

HP customer case study: Emmi Schweiz implements new enterprise resource planning solution along with HP technology

Industry: Food manufacturing

Emmi milks the benefits of new ERP platform



“With HP, we have enterprise-class availability combined with a clustered architecture providing high redundancy. In conjunction with HP’s Mission Critical Support, this provides us with excellent support for our 24x7 operation.” Walter Stadelmann, head of IT, Emmi Schweiz

Objective:

Emmi needed to ensure traceability of all its products and achieve better control over its processes. Having decided to implement a new ERP system, it then needed to identify a hardware platform offering high availability and redundancy. It also wanted to achieve an optimal balance between costs and utilisation levels.

Approach:

- Emmi decided to implement the J. D. Edwards ERP system.
- It chose a UNIX-based HP platform based on clustered HP 9000 rp4440 Servers with an HP StorageWorks EVA 5000, HP StorageWorks EVA 6000 and HP StorageWorks EVA8100 storage systems, and an HP StorageWorks backup solution ESL 322.
- Two HP Integrity rx3600 Servers currently handle the database tier. Over time, Emmi plans to implement J. D. Edwards completely to an HP Integrity server environment.
- Bison Systems AG and HP collaborated on the implementation, with HP Consulting & Integration responsible for sizing the platform and for installing servers and storage systems.
- The infrastructure is supported by HP Mission Critical Support

IT improvements:

- Storage is unified into a common pool with HP StorageWorks EVA 5000, EVA 6000 and EVA8100 storage systems.
- The HP architecture offers simplified management.

Business benefits:

- Higher utilisation levels lead to reduced costs of ownership.
- Enterprise-class availability and high redundancy support a 24 x 7 operation.
- The flexibility of the architecture supports Emmi’s ability to react more quickly to customer needs and changing market conditions.



Emmi is Switzerland’s leading milk processor and a global exporter of dairy products. In addition to traditional dairy products such as milk, butter, cream and cheese, its range also includes items such as yoghurts, desserts and cheese alternatives.

Like other companies in its industry sector, Emmi needs to safeguard product quality and ensure full traceability. This need led to a decision to replace its existing ERP system with J. D. Edwards, which offered the potential of achieving full visibility of data relating to all processes.

The business-critical nature of the new ERP implementation dictated an uncompromising approach to selecting the hardware platform.

Customer solution at a glance

Primary applications

- Enterprise Resource Planning - J. D. Edwards

Primary hardware

- 3 x HP 9000 rp4440 Servers
- 2 x HP Integrity rx3600 Servers
- 40 x HP ProLiant blade servers
- 1 x HP StorageWorks EVA 5000
- 1 x HP StorageWorks EVA 6000
- 1 x HP StorageWorks EVA 8100
- 1 x HP StorageWorks ESL 322 E-Series Tape Library

Primary software

- HP Backup software OpenView Storage Data Protector
- HP Replication software StorageWorks Continuous Access EVA HP Services

HP Services

- Sizing of ERP infrastructure
- Server and storage system installation
- Mission Critical Support (UNIX systems and backup software)

"We needed an infrastructure that offered high availability and redundancy in order to provide 24x7 support for our operations," comments head of IT, Walter Stadelmann. "At the same time, we wanted to optimise the balance between cost and utilisation levels."

For Emmi, the choice was between HP and IBM. It chose HP, mainly because of the company's focus on providing a complete solution in conjunction with its partner, Bison Systems AG. According to Stadelmann, HP and Bison also impressed Emmi by emphasising the potential benefits of the solution rather than the details of the technology.

Mission critical infrastructure

Working together, HP and Bison implemented a new server, storage and backup infrastructure at Emmi's head office in Switzerland. The infrastructure is based around clustered HP 9000 rp4440 Servers, 40 HP BladeSystem servers with one HP StorageWorks EVA 5000 storage system, one HP StorageWorks EVA 6000 storage system and an HP StorageWorks ESL E-Series Tape Library for backup. Emmi recently migrated the database tier of J. D. Edwards over to two HP Integrity rx3600 Servers and introduced an HP StorageWorks EVA 8100 storage system. Over time, the company plans to implement the whole of J. D. Edwards into an HP Integrity server environment.

HP Consulting & Integration helped to size the platform and installed the servers and storage systems. The infrastructure, including backup software, is supported by HP Mission Critical Support.

Enterprise-class availability

As the main business-critical application running on the new infrastructure, J. D. Edwards provides Emmi with a range of benefits, including traceability, better management reporting, and increased flexibility to respond quickly to customer needs and changing market conditions.

The use of reliable technology from HP provides many additional advantages as part of the total solution.

"With HP, we have enterprise-class availability combined with a clustered architecture providing high redundancy. In conjunction with HP's Mission Critical Support, this provides us with excellent support for our 24x7 operation," says Stadelmann.

Increased utilisation

Other benefits include simplified management and a highly flexible server and storage architecture that results in increased utilisation levels, reducing Emmi's costs. This flexibility contributes to the company's ability to respond more quickly to change, while the scalability of the HP architecture ensures that expansion of the new ERP system to cover the whole EMEA region can proceed smoothly.

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