

Leosphere raises the IT performance bar and supports the company’s growth with Arcserve UDP



CLIENT PROFILE

Industry: Manufacturer of scientific and technical instrumentation
Company: Leosphere
Headcount: 100 employees
Revenue: €20 million (2016)



BUSINESS

The Leosphere Group (Leosphere and Avent Lidar Technology) is a world leader in LIDAR (Light Detection and Ranging) for atmospheric observation. Leosphere LIDARs are used for a wealth of applications in the wind power, air quality, weather and climate and aviation weather sectors. More than 850 LIDARs are currently in service in 50-plus countries.

CHALLENGE

In a bid to support its strong growth, the company decided to migrate to a virtualised IT architecture. Leosphere needed a secure, automated backup solution to accompany its new infrastructure.

SOLUTION

Arcserve UDP provides built-in integration with Nimble Storage to offer a high-performance solution for protecting Leosphere’s critical data. Furthermore, the solution improves system availability and reduces storage volume.

BENEFIT

The solution has freed up time within Leosphere’s IT team and increased user productivity. It will give the company superior flexibility and support its future growth.



BUSINESS

Industrialisation and sales of LIDARs

Founded in 2004, Leosphere designs and markets LIDARs, atmospheric remote-sensing instruments allowing wind measurement, aerosol characterization and localization, clouds height and atmospheric structure. The company develops and fully manufactures all its systems in France.

Within the space of 10 years, Leosphere has undergone major international development and cemented its leadership status in LIDAR technology. Leosphere generates 80 percent of its revenue from exports. More than 850 LIDARs are currently in service in over 50 countries, mainly in five markets: Europe, the United States, China, Korea and Japan.

CHALLENGE

Data protection for a new IT architecture

In order to support its fast growth, the company needed to review and install a flexible and high-performance IT architecture. Leosphere decided to migrate to a virtualised infrastructure, which is currently supported by a dozen physical servers. This platform hosts part of Leosphere's information system, including the intranet site and file servers.

Leosphere was using a half-manual, half-automated backup system relying on hard drives attached directly to the servers. "Leosphere's legacy backup solution was no longer a match for our new virtualised architecture," explains Mr Rudy Maron, CIO at Leosphere. "It had become obsolete and was only half automated, meaning that it was time-consuming to manage and expensive to maintain."

Leosphere called on its IT partner Cap Antigone to define, supply and implement its new infrastructure. The plan was also to replace Leosphere's nearly saturated storage solution as well as assess and select a secure automated backup solution delivering superlative performance.



Leosphere's legacy backup solution was no longer a match for our new virtualised architecture.

– Rudy Maron, CIO



SOLUTION

An enhanced and integrated solution

Cap Antigone worked alongside Arcserve and Nimble Storage, an expert in predictive flash storage technology, in defining, testing and implementing a data backup and storage solution that perfectly met Leosphere's requirements. The three IT companies had to satisfy three key objectives: support virtualisation of the architecture, enhance performance in a quick and effective manner and ensure secure backups.



Using a series of workshops and tests, they put forward and demonstrated an especially effective approach for backing up and storing Leosphere's data.

"Integrating Arcserve and Nimble Storage solutions has reduced backup times and improved system availability," advises Mr Maron.

Arcserve UDP uses the snapshots taken by the Nimble Storage CS300 array every hour for the critical servers and once a day for all servers. By using the array for backups, the hypervisors are completely free to manage all the servers, which increases system availability, even when the backup process is in full flow. This integrated backup and storage solution also has the advantage of increasing back-up processing speeds by 30 percent.

Backups are performed automatically according to predefined settings that vary according to the server, such as backup frequency and data storage duration.

"The solution is fully automated, and all previous manual tasks have been eliminated. Only a few clicks are needed to obtain an overview of all the backup processes and schedules across our architecture," adds Mr Maron.

Cost-effective protection and scalability

With Arcserve UDP, Leosphere no longer needs to carry out full backups each time, since the solution continuously performs incremental backups, which prevents storage space from being filled at an exponential rate.



Integrating Arcserve and Nimble Storage solutions has reduced backup times and improved system availability.

– **Rudy Maron, CIO**



"Data deduplication ensures fast backup times and reduces the amount of data requiring storage, which will help us to avoid spending on additional IT hardware," explains Mr Maron.

Arcserve UDP also gives Leosphere's IT team peace of mind that the entire IT architecture is backed up.

"Before with our old infrastructure, only the data were backed up, but we had no protection against a hardware failure or system crash on one of our servers, whose troubleshooting and repair could lead to a service outage of several days.

Thanks to Arcserve UDP and our virtualised architecture, we will be capable of restoring a server in just a few clicks and in mere minutes," says Mr Maron.

The solution has been scaled to support Leosphere's future growth. The company can add virtual servers and therefore deliver new services to users and customers without needing to tag on additional hardware for the



backup solution.

“The Arcserve solution will enable us to increase and scale up our servers and services more easily and cost effectively,” advises Mr Maron.

BENEFIT

Enable productivity and growth

Arcserve UDP has given Leosphere an effective and high-performance backup solution. Since all backup processes are automated, the company’s IT team can spend less time on administrative tasks and instead focus on improving IT service performance.



Thanks to virtualisation, scalable storage and Arcserve UDP, we have a flexible architecture that is consistent with Leosphere’s growth strategy.

– **Rudy Maron**, CIO



Furthermore, increasing system and data availability promotes higher user productivity. The solution and the new infrastructure also deliver greater flexibility and easier scalability.

Consequently, Arcserve UDP will enable Leosphere to:

- Free up time within the IT team
- Improve productivity throughout the company
- Support the company’s growth.

To reinforce the protection of its data and operations in the future, Leosphere is planning to set up a replication arrangement on a NAS system at a remote site.

Mr Maron concludes: “Thanks to virtualisation, scalable storage and Arcserve UDP, we have a flexible architecture that lets us easily add servers and services, which is consistent with Leosphere’s growth strategy.”

For more information on Arcserve, **please visit arcserve.com**