DRBD® at Full Speed

: BACKGROUND

Porsche Holding has outsourced its IT services and at the same time established a close relationship with its new service provider. Porsche Informatik GmbH, a 100% subsidiary of Porsche Holding, represents the head and backbone of a complex IT landscape that has the task of controlling the extremely fast growing company without downtimes.

Josef Hagler, managing director at Porsche Informatik GmbH, has counted on DRBD® to ensure High Availability for a company that is developing at full speed.

: BUSINESS CHALLENGE

Hagler and his team thus implemented the software CROSSS 2 during operation this year and replaced the previous version. The software was basically developed completely from scratch; 500,000 code lines were modified, i.e. all the components were changed during full operation.

Also the base technology was set up from scratch. The database was changed (from Informix to Oracle), the operating system was switched from AIX 4 to Linux and a 64-bit Intel server was installed instead of the IBM RS6000 server.

: SOLUTION

Two equal Intel servers were installed and combined to form a cluster using Heartbeat and DRBD®. Thanks to DRBD®, both machines replicate synchronously in real time.

If a failure occurs on one server, the remaining server takes over the tasks without any loss of data. Since a web and a communication server (including the portal www.weltauto.at) are part of the applications, these also had to be integrated ensuring High Availability.

“We opted for DRBD® as a cost-efficient Open Source solution in the field of High Availability clusters. DRBD® ideally supports our IT design, ensuring easy configuration and quick implementation. In contrast to commercial cluster solutions, we could do without expensive storage hardware for our application servers.”

JOSEF HAGLER
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