

syneto

CASE STUDY



CABRA®
ENGINEERING srl

Cabra Engineering selects a Syneto storage array to increase storage capacity, ensure true Disaster Recovery, speed up data access and virtualise its servers.

Solution provided by



For our customer



THE HIGHLIGHTS

Industry

Industrial Engineering

The Problem

Cabra Engineering was growing steadily as a business without having a data storage infrastructure that could scale to meet these new challenges. With the existing storage array overwhelmed, the company was using slow and unsafe external HDDs which lacked any disaster recovery capabilities. Beside safety, CAD development speed and time-to-market for projects was becoming increasingly slow.

The Solution

With Syneto, Cabra deployed two, 24TB, ULTRA Series hybrid storage arrays to increase the size of their storage space. Advanced in-line data reduction technologies are used to provide even more space. CAD projects are accelerated with the addition of a SSD cache layer which makes opening/saving CAD files much faster. True disaster recovery is achieved with automatic snapshots and replication.

The Benefits



Fast CAD development. Opening, sharing and saving CAD files now takes a fraction of the time



Data security. CAD files are safe behind a multi-level safety net of disaster recovery features.



Immediate ROI. Vastly improved project completion and almost no storage maintenance costs.



Easy sharing. CAD files can be shared on any OS and to any member of the design team.

CUSTOMER PROFILE

Cabra Engineering is an industrial design and technical consultancy company which takes an innovative approach to developing industrial products and equipment. They're working on everything from valve design and testing to actuators and leak testing benches.

The company has a very involved customer care policy throughout all phases of the procurement process including analysis, design and final deployment of the product. Successful engineering projects require a high level of adaptability, which is Cabra's specialty. They employ a team of knowledgeable engineers with a multi-disciplinary spectrum.

This forward-thinking philosophy has allowed Cabra Engineering to evolve into an organisation capable of answering the tough demands of today's market:

- * Valve design
- * Product design
- * Machine design
- * Structural simulation
- * Fluid dynamics
- * Stress Analysis
- * Kinetic simulation
- * Electronic design
- * Prototypes

THE PROBLEM

Lack of storage space

Cabra Engineering has been registering a constant increase in business. This forced them to save data on crude external drives because their existing storage was overwhelmed. This scenario was raising concerns related to the data's safety. The external drives weren't providing any level of redundancy to sensitive project data who's loss is very taxing.

Data backups on the existing storage appliance was also a very time-consuming and complex operation which was using far more time and manpower than justified. Saving data on the additional external disks was creating a whole new set of problems as separate backups and files were becoming inconsistent, slowing the project as a whole.

No Disaster Recovery

With data and backups existing on an older storage and multiple external drives, losing data was considerable risk. A solid

Disaster Recovery solution involves data being saved in a holistic manner which creates the possibility to quickly and easily revert to any point in time of the data's lifespan. The existing infrastructure simply did not have this capability. Cabra Engineering was also facing another big data redundancy issue. For complete data safety to happen it must also exist on another physical appliance. The existing storage at Cabra could not replicate Snapshots to another machine, thus guaranteeing the data still exists even if something happens to the main storage array.

Slow CAD development

In the competitive modern market, a speedy conclusion of engineering projects is essential in ensuring a company's success. Cabra's existing infrastructure was preventing them from achieving the workflow performance they required.

First of all, slow data access time meant the engineering team was spending more time than necessary on simply opening, modifying and saving different CAD project pieces. Secondly, disparate storage hardware meant large amounts of time needed to be invested in unifying different project parts to complete the product and ship it to the customer.

Complex IT environment

Cabra Engineering's IT infrastructure was composed of many different hardware resources which were constantly demanding attention. Many time-consuming operations like backups and hardware management were multiplied across the entire infrastructure using high amounts of time and manpower. This difficult to manage infrastructure could not scale to meet the growing needs of Cabra and was incurring a TCO which could not be sustained.

THE SOLUTION

Increase storage capacity

Cabra Engineering chose a Syneto ULTRA Series product that instantly expanded their storage capacity by 24TB. The actual increase in capacity is even bigger due to the Syneto built-in Storage Efficiency features. In-line data compression, thin provisioning and deduplication ensure that the company could actually store a lot more data. An easy deployment and integration process is insured due to Storage OS's simple and intuitive interface. Cabra benefited from their extra space very quickly by simply plugging-in the storage and easily configuring a few parameters.

Snapshots & replication

Achieving full Disaster Recovery is essential for Cabra Engineering. The fast incremental snapshots on the Syneto ULTRA Series storage array gives the company an easy way to schedule automatic snapshots that are almost instant and require almost no of time for maintenance.

A second Syneto ULTRA Series is used to receive replicated snapshots from the main storage array. These replications are also incremental and can be schedule to take place automatically.

The data snapshot feature also comes with full Windows Previous Versions support, giving Cabra engineers the ability to quickly revert to any version of the data from the past.

Hybrid SSD cache for speed

The ULTRA Series features an innovative flash hybrid storage cache. Cabra Engineering now achieves up to 50% more speed thanks to the SSD cache that delivers frequently used data a lot faster.

Reads/Writes of frequently used CAD or VM data are done in the caching layer while other data exists on regular HDDs keeping the costs low.

Unify & virtualise servers

All of Cabra's server infrastructure was virtualised on the Syneto ULTRA Series. With the SSD cache and the Backup & Replication features, the company is getting a big increase in performance while reducing the amount of hardware. This results in less time dedicated to managing hardware and a big cut in the amount of money spent on IT.

THE SYSTEM

