

Schibsted IT Chooses ExaGrid to Cope with Exploding Data Growth

CUSTOMER SUCCESS STORY



"We don't have to buy straight disk anymore. If we were to buy all those disks, we would need more floor space, which would be very costly."

Oivind Tharaldsen
Backup Manager

Key Benefits:

- Dual-site ExaGrid crossreplicates, storing a total of 2.4PB of data
- Automatic load balancing of data across servers
- Deduplication ratios as high as 60:1 for Exchange backups

Customer Overview

Schibsted IT is part of the Oslo-based Scandinavian media group Schibsted with approximately 7,200 employees and operations in 25 countries. Schibsted IT provides IT services to other companies in Norway owned by Schibsted, including Media Norge.

Data Growth Drives the Search for Better Backup Solutions

Schibsted IT has installed a total of eight ExaGrid EX10000E and twelve EX13000E systems in three grids to ensure ease of data restoration in the event of a mass data loss and are extremely pleased with the results. Before installing ExaGrid's solution, "Data was just exploding," said Oivind Tharaldsen, backup manager at Schibsted IT. "We needed more and more backup storage — data growth was galloping away."

When Schibsted IT originally went to straight disk backup, it was just a matter of getting backup jobs done within their backup window. This worked for a time, until they found they still needed to expand storage to cope with growth in data. It wasn't cost effective to keep on buying basic disks. According to Tharaldsen, "We had to find something that could compress the data. We looked at other solutions in addition to ExaGrid and concluded that ExaGrid had the most cost-effective solution in our case."

Effective Data Deduplication

After installing the ExaGrid systems, over time Schibsted IT has been able to achieve a deduplication ratio of over 60:1 in some cases for Exchange backups. According to Tharaldsen, "Some MS databases do very well – 20:1 to 40:1 - even though our data doesn't always lend itself to deduplication easily because of the nature of the files, our business, and the way we run the backups. We ideally wanted to achieve a goal of 15:1 for overall deduplication across all file types, and we're pleased that we'll achieve that goal very shortly."

Scalability to Grow

Of value to Schibsted IT is that the ExaGrid system can easily be expanded to accommodate more data. They're now running a dual-site ExaGrid system and are cross-replicating from one location to another, storing 2.4PB of data in total on ExaGrid appliances.

ExaGrid's GRID computing software makes the system highly scalable, and when plugged into a switch, different sized configurations can be mixed and matched into a single GRID system with capacities of up to a 130TB full backup plus retention.

Once virtualized, they appear as a single system to the backup server, and load balancing of all data across servers is automatic. This is a huge plus for Schibsted IT and the way they do backups

Easy to Install and Maintain

The ExaGrid system is easy to install and use and works seamlessly with popular backup applications, so any organization can seamlessly retain their investment in existing applications and processes.

In addition, ExaGrid servers can be used at primary and secondary sites to supplement or eliminate offsite tapes with live data repositories for disaster recovery.

Easy to Manage

According to Tharaldsen, saving storage space while still being easy to manage was very important. "I really like the flexibility of load balancing across servers in a grid. If

EXAGRID™

one appliance is full, then another appliance will receive the data. We don't have to watch it all the time and move data from device to device to avoid a full disk."

Conserve Scarce Data Center Space

Schibsted IT no longer needs to continually buy disks for their backup disk array. Tharaldsen says. "We don't have to buy straight disk anymore. If we were to buy all those disks, we would need more floor space, which would be very costly."

Intelligent Data Protection

ExaGrid's turnkey disk-based backup system combines high quality SATA drives with zone-level data deduplication, delivering a disk-based solution that is more cost effective than standard SATA drives. ExaGrid's zone-level data deduplication technology stores only the changes from backup to backup instead of storing full file copies, reducing the amount of disk needed by a range of 10:1 to 50:1 or more, resulting in a solution that is 25 to 30% the cost of standard SATA drives.

The ExaGrid system is easy to install and use, and works seamlessly with popular backup applications, so organizations can retain their investment in existing applications and processes. ExaGrid servers can be used at primary and

secondary sites to supplement or eliminate offsite tapes with live data repositories for disaster recovery.

ExaGrid and Symantec NetBackup

Symantec NetBackup delivers high performance data protection that scales to protect the largest UNIX, Windows, Linux and NetWare environments. With complete protection from remote office to center to vault, NetBackup offers a single console for all backup and recovery operations. Organizations using NetBackup can look to ExaGrid as an alternative to tape for nightly backups. ExaGrid sits behind existing backup applications, such as NetBackup, providing faster and more reliable backups and restores. In a network running NetBackup, using ExaGrid in place of a tape backup system is as easy as pointing existing backup jobs at a NAS share on the ExaGrid system. Backup jobs are sent directly from the backup application to the ExaGrid for onsite backup to disk.

ExaGrid's support of the Symantec OpenStorage API provides seamless integration between NetBackup and the ExaGrid disk-based backup system, including unified control of and access to backup data stored on both local and remote ExaGrid systems.

For more information about ExaGrid, please visit us at www.exagrid.com or call us at 1-800-868-6985.

About ExaGrid Systems, Inc.

Customers worldwide depend on ExaGrid Systems to solve their backup problems—effectively and permanently. ExaGrid's disk-based, scale-out GRID architecture adjusts to increasing backup demands due to constantly growing data volumes. It is the only solution that combines compute with capacity as well as a unique landing zone to permanently shorten backup windows and eliminate expensive forklift upgrades. Learn more at www.exagrid.com.