



Verbundnetz Gas AG

Synopsis: *A natural gas company in Germany reduces total cost of ownership and extends storage capacity when it works with IBM Business Partner PROFI Engineering Systems AG to replace its EMC storage environment with a robust solution comprising IBM XIV Storage System and IBM System Storage SAN768B devices*

Location: Leipzig

Germany

Industry: Energy & Utilities

URL: <http://www.vng.de/VNG-Internet/en>

Customer Background:

Verbundnetz Gas AG (VNG) is a natural gas company headquartered in Leipzig, Germany. The company's core business includes gas imports, gas wholesale, gas transportation, and the operation and marketing of storage capacity. Today, VNG is Germany's third-largest gas importer and ranks among Europe's top 10.

Business Need:

Verbundnetz Gas AG (VNG) had been experiencing performance issues with its EMC data storage systems and McData SAN switches. The company wanted to avoid the high cost of ownership for the EMC solution, as well as significant maintenance costs. Moving forward, VNG needed to replace its existing system storage devices with more robust, high-performance storage hardware with limited downtime.

Solution:

VNG worked with IBM Business Partner PROFI Engineering Systems to replace its underperforming EMC technology with IBM System Storage technology. The solution involves IBM XIV Storage System and IBM System Storage SAN768B devices to provide a storage area network (SAN) fabric backbone. PROFI Engineering Systems helped VNG migrate from its old McData SAN environment to the new System Storage SAN768B solution. Additionally, PROFI Engineering Systems and IBM wrote tiny migration tools to allow error-free zone migration and provided full service to migrate the host systems. The complete migration was accomplished within a narrow timeframe.

Benefits of the Solution:

By engaging IBM Business Partner PROFI Engineering Systems to replace its EMC systems with robust IBM System Storage technology, VNG gained a lower total cost of ownership (TCO) while achieving high availability. The IBM solution also helped the client extend storage capacity. Overall, the outcome of the solution is an outstanding performance, improved flexibility and reduced costs.