

“IT structure in PI Industries is now scalable and flexible with nominal administrative costs, and the speed of performance has improved considerably. The reports, which used to take approximately four days, are now completed in just three to four minutes.”

Vineet Kumar Chawla
Head IT
PI Industries



PI Industries Modernizes Aging IT Infrastructure and Manages Data Growth With Hitachi Unified Compute Platform for the SAP HANA Platform

Challenge: Costly, aging IT infrastructure was unable to cope with growing influx of data.

Solution: Employ enterprise-class SAP HANA solution to support rapid growth and meet performance demand.

Outcome: IT infrastructure gains high performance and scalability.

The Challenge

PI Industries Ltd (PI), a pioneer of agro-chemical manufacturing in India, is the leading manufacturer of agricultural fertilizers in the country. As one of the most well-known and trusted brands, PI reaches millions of Indian farmers through its vast marketing and distribution network. The company currently has three state-of-the-art formulation facilities and two manufacturing facilities, as well as eight multiproduct plants in India. And, it is distinguished for innovation and research based product development.

PI Industries was contending with aging infrastructure that was no longer able to meet the demands of the organization's exponential growth. It was struggling to keep up with the pace, intricacies and evolving demands of a data-driven digital world. The limitations of an aging infrastructure, incompatible systems and

delayed availability of modern application features on legacy RISC architecture prohibited the organization from achieving productivity gains. In addition, it was also finding it difficult to bear the costs and complexity of maintaining the obsolete legacy system. Moreover, power and cooling requirements for the legacy infrastructure were very high.

PI Industries, with a data center in Gurgaon and a disaster recovery center in Panoli (Gujrat), was specifically looking for a robust disaster recovery solution to ensure data security. The agro-chemical manufacturer wanted a new disaster recovery system that is capable of taking over the operations to ensure business continuity in the case of a production system failure. This capability was especially important, as the legacy system did not have a disaster recovery system set up for high availability.



Pi Industries

INDUSTRY

Manufacturing: Agro Chemicals

SOLUTION

Hitachi Unified Compute Platform
for the SAP HANA Platform

HARDWARE

Hitachi Compute Blade 500
Hitachi Unified Storage VM
Brocade VDX Data Center Fabric Switches
Brocade ICX Ethernet Switches

SERVICES

Hitachi Data Systems Global
Services Solutions

Outcomes

- Consolidates data warehouses.
- Reduces instances of data duplication.
- Provides scalability to manage exponential growth.
- Generates faster reports; report production time reduced from four days to three to four minutes.

The Solution

Having decided to take advantage of the refresh cycle (when hardware is typically upgraded), the key was to decide on the right solution. PI Industries was looking for a high-performance platform that could support its current growth.

"For us, SAP has been the pivotal application. We were exploring a platform that could give us the stability of RISC platform and flexibility of Intel platform. Our need was for a highly scalable infrastructure that could cater to the rapidly increasing volumes and types of data analyzed by us," said Vineet Kumar Chawla, head of IT at PI Industries.

PI Industries was quick to understand that to perform at the highest level, its infrastructure needed to be modernized, and considered Hitachi Data Systems to be the ideal partner.

PI Industries decided to transition from legacy systems and to upgrade the current SAP ERP application from ECC6 EHP 6 on Oracle Database to SAP HANA. Hitachi recommended Hitachi Unified Compute Platform for the SAP HANA Platform (UCP for SAP HANA) as the solution to modernize the aging RISC platform and allow PI to achieve the cost and productivity benefits required to meet their business needs. The converged solution included Hitachi Compute Blade 500 (CB 500) and Hitachi Unified Storage VM, which enables the company to service larger number of clients without increasing its data center footprint. The entire solution is connected through Brocade switches, which are optimized for speedy transfers, superior resiliency and scalability. As a part of the implementation, the IP network was updated to 10Gb/sec to support rapid growth and meet performance demand.

The SAP HANA solution provided by Hitachi includes one primary production node, which is replicated to a secondary data center site using SAP HANA Replication (SHR). For backup and archival of the production data,



PI Industries uses the existing Commvault software and tape library.

The Benefits

The deployment of UCP for SAP HANA has enabled PI Industries to consolidate its data warehouses, while also reducing the instances of data duplication. Additionally, Hitachi Compute Blade server technology allows easy and cost-efficient scalability from small to larger systems without making the environment complex. The scalability of the solution plays a crucial role in helping PI Industries manage its exponential growth without costly migration or implementation costs.

Brocade VDX and ICX switches deliver on-demand services and facilitate a blueprint for universal simplicity across the network platform. Brocade Ethernet Networking solutions cater to PI's requirement for very high levels of availability and performance at scale, while also streamlining administration and reducing costs.

The current SAP HANA deployment is for PI's ECC production, test and development environment. The organization can now move resources back and forth without creating an autonomous vertical stack for allocation as the architecture has

been simplified. "SAP HANA platform in PI Industries is now scalable and flexible with nominal administrative costs, and the speed of performance has improved considerably. The reports, which used to take approximately four days, are now completed in just three to four minutes," Chawla concluded.

About Brocade

Brocade networking solutions help the world's leading organizations turn their networks into platforms for business innovation. Brocade is leading the industry in its transition to the New IP network infrastructures required for today's era of digital business. www.brocade.com.

About HDS

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@Hitachi Data Systems

Corporate Headquarters
2845 Lafayette Street
Santa Clara, CA 95050-2639 USA
www.HDS.com community.HDS.com

Regional Contact Information
Americas: +1 866 374 5822 or info@hds.com
Europe, Middle East and Africa: +44 (0) 1753 618000 or info.emea@hds.com
Asia Pacific: +852 3189 7900 or hds.marketing.apac@hds.com

