POINT
software & systems

Case Study

PoINT Storage Manager
ReiseBank AG

Reise Bank

ReiseBank AG's inactive data was taking up significant amounts of space on its high-performance primary storage systems. A rules-based archiving system was needed to reduce the load on network drives and improve backup times. The company therefore implemented the PoINT Storage Manager Enterprise Edition as its data and storage management product. It was particularly important to ReiseBank that PoINT's software would automatically move files to the secondary storage tier and support existing storage hardware in order to optimize its storage for maximum efficiency.

Challenge

- Reduce the load on primary storage by transferring inactive data to secondary storage
- Optimize infrastructure for cost-effective data and storage management and short backup times
- Transparent access to files, processes remain the same for users

Solution - PoINT Storage Manager

- Implement a two-tier storage architecture with the help of the PoINT Storage Manager
- Rules-based archiving to the secondary storage tier
- Reduce backup volumes
- Long-term cost control thanks to future-proof storage infrastructure
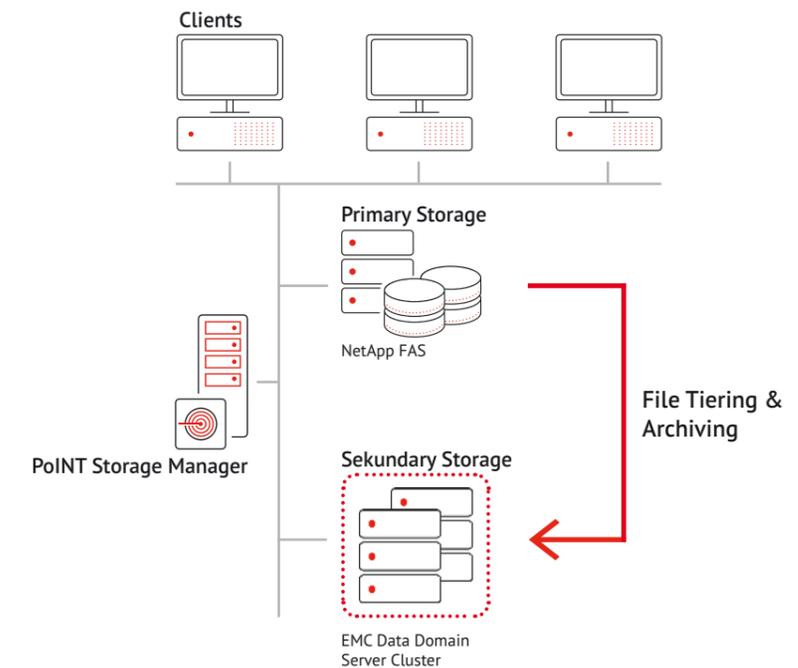
Advantages

- Primary storage used exclusively for active data
- Save time and money on backups
- Flexible configuration, easy to expand as data volumes grow
- Investments protected thanks to vendor-independent support for existing storage systems
- Workflows remain the same for users

About ReiseBank AG

ReiseBank AG is a market leader in travel funds and one of the top precious metal traders in Germany. The company has 91 branches, primarily located at large airports and railway stations. As a 100% subsidiary of DZ BANK AG, it provides foreign currency and precious metals to around 800 institutes of the Genossenschaftliche FinanzGruppe cooperative and its customers via institutional trading and mail order services. With its experience operating its own stationary and mobile ATM's, it also provides a full cash management service operating ATM's for third-party banks.

Clients

Primary Storage

NetApp FAS

PoINT Storage Manager

File Tiering & Archiving

Sekundary Storage

EMC Data Domain Server Cluster

Constantly rising data volumes on network drives, long backup and recovery times: this is what set ReiseBank AG on the search for a software solution that would offer storage optimization and data archiving functionality. One key consideration was the rising costs associated with the increasing data volumes. The primary storage system needed to be relieved in a way that would keep costs down. The company also needed to continue to use its existing storage systems within the newly optimized storage architecture. Another particularly important consideration was that users in specific departments needed to be able to access files as easily and transparently as possible.

Hans Hohenwarter, head of system operations at ReiseBank AG, has seen all of his expectations of PoINT's software fulfilled and is very happy with both the product and support provided: "We are especially relaxed about rising data volumes now. The PoINT Storage Manager has us well equipped for the future and we can counter the rising costs, too."

In the PoINT Storage Manager, ReiseBank found a software solution that met all its requirements and offered an optimal balance between costs and benefits. The solution was first installed as a proof of concept supported and assisted by PoINT, as part of which the company finally decided against the Archive Edition it had originally favored and for the Enterprise Edition of the PoINT Storage Manager instead. Once the individual storage vaults had been configured, a range of use cases were successfully tested and the total archive storage volume required was determined.

ReiseBank AG operates primary storage systems from NetApp and an EMC Data Domain system for archive storage which uses compression, deduplication and replication.

The first step was to observe the archiving processes in the production environment; the next was to automate the individual archiving jobs. The system proved straightforward to manage. The primary storage system was efficiently relieved of its old, inactive data, and backup volumes and durations were significantly reduced. For users, the workflows remain the same as ever, since they access archived files using so-called stubs within the primary storage system's user interface. Thanks to all of this, the PoINT Storage Manager represents a future-proof HSM solution with flexible expansion options and vendor-independent hardware support – exactly what ReiseBank needed.

About PoINT

PoINT Software & Systems GmbH is specialized in the development and distribution of software products for storage, management and archiving of data. Our data & storage management solutions offer an easy and efficient integration of different storage technologies and systems in consideration of enterprise requirements. PoINT products allow optimized usage of storage systems and help to reduce costs and issues caused by data growth. The software solutions fulfil compliance and archiving requirements and provide independence from storage technologies and vendors.

Additional information and a trial version of the software are available at www.point.de.

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