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Success Story

NetApp Provides Karoon Gas with High-Quality Storage Infrastructure



KEY HIGHLIGHTS

Industry

Energy exploration

The challenge

As its business requirements grew extensively, Karoon Gas experienced latency that was slowing down productivity; the company needed a reliable, scalable, and high-quality storage infrastructure.

The solution

One NetApp® FAS3020 fabric-attached storage system to address compliance and customer service concerns.

Benefits

- Increased productivity through faster data retrieval
- No downtime through efficient NetApp team responsiveness

CUSTOMER PROFILE

Karoon Gas Australia is an ASX-listed energy exploration company whose core strategy is to explore and develop acreage that is highly prospective for oil and gas. It explores, mainly for oil and gas, in the Browse Basin in coastal waters off the northwest coast of Australia as well as overseas in South America (Brazil and Peru). The company was established in 2004 and has a market capitalization of approximately \$400 million.

Karoon Gas acquires 2D and 3D seismic data to determine the viability of drilling wells to extract oil and gas. The identification of oil and gas reserves has increased global energy security as the demand for hydrocarbons has grown dramatically with population and economic growth.

THE CHALLENGE

Because of expanding business requirements, Karoon Gas needed to upgrade its IT infrastructure. The company's existing peer-to-peer network with a 1TB Dell blade had produced an unacceptable level of latency caused by users attempting to access the 2D and 3D seismic data sets, which are typically large files, averaging between 50GB and 100GB each. This latency was causing a loss of productivity

to users who were accessing those data sets from different locations. This situation was unacceptable to Karoon Gas, which requires fast access to the data at all times.

Jim Boyd, technical officer of Karoon Gas, says, "Our existing infrastructure was not serving the growth in the exploration data that we were capturing for our projects. It was simply not doing the job that an exploration company wants.

"Our storage requirements were growing as we increased the amount of data we were capturing to explore potential oil and gas reserves. As such, we needed a reliable, scalable, and high-quality storage infrastructure that would support not only our growing team of employees but also the amount of data that needed to be captured and accessed."

THE SOLUTION

To alleviate these challenges and concerns, Karoon Gas sought out NetApp to help it develop a reliable, upgradable, centralized storage solution.

To meet its growing need for storage capacity that can retrieve data at high speeds, Karoon Gas installed a NetApp FAS3020 storage system. The FAS3020 is an enterprise-level,

mission-critical data management platform that is simple to manage and suitable for both SAN and NAS environments. It offers superior performance and scalability and has been proven to have a lower total cost of ownership. Karoon Gas doubled its networked storage capacity by adding 2 trays of disks with 14 disks in each tray at 300GB per disk.

NetApp and Karoon Gas's systems integrators worked in tandem over a four-month period to make sure of a seamless migration and to revamp Karoon Gas's storage infrastructure.

Thomas Durea Consulting, a NetApp Gold Partner based in Victoria, helped implement this solution. Their assessment: "The NetApp FAS3020 storage system has enabled Karoon Gas to create a storage infrastructure in which data protection and availability are guaranteed. The solution also provides Karoon Gas the ability to respond quickly to changes in the business environment with nondisruptive scaling and flexible allocation."

BUSINESS BENEFITS

Jim Boyd had used NetApp solutions in his previous job and was very impressed with the simplicity and performance. Partnering with NetApp came as a natural decision.

Boyd says, "We were presented with three different vendor storage solutions, but we decided on NetApp because its solutions were designed to accelerate our businesses performance, and we have evaluated that it will be more cost efficient.

"The most immediate benefit from partnering with NetApp is that the solution we implemented has provided us with secure, high-quality, and faster data retrieval. The NetApp FAS3020 has proven itself to be extremely reliable."

Staff accessing the new NetApp solution noticed the increased speed with which data sets could be retrieved. Users report that the new storage infrastructure's performance is "fantastic" because it is quicker to access the large data files, thereby increasing their productivity. This has improved Karoon Gas's decision-making capabilities because more data can be stored and accessed quickly.

Boyd also had a positive experience working with NetApp through the deployment phase. "NetApp has been a great partner for Karoon Gas. Throughout the migration to a new environment, NetApp was accessible, helpful, and responsive. The NetApp engineer who worked with us on our implementation was very good in helping us migrate our data into a new environment, and he was always contactable."

SOLUTION COMPONENTS

NetApp Products
One NetApp FAS3020 system

SnapRestore®

Snapshot™

NetApp creates innovative storage and data management solutions that accelerate business breakthroughs and deliver outstanding cost efficiency. Discover our passion for helping companies around the world go further, faster at www.netapp.com.

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