Back Up for Improved Performance

Progression's Data Protector implementation enabled better performance for a leading banking PSU's Rural Regional Banks, while helping them attain success in their key IT initiative

The bank was founded in the year 1908. It offers a varied range of banking products and services to an array of customers. The bank has total assets of more than Rs. 3,583 billion, and a network of over 3,780 branches and offices globally, with a workforce of over 39,300. The bank's major data centre and disaster recovery site is in a major city in western India, while its data centre is located in a major software hub in southern India.

During 2010-11, the bank decided to take up a major IT initiative. The decision was to implement a Core Banking Solution (CBS) in its Regional Rural Banks (RRBs). HP India was chosen for this key IT initiative that was meant to transform the bank to compete in the highly competitive business environment. As part of this project, HP implemented a central CBS solution for four RRBs of the customer, and migrated more than 1,000 branches to this new CBS.

Challenges

While designing complex IT architecture and related solutions, like in the case of the customer's RRBs, backing up the original data is of prime importance. Since the entire infrastructure of the RRBs was being automated, instant recovery and backup became one of the most important functions to manage. However, implementing this backup solution turned out to be the key challenge.

The RRBs needed a solution which would enable the management of data protection as an integral component of an overall IT service. They also needed to find a company that would help make this implementation a success.

Why Progression

Progression Infonet has a successful track record of HP Data Protector (DP) project implementations. They are one of only two companies in India certified by HP to carry out DP implementations.

Based on its prowess at execution, Progression has, for a long time, been an implementation partner with HP. Implementing DP requires a deep as well as wide expertise in networking, storage, operating systems, connectivity, and applications. With its certified engineers and an outstanding track record, Progression was the best bet for the implementation of the backup solution for the RRBs.

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Benefits

The RRBs now have a powerful and effective backup solution which ensures that all data is backed up well without impacting the day-to-day performance.

No Performance Issues: The backup procedure involves taking snapshots of the data at particular times, after which the backup client lies dormant, thus ensuring that the performance of the system is not impacted. Incremental backups take only a few seconds. The system also runs cold backups and hot backups at particular backup windows without affecting the performance of other applications. Thus, performance issues related to backups are almost nil.

Reduced RPO and RTO: The highly effective backup solution significantly reduces the RPO (Recovery Point Objective) and RTO (Real Time Output) requirements, as the application data can be restored in matter of minutes, and the virtual machine backups provide more granularity than regular SAN backups.

Trouble-free Backup Strategy:
Backups are managed and performed through simple interfaces, and once configured, all the backups can be carried out according to an established schedule.
Due to the ZDB and IR agents, backups can be left on the disk (as a copy) for even faster restore and recovery granularity

Effective Disaster Management: With the backup system, replication is provided at the disaster recovery site, which ensures that the backup is available for restore in case of an unexpected disaster.

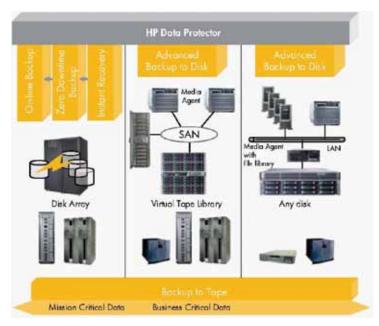
from a point in time perspective.

Solution

Progression configured the backup solution for core banking solution (CBS) and other application environments for the bank's data centre and disaster recovery sites.

This was done using HP Data Protector (DP) software along with Storageworks MSL 8096 Ultrium Generation 4 drives. The solution implemented for the RRBs supports online backup using backup agents for CBS and other databases; SAN-based backups for all the app/web servers; and server-less full backups for the core database using Business Copy EVA (Enterprise Virtual Array), DP ZDB (Zero Downtime Backup) and IR (Instant Recovery) agents.

The solution also has a centralized easy to use management and policy administration console. It supports media management and robotics as well as incremental, full and differential backups for all the various types of backups supported. The solution can clone tapes, supports select retrieval for mailboxes and backups; user and password based authentication for administration. It also delivers management reports.



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