

SALONIT ANHOVO

EMC Avamar's next-generation deduplication technologies enable a leading building materials manufacturer to significantly reduce its backup window while supporting the backup requirements for growing data volumes



ESSENTIALS

Challenge

- To significantly reduce its backup window while supporting the backup requirements for growing data volumes

Solutions

- EMC Avamar
- EMC NetWorker
- EMC CLARiiON
- VMware

Key benefits

- 95 percent deduplication ratio
- Reduces backup window from six to eight hours to minutes
- Complete system restore in only minutes
- Meets backup requirements for growing data volumes
- Offers ease of use, minimizing administration and lowering costs

OVERVIEW

The Salanit Group is Slovenia's largest building manufacturer in terms of volume and revenue. Composed of 10 dependent (odvisne) and four affiliate companies, the Group has carved out a leading position in the manufacture of cement, with about 50 percent of the home market. Over 20 percent of its cement production is exported to other markets. In addition, the company manufactures both basic and specialized building materials including sands, stone pit aggregates, concrete products, and ready-made mortar.

Salanit Anhovo emphasizes its responsibility to society and continuously implements improvements in environmental care programs, as well as the reduction in consumption of non-renewable energy sources.

The company's growth, generated organically and through acquisition, has resulted in a steady increase in data held on its IT storage platforms. The Salanit Anhovo IT department searched for next-generation backup solutions to ensure data backup accuracy, while speeding this vital requirement.

THE CHALLENGE: EFFICIENT BACKUP OF EVER-INCREASING DATA

Matej Markocic, head of IT for Salanit Anhovo, explains that the company's IT solution was facing major backup challenges from increasing data growth resulting in significant backup windows.

Salanit Anhovo has approximately 6 TB of data on its primary data storage infrastructure. This data includes information related to the company's critical operating applications including ERP, finance, human resources, and customer data. Historically, the company's backup solution had incorporated tape-based backup systems. The lack of next-generation backup capabilities such as deduplication technologies resulted in a lengthy backup window.

"Our data was growing at over 10 percent per annum," Markocic explains. "We have a mixed data environment containing both virtual machines created by VMware® and traditional databases and applications. We required a next-generation backup solution that would address the following two key requirements. First, the solution must be future proof and handle the heavy growth in our data volumes. And second, the new solution had to significantly reduce our backup window."

Fortunately, Salanit Anhovo had an established relationship with EMC and local EMC® partner, ADD. After discussing his backup and disaster recovery requirements with ADD, Markocic chose EMC Avamar®.

“With Avamar, our backup window now takes only minutes rather than the six to eight hours that it used to take. Critically, Avamar’s deduplication capabilities also mean that we will be able to meet the backup requirements for our growing data needs for the foreseeable future.”

MATEJ MARKOCIC
HEAD OF IT
SALONIT ANHOVO

“Due to its deduplication capabilities, Avamar backs up only the incremental changes that take place every day. This means that we only have to back up approximately 15 percent of the entire 6 TB of data to ensure that we maintain an accurate backup process. Avamar’s deduplication capabilities have resulted in a number of benefits.”

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SALONIT ANHOVO

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AVAMAR DEDUPLICATION FOR ACCELERATED BACKUP PERFORMANCE

ADD’s Product Portfolio Manager Anton Zvanut explains the proof-of-concept process that convinced Salonit to choose Avamar. “A next-generation solution such as EMC Avamar is rarely sold without a proof of concept,” Zvanut explains. “Avamar’s deduplication capabilities are innovative and still new to the market. For that reason, we chose to demonstrate the power of Avamar by conducting an onsite test to illustrate Avamar’s significant backup and replication benefits.”

Avamar was quickly installed to manage all of Salonit’s backup processes. For two weeks, EMC Avamar backed up a live sample of data representative of the company’s backup requirements. “We were able to provide an analysis of what had been achieved,” says Zvanut. “The deduplication rates were exceptional, and better than anticipated.”

Based on the proof of concept, Avamar was quickly rolled out to provide the backup requirements for the company. Markocic notes that Avamar’s deduplication capabilities have resulted in a significantly smaller backup window for both its physical and virtual servers, while enabling the company to handle the backup requirements for growing data volumes.

“Due to its deduplication capabilities, Avamar backs up only the incremental changes that take place every day,” says Markocic. “This means that we only have to back up approximately 15 percent of the entire 6 TB of data to ensure that we maintain an accurate backup process. Avamar’s deduplication capabilities have resulted in a number of benefits.”

“With Avamar, our backup window now takes only minutes rather than the six to eight hours that it used to take. Critically, Avamar’s deduplication capabilities also mean that we will be able to meet the backup requirements for our growing data needs for the foreseeable future.

“Look at it this way. Due to the growth in our data, we knew that our legacy solution would not be able to back up all of our data. But that’s exactly what we required because all of our data is critical to the operations of the company. With Avamar, deduplication means only unique, changed data is backed up. So we’re able to get a full backup every day, and with exceptional backup window performance.”

AVAMAR HIGHLY RECOMMENDED

Markocic highly recommends EMC Avamar for a variety of reasons. “Due to its deduplication capabilities, it is very, very fast, and much faster than tape. It provides a much shorter backup window, and will handle the backup needs for our growing data for a long time to come.” With the use of Avamar, Salonit Anhovo reduced its reliance on tape, and the company still uses tape to store a second independent copy of its backup. Salonit Anhovo relies on EMC NetWorker® for backup to tape.

“Avamar also provides a very short data restore time, usually in just a few seconds for smaller files. We’ve also tested a complete system’s restore, and it takes only minutes. Compare that to the manual restore processes that are required with tapes—which can take hours—and you can quickly see the difference. Avamar is also very easy to use.

“EMC Avamar and its deduplication technologies provide a great backup and recovery solution. I recommend it to other companies that are searching for a next-generation backup solution that results in high performance levels.”

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