

S U C C E S S S T O R Y

Hitachi Storage Solutions at Work

University Hospitals of Strasbourg

INDUSTRY Health Care

SOLUTIONS Storage Management

Hardware—Hitachi Network Storage Controller 55 (2)

Software—Hitachi Resource Manager™ utility package and Hitachi HiCommand® Device Manager, Hitachi Virtual Partition Manager, Hitachi ShadowImage® Heterogeneous Replication, and Hitachi TrueCopy® Remote Replication software

Services—Implementation Services provided by Stordata Company



“Since implementing our first Hitachi Data Systems storage solution in 1999, we have not experienced any unplanned downtime and require only two hours of planned shutdown per year for installing firmware updates, giving us an availability rate of 99.98 percent. Now, our new Network Storage Controller infrastructure has totally redundant components enabling updates at any time, corrective maintenance and “hot” extensions.”

*Daniel Kanja
Head, Production Department
University Hospitals of Strasbourg*



University Hospitals of Strasbourg Improve Patient Management and Staff Working Conditions with Hitachi Storage

In 1999, the University Hospitals of Strasbourg, France, chose storage solutions from Hitachi Data Systems, based on the criteria of data availability and long-term infrastructure optimization, as the first step toward data consolidation that continued through 2006.

The University Hospitals of Strasbourg have 3,000 beds and more than 10,000 employees. The IT department manages 3,000 workstations and 4 million online files. The 6 primary hospital establishments include 45 clinical wards, 16 medical-technical departments, and 4 biology laboratories. The new Civil Hospital, nearly complete, will enable consolidation of the medical and surgical activities into the largest hospital work site in France.

“As a Regional Hospital Computer Center, we have two vocations: we are both the computer services section of the University Hospitals of Strasbourg and we fulfill the function of providing service and sharing of computer

services for some 40 establishments in the region. Our mission includes providing basic services such as management and administration, patient billing and providing software for ensuring the day-to-day management of the hospital,” explains Daniel Kanja, head of the production department at University Hospitals of Strasbourg.

Quality of Service and 99.999 Percent Solution Availability

Faced with increasing capacity requirements, changes in user demands and applications, and performance limitations of the prior generation systems, the Hospitals of Strasbourg requested bids fulfilling several objectives:

- To simplify data management by housing it in a highly secure storage environment
- To set up a highly available and upgradable storage infrastructure
- To have storage space capable of supporting very large volumes of data associated with new medical imaging and radiology applications
- To support the impact on the storage volumes associated with these projects, estimated at 11TB per year

“Our new storage infrastructure is used by all of the Hospitals of Strasbourg computer applications and must be extremely upgradable. The Hitachi storage solution delivers us a very efficient engine with cache memory capacities that make it possible to accelerate access to data and to work on the development of our future applications,” explains Kanja.

The new centralized storage area network (SAN) employs two Hitachi Network Storage Controller 55 models in conjunction with Hitachi Resource Manager™ utility package and Hitachi HiCommand® Device Manager software. Hitachi ShadowImage® Heterogeneous Replication software provides a temporary linkage between the Civil Hospital and the Hautepierre Hospital.

This SAN supports all of the application-oriented management portions of the hospital, whether they involve databases for day-to-day management, personnel management, purchases, administrative followup of patients, payment, inventory management, or accounting. Two Microsoft® Exchange servers are connected to the Network Storage Controllers, managing 8,000 mailboxes.

"The consolidation of our environment now enables us to benefit from true administrative unity with a single administrative interface for our data, whether it be in a UNIX or Microsoft Windows environment; our Hitachi Network Storage Controllers have also made it possible to reduce by half the duration of our night-time processing," says Kanja.

Support for New and Specialized Applications

The new Network Storage Controllers will support all new applications, including the PACS medical imaging flow system. The

flow of Digital Imaging in Communications and Medicine (DICOM) images resulting from medical imaging procedures. Medical images selected by radiologists will be available online to the hospital staff. Once the Picture Archiving and Communications System (PACS) images have reached a certain age they will travel from local disks to the central storage system via the SAN, over dedicated Fibre Channel or the wireless Parallel Simulation Environment for Complex Systems (PARSEC) network. A central archive will provide long-term storage for the PACS images and information system data.



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onsite storage architecture will make it possible to accommodate future medical imaging systems and to support several levels of lifetime data management, including online files accessibility and data hierarchization. The Hitachi Data Systems solution will enable rapid access to local disk storage housing the

"This last PACS project will be implemented during the course of 2007 in conjunction with GE Healthcare, the diagnostic imaging solutions provider," explains Kanja. "Our storage infrastructure will integrate all future imaging and will consequently manage short-, medium-, and long-term volume."

Choosing Stordata Company

"Subsequent to our solicitation of bids, we retained Stordata Company based on their high-quality implementation services for Hitachi Network Storage Controller and Device Manager software. The determining factor was undeniably their expertise in migrating data, which is very critical since it impacted all of our applications. The implementation of our new storage architecture completed two weeks ahead of schedule."

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