Thai Energy Provider Supports Imperative Business Continuity
With Hitachi Storage Technology

Founded in 2007 and headquartered in Bangkok, Gulf JP Co., Ltd., is one of Thailand’s largest independent providers of electricity. The company serves both the general public, via Electricity Generating Authority of Thailand (EGAT) and industrial users in main industrial zones of the country. To ensure IT operations provide maximum performance and backup to support 24/7 electricity generation, Gulf JP chose a solution based on Hitachi Adaptable Modular Storage and Hitachi replication software.

Currently, Gulf JP is in charge of 5 active power plants. The company has 9 others under construction, including 2 Independent Power Producers (IPPs) and 7 Small Power Producers (SPPs). It also has 12 more projects under development to ensure solid and sustainable growth in the future. Today, Gulf JP has hired more than 400 employees, and that figure is expected to hit 1,000 in 2015.

All Gulf JP’s projects are equipped with the latest technologies to ensure the maximum capacity and productivity with environmental conscience as it keeps promises to the local communities and creates confidence.

Business Never Stops

The power industry is one of the core sectors driving economic growth in Thailand. Any minor power disruption would cause tremendous damage. Therefore, Gulf JP carefully monitors its IT environment to support business continuity and maximum performance.

One of Gulf JP’s IT strategies addresses IT development, ensuring that it is in accordance with business direction and business needs. The power industry requires that data storage must be reliable and deliver maximum performance to ensure electricity is generated around the clock. Therefore, one of Gulf JP’s major requirements is a backup plan, to ensure effective and reliable data backup, which, in turn, ensures business continuity.

Hitachi Data Systems fulfilled our requirements in terms of technologies, performance, cost efficiency and return on investment. Moreover, the services before and after sales were crucial to this successful solution.

Ploy Samudavanija
Vice President Information Technology
Gulf JP Co., Ltd.

Gulf JP Company, Limited

INDUSTRY
Utilities: Power

SOLUTIONS
Business Continuity and Replication, Modular Platform

HARDWARE
Hitachi Adaptable Modular Storage 2100 and 2300

SOFTWARE
Hitachi TrueCopy, Hitachi Storage Navigator Modular 2, Hitachi Dynamic Provisioning, Hitachi In-System Replication bundle

SERVICES
Provided by Hitachi Data Systems Global Services and Hitachi TrueNorth Partner MFEC

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SUCCESS STORY

Nonstop Operations and Disaster Recovery
After comparing the product performance of various brands of storage, Gulf JP determined that Hitachi Data Systems offered the most ideal solution for its business. Hitachi technology would support its SAP enterprise resource planning (ERP) system, core storage system and data backup for disaster recovery in case central data become inactive. Hitachi Adaptable Modular Storage (AMS) 2300 was selected for the ERP system to store core data at Gulf JP headquarters. AMS 2300 would perform functions, such as e-mail and file sharing, and storage of engineering data for all power plants. For its disaster recovery solution, Gulf JP employed AMS 2100. Hitachi software, including Hitachi TrueCopy synchronous replication and Hitachi In-System Replication bundle, replicates data from core data, so the solution can immediately substitute the central data in case of any disasters.

Advanced Technology With Flexibility and User-Friendliness
Technology-wise, Hitachi Data Systems is the only provider using innovative SAS technology, which delivers high performance, flexibility and scalability. Moreover, AMS systems are scalable and can be connected to offer performance that is equivalent to enterprise levels by simply upgrading the controller. The Gulf JP’s core system and ERP system are effectively compatible with Hitachi technology. In addition, the Hitachi In-System Replication bundle provides an enterprise-level data cloning capability; this feature enables instant data access for the SAP testing environment.

According to Vice President of Information Technology at Gulf JP, Ply Samudavanija, Gulf JP is impressed with the close supervision and quick after-sales services provided by MFEC, a Hitachi TrueNorth Partner. Hitachi Data Systems Global Services also provided consultation services and comprehensive information, which strengthened Gulf JP’s confidence in the solution.

“Since the implementation, we are very satisfied with the easy data replication process between AMS 2300 and AMS 2100, which supports various data changes, regardless of how much data there is, whether the data is overflowing, or how much the data changes. Data transfers take only a short time with no problems, so system administrators realize its user-friendliness, time savings and effectiveness,” added Ply.

Gulf JP’s future plans to expand its IT environment rely on the expansion of its data storage systems to serve the increasing number of power plants. At the same time, the company will be implementing the disaster recovery site system at individual plant locations.

Ply Samudavanija
Vice President Information Technology
Gulf JP Co., Ltd.

1 Hitachi In-System Replication bundle includes Hitachi ShadowImage Replication software and Hitachi Copy-on-Write Snapshot software.