

Scalable ExaGrid System Supports Corris AG's Data Growth in Diverse Backup Environment

CUSTOMER SUCCESS STORY



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Martin Gruber, System Administrator



Key Benefits:

- ExaGrid is able to back up data from Corris AG's different backup apps and processes
- Corris AG no longer has trouble fitting in database backups
- Scaling out ExaGrid system with additional appliance is 'a simple task' with ExaGrid support

Customer Overview

Corris AG, founded in 1995, offers fundraising services for non-profit organizations in Switzerland with a focus on booth campaigns and door-to-door campaigns while utilizing tablet computers; services include the planning, development, and implementation of fundraising campaigns. Using the Corris AG database solution, NPOs can have their donor data managed perfectly without high investment and maintenance costs. With secure, encrypted access options via the Internet, the NPOs can view their data at any time, create evaluations, and export data for further processing.

ExaGrid Able to Back Up Entire Environment

For many years, Corris AG backed its data up to disk and tape, using Arcserve and later Veritas Backup Exec. The organization's IT staff also implemented an Xen VM hypervisor, but found Backup Exec was not able to back up the VMs. As time went on, the IT staff decided to look into other backup products. "We realized we had to change our backup strategy. As a team, we looked into different options, and we decided to add ExaGrid and Veeam to our backup environment," said Martin Gruber, system administrator at Corris AG. "The combined solution was great for us because it was so simple to manage."

The IT staff at Corris AG use multiple types of backup software to back up data to ExaGrid. "Our environment is mostly virtualized now, so we use Veeam to back up virtual servers to ExaGrid. We also back up older CIFS shares to ExaGrid using Backup Exec, and we back up the VMs on our Xen hypervisor using Xen Orchestra to our ExaGrid system. Now, all of our backups run perfectly," said Gruber.

ExaGrid Keeps Different Backup Jobs on Schedule

Corris AG has a wide variety of data to back up, from Microsoft Exchange servers to SQL databases, as well as UNIX systems. Gruber manages the backup of different data types with the different backup applications and software. "We used to have trouble fitting in the backups of our databases when they were not in use, as we would back up data



to disk and then copy the backup from disk to tape. Our new process of backing up all of our data to ExaGrid is much faster, especially with Veeam. The ExaGrid-Veeam solution is very fast," said Gruber.

ExaGrid writes backups directly to a diskcache Landing Zone, avoiding inline processing and ensuring the highest possible backup performance, which results in the shortest backup window.

Adaptive Deduplication performs deduplication and replication in parallel with backups while providing full system resources to the backups for the shortest backup window. Available system cycles are utilized to perform deduplication and offsite replication for an optimal recovery point at the disaster recovery site. Once complete, the onsite data is protected and immediately available in its full undeduplicated form for fast restores, VM Instant Recoveries, and tape copies while the offsite data is ready for disaster recovery.



System Easily Scaled with Guidance from ExaGrid Support

ExaGrid can easily keep up with an organization's data growth. "ExaGrid is completely scalable, which is helpful for planning. When our data grew, we decided to expand our ExaGrid system with a second appliance, which was a very simple task. Our ExaGrid support engineer was able to help us through the process, and was able to provide support in German," said Gruber. "What's great about ExaGrid is that we know we can add an another appliance in the future so that we don't have to plan for five years ahead, we only need to make decisions for one or two years in the future."

All of ExaGrid's appliances contain not just disk but also processing power, memory, and bandwidth. When the system needs to expand, additional appliances are simply attached to the existing system. This type of configuration allows the system to maintain all the aspects of performance as the amount of data grows, with customers paying for what they need when they need it. In addition, as new ExaGrid appliances are added to the existing system, ExaGrid automatically load balances available capacity, maintaining a virtual pool of storage that is shared across the system.

"ExaGrid offers excellent support. Our support engineer is very competent and available to help whenever we need assistance. He has been helpful with installing and scaling our system, as well as upgrading the firmware for our ExaGrid system. I'm very happy to have such reliable support for my backup environment," said Gruber.

The ExaGrid system was designed to be easy to set up and maintain, and ExaGrid's industry-leading customer support team is staffed by trained, in-house level 2 engineers who are assigned to individual accounts. The system is fully supported, and was designed and manufactured for maximum uptime with redundant, hot-swappable components.

About ExaGrid

ExaGrid provides tiered backup storage with a unique disk-cache Landing Zone, long-term retention repository and scale-out architecture. ExaGrid's Landing Zone enables the fastest backups, restores, and instant VM recoveries. The retention repository offers the lowest cost for long-term retention. ExaGrid's scale-out architecture includes full appliances in a scalable system. Learn more at www.exagrid.com.

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