CirrusData ®

CDS and its partner proactively came up with a worry-free solution that allowed for zero-touch storage-side data migration and adhered to the bank's unique "no-touch" policy.
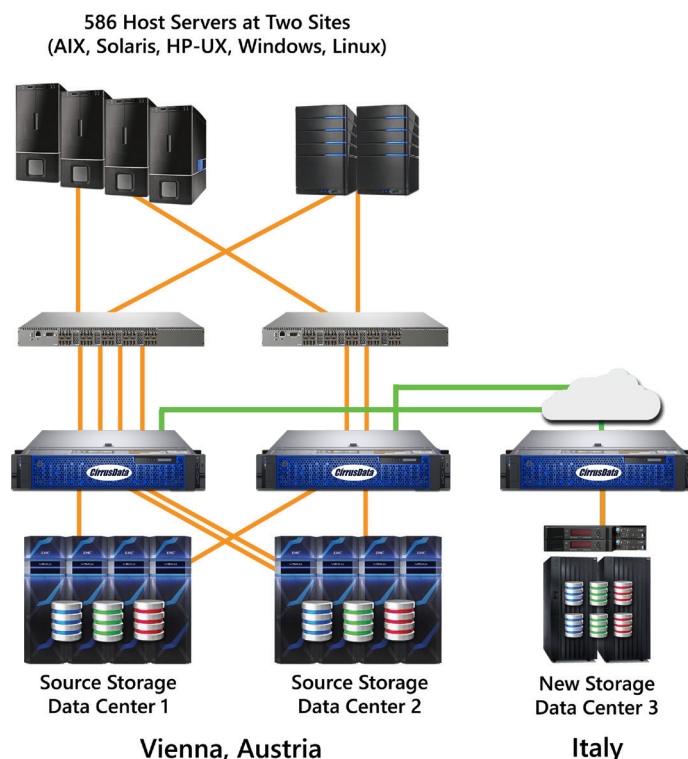
THE CHALLENGE

Migrating data after a merger is always a significant challenge. When the entities merging are financial institutions, a secure and efficient data migration is critical. After a major bank merger in Europe, a financial group needed to consolidate two large data centers located in Vienna, Austria and relocate the data to a new data center in Italy. The data centers in Vienna were composed of four Dell EMC arrays with 64 active FC ports and were migrating to an IBM SAN Volume Controller (SVC) Storage Farm. The DELL EMC arrays were in active production in Austria and the customer's "no-touch" policy regarding the migration required a unique insertion method.

THE SOLUTION

Cirrus Data's Cirrus Migrate On-Premises (CMO) flexibility and ability to migrate from any storage array to any other array, seamlessly, made it the perfect solution for this data migration. Under normal circumstances, no zoning or configuration changes are necessary when using CMO. However, due to the unique situation presented with this financial group and its "no-touch" policies, the Cirrus Data technology partner performing the migration decided that precise zoning would be implemented to allow access from the migration controller ports on the storage arrays to the CMO appliance and destination storage rather than putting the CMO appliance in-line.

The insertion and migration process was seamless, and with such an extensive number of client hosts and associated LUNs being migrated, the operation was split into multiple waves, where each wave targeted a group of hosts using a particular application.

586 Host Servers at Two Sites
(AIX, Solaris, HP-UX, Windows, Linux)

Source Storage Data Center 1	Source Storage Data Center 2	New Storage Data Center 3

Vienna, Austria   **Italy**

The migration team performed detailed and careful analysis of storage and switch reports generated by CMO, identified possible challenges and issues from those reports, evaluated the feasibility, and provided solutions before any actual tasks were performed. The result, was a worry-free, unified migration solution provided by Cirrus Data's CMO.

CHALLENGES

- Migrated with zero downtime for deployment—one-time insertion only—and no existing production FC ports could be touched
- Large number of client hosts (over 500) in a large enterprise environment running a diverse mix of operating systems, including different versions of AIX
- Over 20,000 LUNs over four storage arrays, presented to 2300 initiators on 586 hosts
- Selected client hosts and LUNs were NOT migrated to the new site
- Data center relocation was from one country to another

SOLUTION

- Zero-touch storage-side CMO insertion was used on dedicated migration ports on the array to avoid touching any production ports
- Surgical zoning and LUN masking changes were used to deliver sets of LUNs for migration with zero downtime necessary for client hosts
- TCP/IP-based CMO remote replication feature with compression optimized bandwidth between countries

RESULTS

- A unified migration solution was provided without any need to worry about the client host platform.
- Multiple pairs of CMO8000's were deployed to migrate the LUNs over several "waves" or batches.
- DMS storage-side insertion on the array's dedicated migration ports met the "no-touch" requirement, with no impact to existing paths.
- Sets of LUNs were migrated using CMO paths without any additional need to go on-site for cabling changes.
- Remarkable performance was achieved—over 500 Mbytes/sec with just a single gigabit link, due to a 5:1 compression ratio

ABOUT CIRRUS DATA

Cirrus Data Solutions Inc. is a leading technology provider of next-generation solutions for data mobility, specializing in block data migration and protection. The company distributes its solutions through systems integrators, managed service providers, channel resellers, and partners including HPE, IBM, Dell Technologies, Microsoft Azure, AWS, Hitachi, NetApp, Pure Storage, Infinidat, AEBS, AHEAD, CDW, SHI, Park Place, Presidio, ePlus, Insight, Computacenter, Sirius, WWT and many others. Cirrus Data Solutions is headquartered in Syosset, New York and has offices located in Dublin, Ireland, and Nanjing with sales and support offices in Boston and Chicago.

To begin your digital data transformation, visit Cirrus Data Solutions online.

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