IMPROVED PERFORMANCE WITH SAP HANA

Computacenter implements HANA database technology at Berlin-based GASAG AG.

OBJECTIVE

Following the successful migration of its Business Warehouse with Computacenter, GASAG AG was keen to convert other SAP systems to the new SAP HANA technology.

SOLUTION

Together with Computacenter, GASAG AG converted the SAP solution IS-U Network and Sales as well as the ERP system to the new technology within five months, dramatically optimising system performance and laying the foundation for further SAP HANA migrations.

OUTCOME

The SAP environment performance has been significantly improved, thanks to the RAM-based technology of SAP HANA. This provides much better support for the GASAG group's major business processes.

SERVICES
- Cloud & Data Center
- IT Strategy & Advisory Services
- Design & Build Services

USER EXPERIENCE
- Faster access to information
- Improved user productivity
- Faster decision-making

BUSINESS IMPACT
- Improved productivity
- Stronger competitive advantage
- Enhanced business agility

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Computacenter completed this migration within the specified time and to our complete satisfaction. With SAP HANA, we have improved the performance of our SAP environment as planned. Computacenter's cooperation with the SAP team was exemplary throughout! We look forward to further joint projects in the SAP environment.

**Ronny Stamm,
Information Management,
GASAG AG**

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OBJECTIVE
Along the roadmap

Berlin-based GASAG AG is one of the largest gas distribution network operators in Europe and is a modern, nationwide energy service provider. In a highly competitive market, analysis and decision-making capability is vitally important. The management depends on high-performance information systems to make the right decisions for day-to-day business operations.

"Following successful migration of the Business Warehouse with Computacenter, the managers at GASAG also decided to migrate other systems in their SAP landscape from the previously used relational database systems from another manufacturer to SAP HANA. This included the SAP IS-U (Industry Solutions for Utilities) Network and Sales systems as well as the actual ERP system," explained Mirko Edling, Senior Consultant at Computacenter who was responsible for the SAP migration projects at GASAG AG.

A proof of concept drafted beforehand by Computacenter had already demonstrated the potential performance improvements. "What's more, based on the SAP roadmap, which deals with the technological conversion of the databases and the functional release change to S/4, the imminent change in the SAP landscape is imminent. Also, GASAG AG wants to virtualise its IT landscape as much as possible in the future," added Edling.

SOLUTION
Significantly improved performance thanks to faster loading times

GASAG AG has been supported by Computacenter's Managed Services since 2013, and Computacenter operates a large part of the energy provider's IT infrastructure. Over the past years, both companies have invested extensively in the quality and stability of IT services. The competent support and the highly standardised processes at Computacenter have helped to make this partnership a success.

To consolidate performance in all productive systems, GASAG decided to acquire new storage systems with a total of two terabytes of memory on which the RAM-based SAP HANA runs. "Because RAM works 1000 times faster than disk systems, we managed to achieve the performance improvement we wanted and replace the relational database we had been using before," explained Mirko Edling. In addition, this solution requires fewer server systems, which lowers the operating costs.

The new, virtualised environment based on Windows Server 2012 consists of dedicated SAP HANA database servers using Cisco UCS blades. The SAP system technology was updated using the SAP DMO tool.

ABOUT GASAG AG

GASAG is a long-established company and is part of the history of Berlin. Founded in 1847, GASAG AG is now a modern, nationwide energy service provider which for a long time has offered much more than just natural gas and electricity. The group is extensively involved in innovative technologies and is driving forward the expansion of renewable energy. This commitment is evident in products such as the virtual "EcoPool" power plant, energy solutions for entire districts and holistic energy consulting. With around 1550 employees, the group recently reported a turnover of 1.16 billion euros.

OUTCOME

Faster analyses for quick business decisions

"Following the rollout of SAP HANA, data loading times have been reduced from often ten minutes to just a few seconds. Analyses in the various business divisions are now executed with equally high performance and can be completed within a matter of hours," said Mirko Edling. This gives the management valuable time for decision-making, especially when it comes to the complex queries related to the energy industry.

"In cooperation with Computacenter, this project was implemented very precisely. The results which we have managed to achieve confirm that Computacenter provided us with excellent support during the technological leap we wanted to take in our operational management," reported Ronny Stamm, Division Manager for Information Management at GASAG AG.

The conversion presented a considerable challenge in terms of time for the project teams of both companies because the new infrastructure had to be set up in parallel to the existing one.

"During this migration, GASAG AG and Computacenter also migrated the software for customer relations management and human capital management to SAP Sybase database servers in order to create maximum homogeneity within the system landscape," explained Mirko Edling.

Computacenter has incorporated the new systems into its regular global managed services operations. The new solution has put GASAG AG in a position to conduct and analyse SAP business transactions in a high-performance environment. At the same time, the project has also laid the foundations for a change from SAP R/3 to S/4.

MORE INFORMATION

To find out more, please email **communications.germany@computacenter.com**