Hitachi Storage Solutions at Work

Cedacri

INDUSTRY | Services: Financial Services

SOLUTIONS | Tiered Storage/Virtualization: Optimization
| Hardware — Hitachi Universal Storage Platform™
| Software — Hitachi Universal Replicator
| Services — Provided by Hitachi Data Systems Global Solution Services

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Senior Information Technology Executive
Cedacri
Hitachi Data Systems Virtualizes Cedacri’s Data Centers to Support Advanced Services

Cedacri is the leading Italian financial outsourcing services industry. Theirs is the data center of the future, from infrastructures to virtualization technologies and services that can guarantee the development of a dynamic, efficient, consolidated and ecologically friendly data center. To support the advanced storage services Cedacri provides, the company chose a virtualization and optimization solution with the Hitachi Universal Storage Platform™ as its foundation.

Senior Information Technology Executive of Cedacri, Elena Campidoglio, details the successful implementation of the Hitachi Data Systems virtualization solution. “First of all it’s necessary to mention the needs that brought us to evaluate the implementation of a storage virtualization solution. Our infrastructure is made up of heterogeneous resources, and each of them has its own characteristics and capabilities, let alone different operating platforms. The main scope was to adopt a solution that could enable us to implement advanced storage services and extend them to the other network devices, with no changes needed to be made on its configurations.”

From an operations point of view, there were multiple phases to the project. “We started with the implementation of the Hitachi Universal Storage Platform and with the virtualization of some of the storage systems in the primary site,” explains Campidoglio, “in order to verify that there were no application performance problems. The implementation of Hitachi technology not only had a positive impact on the functionality of the systems, but it was also totally transparent to them. After testing and evaluating the results, we proceeded with the virtualization of a part of the entire storage environment, which totaled 400 terabytes of data at the beginning of the project and now has reached 500 terabytes.”

Managing Transparently, Extending Data Replication Services

The Cedacri storage solution was implemented by Hitachi Data Systems Global Solution Services. A primary service was the implementation of a data replication capability for both instant as well as the synchronous and asynchronous copies. Says Campidoglio, “These capabilities are essential to our business continuity and disaster recovery strategies. Thanks to Hitachi platform and virtualization technologies we have been enabled to extend the data replication services to all the other disk-based subsystems of the infrastructure. In particular, we can transparently manage a service that is essential to us: the quick data copy among different systems and platforms. In short, the adoption of Hitachi Data Systems solutions enabled us to implement advanced storage services, while taking advantage of existing resources.” She adds, “Moreover, we could rationalize the management of the entire environment by exploiting common and centralized management tools.”
At a distance of 150 kilometers from the primary data center where the first Hitachi solution was installed, Cedacri has a secondary site, which has been operational for more than 20 years. As Campidoglio explains, “The connection between these two sites has been in operation for five years and has been deployed to support our growing data volumes in the best way. We have adopted a Hitachi Data Systems solution in the secondary site, which has enabled us to virtualize our existing storage resources and to implement advanced data management services, which were consistent with the rigid service level agreements set by the law and our corporate governance.”

Choosing Hitachi Data Systems

Campidoglio recalls that Cedacri saw a difference in the Hitachi Data Systems approach to storage and support. “We could definitely notice an excellent consulting approach that was not intended to prevail on the other vendors’ solutions only from a technical point of view,” she explains.

“The Global Solution Services team proved to be extremely professional, while leading us to improve and integrate our already implemented solutions and managing our requirements, in order to make our people productive as soon as possible.”

Elena Campidoglio
Senior Information Technology Executive
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“Choosing a Hitachi solution was the right decision,” adds Campidoglio, “as it has enabled us to keep track of our data volumes and to manage the complexity of our storage environment in a more efficient way.”

Noting the success of the Hitachi Data Systems solution, Campidoglio adds, “We are determined to broaden the infrastructure, in particular the appliances supporting our business continuity strategies. We will also intervene on the server farm area and its integration in the disaster recovery processes.”