



Large two wheeler Company achieved 99.9% uptime & dramatically cut costs with our auto-scaling DR solution on the Cloud

Highlights

- Multiple critical and complex applications transitioned to DR on Cloud
- IBM Cloud with AIX servers
- Migrated more than 10 TB from On-Prem physically to cloud
- Managed services for DR to ensure RPO and RTO
- Using tools like Perpetuity Continuity Patrol and Oracle Data Guard
- Responsibility to bring up the SAP applications & Oracle DB on the DR site and get users operating
- Successfully executed 5 DR drills over last 3 years ensuring RPO and RTO

The Client:

Our customer is one of the largest two wheeler manufacturers in the world. They have plants in different parts of India as well as in multiple countries. Their operations are run centrally from their data centre in India

The customer is completely on SAP for the ERP operations. Being such a large company, with global operations, they could not afford to have downtime because of a disaster. So about eight years back they had setup DR operations at an hosting company where they had put up exact replicas of the production servers. Not only was keeping such high end replicas of the production servers an expensive proposition but the servers were running idle, except during the DR drills.

Challenges:

During the Tech refresh of SAP servers the customer decided that they wanted to utilize the flexibility and power of the cloud to cut costs as well as improve availability. One of the challenges however was the fact that all the production servers were on IBM AIX. Only IBM cloud had this facility. No other cloud provider was able to give IBM AIX based DR system.

The Other Challenge was to figure out how to transport more than 10 terabytes of data which was On-Prem to the systems on the cloud. 10TB of data meant transporting so many physical tapes safely. Then recovering all the data from the tape and then loading it on to the database server on to the cloud.

In addition the customer wanted that the switch over is one click automated and alert notifications are also automated

Suggested Solution:

Since this IBM AIX solution was only available on the IBM cloud we worked along with IBM to setup the systems on the IBM cloud. In terms of sequencing the migration from the hosting cloud environment to the cloud based DR environment - we first got the AD server on DR and then got SAP ECC, NW, BI, DI along with Oracle.

We used IBM Spectrum Protect (earlier known as IBM Tivoli Storage Manager) with the SAP agent to backup the 10 TB of database and then restored the complete database on the cloud environment.

Oracle Data Guard was configured to ensure that the logs get synced between the primary servers at the data centre and the server on the cloud

Since it's a cloud environment we have taken low end IBM AIX machines just for the replication purposes. When a DR is invoked we increase the configuration of the Machines "on the fly".

We also use the Perpetuity tool Continuity Patrol to enable automatic failover, switch over syncing checks and alerts.

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The Benefits:

One of the primary benefits is the fact that the customer has been able to reduce cost since he does not have to host the same configuration machines which are in the production environment.

In spite of taking lower end machines and scaling them on demand, there is an improvement in the RPO and RTO parameters.

Since it is a managed services contract which covers SAP and Oracle also, the customer is certain of business continuity

In addition to the above points, the customer also gets an automated switch over failover facility because of the usage of the Perpetuity tool and the automated alerts that get generated in case there is a lag or a problem in the syncing of the databases.