“The Hitachi solution provides a highly scalable platform to meet the performance demands put forth by the challenging and competitive business segment that we operate in. It was a very important upgrade for us as we developed our blueprint for future business growth.”

Kishorkumar J. Shah
Head of IT
L&T-Chiyoda Limited
L&T-Chiyoda Limited Selects Hitachi Storage to Support Better Performance and Security for Complex Engineering Projects

A leading engineering consultancy, L&T-Chiyoda (LTC) has worked on several prominent projects in India and around the world. These projects involve the use of complex modeling and visualization tools and applications operating in a networked environment. For LTC, it was critical that the storage backbone of its technology-intensive architecture be able to handle the growing volume and increased complexity of its data. Hitachi Data Systems provided the modular storage solution.

Performance and Disaster Recovery Are Key Criteria

LTC’s existing solution consisted of older technology that was expensive to maintain. It could not be easily scaled to match the company’s needs for increased capacity and performance. The company was largely looking for improved storage utilization and scalability. However, given its growing volume of complex data, replication and disaster recovery were also high on the company’s wish list. It needed a partner who could map out the most efficient and cost-effective way to meet these storage-related goals.

Hitachi Answers LTC Goals

LTC decided to go with Hitachi based on its confidence in the technology. The company also appreciated the quality of Hitachi service support, as well as the comprehensive system training Hitachi provided to its IT staff. With the Hitachi solution, LTC was able to significantly improve storage performance as well as implement critical aspects of its business continuity planning.

"Apart from meeting our key requirements of performance and scalability, the Hitachi solution made it possible for us to refresh our disaster recovery architecture, incorporating the much required flexibility. We are now no longer limited in our ability to add servers with the new storage-based replication model. The highly effective TrueCopy replication helps us exceed our target RPO while giving us the ability to monitor the RPO trend and keep it in line with our business continuity goals."

Bihag Acharya
Manager of IT
L&T-Chiyoda Limited

About LTC

LTC is an engineering consultancy organization. The equal partnership between Larsen & Toubro Limited, India’s premier engineering, manufacturing and construction company, and Chiyoda Corporation of Japan, an engineering leader with 5 decades of experience in liquefied natural gas (LNG), hydrocarbon and related fields, formed the organization.

LTC offers international grade engineering and project management services. Using flexible plant modeling tools, LTC provides creative and workable solutions for its clients. A plant “visualization” created in the office during the detailed engineering stage is a highly accurate representation of reality that results in greater efficiency during construction.

LTC has a strong presence in the fields of petroleum refining, petrochemicals, chemicals, fertilizers, oil and gas, LNG and liquefied petroleum gas (LPG). As India’s needs in these areas grow, LTC is likely to be a dominant player in the implementation of related infrastructure.

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Capacity, Utilization and Scalability

The core storage components of the Hitachi solution were the Hitachi Adaptable Modular Storage 2100 systems installed at both its primary and disaster recovery sites. These midrange storage systems with capacities of 24TB and 12TB, respectively, at the 2 sites were built to scale with growing business needs. With Hitachi Dynamic Provisioning software, the solution simplified storage management by optimally allocating resources within the SAN fabric.

Disaster Recovery Support

Hitachi Data Systems Global Solution Services group provided strategic guidance and technical support in enabling the disaster recovery modules of LTC’s business continuity plan. This involved design and implementation of Hitachi TrueCopy® Extended Distance remote replication software.

Results from the Upgrade

Reduced RPO: The new disaster recovery system in place at LTC allowed the company to significantly lower its recovery point objective (RPO). LTC was also now able to get historical measures of its RPO, something that was not possible under the old system.

Cost efficiencies through scaling: LTC could now add servers to its primary and disaster recovery sites without any impact to its IT cost structure. This capability was an important benefit for the company given the projected growth in its business.

Lower risk of data loss: Using features such as the automated error reporting facility during the company’s off hours (from 8 p.m. to 8 a.m.) lowers risk. LTC was able to detect and plug any potential gaps in its storage system before they led to data loss or related problems.

Savings through optimization: The compatibility of TrueCopy Extended Distance with Riverbed Steelhead appliances resulted into a highly efficient storage-based replication solution. This solution translated into significant time and cost savings for LTC.

Future Needs

To keep up with ongoing data expansion, LTC is looking at further bolstering its backup infrastructure. To that end, it is exploring the feasibility of implementing a complete data protection and management solution from Hitachi. This solution will work in conjunction with the current solution to deliver high-performance data protection, backup and recovery, point-in-time replication, archiving and more.