It doesn’t always have to be a SAN

: BACKGROUND

Storage area networks are quite expensive due to the cost-intensive special server and switch components as well as the fiber glass cables required.

LINBIT has developed a cost effective alternative that allows using COTS hardware and conventional Ethernet. This IP-based iSCSI storage area network has first been used at Salinen Austria AG.

: BUSINESS CHALLENGE

Salinen Austria AG has its servers installed at two different sites, located about 12 miles apart from each other. The storage capacity of the company’s IT infrastructure was designed for 2 TB pf net data, which, given the annual increase in data volume of 30 percent, will be sufficient until 2009.

After that, the servers will have to be upgraded again. Thanks to LINBIT’s solution, this can be done any time with any hardware, and, even more importantly, without interruption of service. This holds true for any maintenance work. LINBIT’s iSCSI storage area network allows maintenance and upgrade activities during operation.

: SOLUTION

“In order to consolidate dozens of hard disks in one single SAN storage box, previously you had to invest a lot in hardware and ensure a fail-safe solution. With iSCSI and DRBD®, LINBIT offers an attractive alternative at a tenth of the cost.” summarizes Volkmar Ruzicka, head of IT at Salinen Austria AG.

“Thanks to LINBIT, the total costs for a period of three years are significantly lower than those of any other storage specialists, who in addition have relatively high rates for maintenance.”

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