades enabled by high granularity in compute and storage

Investment protection
Smooth integration on storage level with existing FlexPod infrastructure

Business support
Enables key BI application for digital business transformation

About Proact

Proact is Europe's leading independent data centre and cloud services provider. By delivering flexible, accessible and secure IT solutions and services, we help companies and authorities reduce risk and costs, whilst increasing agility, productivity and efficiency. We've completed over 5,000 successful projects around the world, have more than 3,500 customers and currently manage in excess of 100 petabytes of information in the cloud. We employ over 800 people in 15 countries across Europe and North America. Founded in 1994, our parent company, Proact IT Group AB (publ), listed on Nasdaq Stockholm in 1999 (under the symbol PACT). For further information about Proact's activities please visit us at www.proact.eu

About Get AS

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