Case Study
PoINT Storage Manager
Stadt Hof

PoINT software & systems

Case Study
Abstract
Stadt Hof

PoINT software & systems

Case Study
Solution
Stadt Hof

70 percent of the data held by the Bavarian town of Hof is more than two years old and, because it is no longer used by any employees, is classified as inactive. In order to keep this data from taking up further primary storage space, the local authorities decided to transfer this "cold" data to a secondary system. To do so, they used the PoINT Storage Manager. This software product does its job by automatically distinguishing between active and inactive data, moving the latter type within a two-tier storage structure. As a result, the town is now using its available storage space more efficiently.

The challenge

- No change to users' workflows
- "Cold" data automatically transferred
- Lower costs thanks to reduced load on primary storage

The solution - PoINT Storage Manager

- Read access without the need to restore
- Automatic rules-based file tiering
- Transparent access to relocated files and data from the primary storage system

The benefits

- Less data stored on the primary tier
- Fast and easy installation and administration
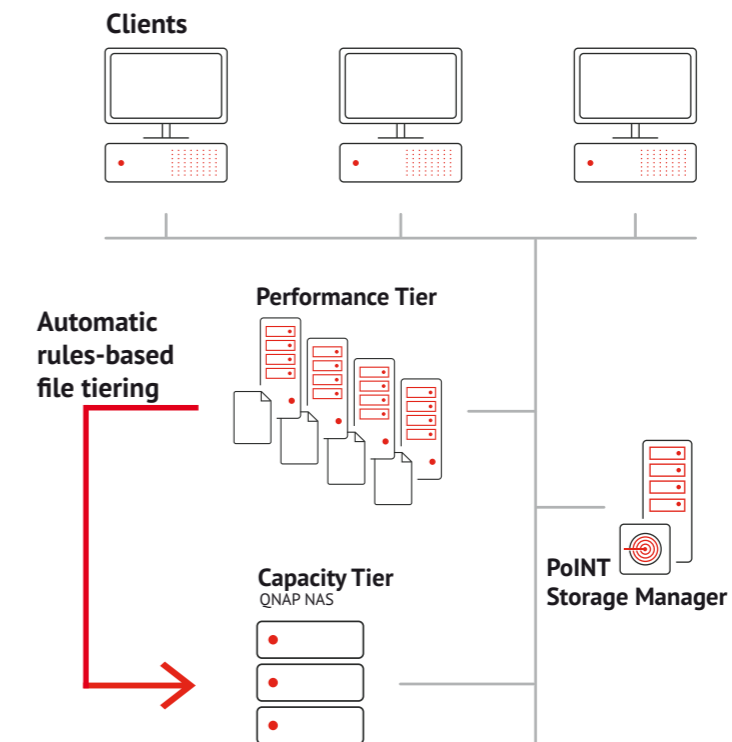- Strong investment protection and optional add-ons

About Stadt Hof

Hof – At the very top of Bavaria
On the banks of the river Saale, between the Fichtel Mountains and the Franconian Forest, lies Hof, a town with immense recreational value and outstanding cuisine located in the connoisseur's region of Upper Franconia. The oldest public park in Germany – the Theresienstein – and the local recreation area of Untreusee invite you to relax and spend some time here. The town center, with its traditional "Wärschtlamänner" sausage men, stands out architecturally thanks to its Biedermeier quarter dating back to the town's foundation. As well as being the home of the famous Hof International Film Festival, the town also offers a symphony orchestra, a modern theater, galleries and a wide variety of cabaret venues, all of which add up to a truly diverse cultural program.

Clients

Performance Tier

Automatic rules-based file tiering

Capacity Tier
QNAP NAS

PoINT Storage Manager

After the PoINT Storage Manager was introduced and the analysis of the file server to be monitored was complete, approximately 70% of the data it contained proved to be inactive. With regard to operating, maintenance and investment costs, the implementation amortized itself within the first year. The data includes Office, PDF and JPEG files as well as images and videos.

As different as these file types are, they also share something in common: they are more than two years old. "Users create and save data, but generally don't delete it. So we started looking for a software solution that would automatically move older data to a cheaper storage system after – in our case – two years," says Dieter Knöchel, Head of Data Processing, Communication and Networks at the Hof local authority.

Working within a two-tier storage architecture, the PoINT Storage Manager distinguishes between "hot" and "cold" data. In line with the Hof authority's rules, it moves the latter type to a secondary storage system, but retains a stub on the primary system. This means that users still have read access without having to rearchive files after opening them and without taking up additional storage space.

"As a result, the PoINT Storage Manager does exactly what we want, transparently moving more than two-thirds of the total data off our primary storage units. No alternative came close, since the biggest advantage with PoINT Software is that the user doesn't even notice all of this." Gerd Schmidt, Head of Technology at the Hof local authority.

For the Bavarian authority, the decisive reasons for choosing PoINT Software were the system's ease of configuration, the various categories that could be created for data transfer, and its stubbing functionality.

"We are very satisfied with the implementation of the PoINT Storage Manager and the current final setup," says Dieter Knöchel. "We are also thinking about adding additional PoINT products in future. The price-performance relationship is excellent and the license conditions are fair. The software is also quick to implement and easy to configure."

About PoINT

PoINT Software & Systems GmbH specializes in developing software products and system solutions for storing, managing and archiving data. Its storage and data management solutions allow simple, efficient integration and a wide range of storage technologies to meet each business' individual requirements and specific workflow.

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

PoINT Software & Systems GmbH
Eiserfelder Straße 316
57080 Siegen, Germany

fon: +49 271 3841 - 0
email: info@point.de
www.point.de