

Worldwide Leading Hightech Company for Coating Systems Improves Technical Reliability

Customer Case Study



Mankiewicz Gebr & Co boosts SAP performance and business efficiency

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Customer Name: Mankiewicz Gebr. & Co (GmbH & Co. KG)

Industry: Chemical Industry

Location: Headquarters in Hamburg, Germany, branches worldwide

Number of Employees: 1000

Challenge

- Support always-on operations
- Improve scalability and production uptime

Solution

- VMware vSphere
- Cisco Unified Computing System
- EMC VNX Storage

Results

- SAP systems run 20 percent faster and more efficient
- Mankiewicz guarantees real 24/7 operation
- Increased database performance beyond 1.4TB

Company

Headquartered in Hamburg, Germany, Mankiewicz Gebr & Co (GmbH & Co. KG) was established 1895. It leads in the area of solvent-containing and water-soluble high-tech coating systems for industrial series manufacturing. Customers using its high-quality paint systems include mechanical engineering, investment goods, automobile, aviation, railway, medical engineering, and yachts. Colour shades, gloss grades, and textures can be tailor-made for each.

The quality of products and processes is guaranteed by a well-established quality management system (ISO 9001, ISO/TS 16949, VDA 6.3, EN 9100, and ISO 14001). High levels of automation support complex 24-hour operations. Products include high-tech varnishes, surface treatments, nano-coats, and consulting services.

Challenge

Mankiewicz relies on SAP ERP software for automation of its business processes. The company wanted to renew and optimize the infrastructure and hardware configuration for the SAP system. It identified several areas for innovation.

Before the project the SAP system design consisted of one data centre with x86 servers arranged in a Windows cluster configuration, and MaxDB, which ran on a Windows 2003 R2 operating system. This cluster design provided protection against outages, but needed to be replaced with a less complex and more stable set-up.

SAP users had difficulty accessing the system due to latency issues. So, system updates had to be completed at weekends. This meant users in different countries and time zones were unable to work at weekends because the system was being checked in Hamburg. Also, once the database reached around 1.4TB in size, performance would start to degrade.



“The new data centre platform is more flexible, scalable and significantly reduces SAP response times. The increase of performance is noticeable to end users.”

Ralf Stölting
Manager of Electronic Data Processing
and Organization
Mankiewicz Gebr. & Co

“We’re also seeing greater stability during critical tasks, especially long SAP processes. Higher reliability makes it feasible for people in other time zones to work weekends, making the production processes more efficient.”

Niels Bodenstein
Project manager

Solution

The SAP system and database have been virtualized using a VSPEX validated design that spans two data centers. It includes Cisco Unified Computing System Blade Servers, VMware vSphere virtualization, and EMC VNX storage system and Mirror View for mirroring between the data centres. Data mirroring, in combination with VMware high availability meant that additional clusters were not necessary.

With its vast knowledge of Cisco, EMC, and SAP technologies, long-time partner Fritz & Macziol was asked to carry out the project and support the SAP migration. By cloning the SAP system and database it is now possible to perform checks outside of manufacturing operations.

For More Information

To learn more about the Cisco solutions featured in this case study, go to:

www.cisco.com/go/datacenter

www.cisco.com/go/ucs

For more information on Mankiewicz, visit www.mankiewicz.com

Product List

Data Center

- Cisco Unified Computing System (UCS)
 - Cisco UCS B200 M3 Blade Servers

Fabric Interconnects

- Cisco UCS 6200 Series Fabric Interconnects

Network Management

- Cisco UCS Manager

Applications

- VMware vSphere 5.1
- VMware vCenter
- SAP ERP: ECC 6.04, MaxDB auf Windows 2008 R2,
- Modules : SD, FI, CO, HR, PP, MM, EHS, RM

Storage

- EMC VNX 5400, Mirror View, SAN: Brocade



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