



PEMEX Gas and Petroquímica Básica

EMC storage technology helps facilitate information lifecycle management and disaster recovery

A leading Mexican company with earnings of nearly \$20 billion in 2005, and a key employer with a staff of over 12,000, PEMEX Gas and Petroquímica Básica (PGPB) processes, stores, and transports natural gas and chemicals.

Modern, transparent, and efficient operations along with excellent standards have made the organization highly competitive. Natural gas yields are approximately 3,900 billion cubic feet per day with daily liquid production at about 435,000 barrels collected from 12 gas processing centers across the country. Over 9,000 kilometers of gas lines transport more than 3,600 billion cubic feet of natural gas per day—a level that positions the company in ninth place among other leading energy-producing enterprises in North America.

The requirements of international markets and the demand for a more competitive environment have motivated PGPB to focus its efforts on accelerating product release dates, increasing productivity, improving service levels, and expanding into new markets. The development of a state-of-the-art hardware and software information infrastructure that supports its value chain is a reflection of the company's efforts to stay current. To effectively and reliably support all of its business processes, PGPB has invested in industry-leading IT infrastructure components. EMC® storage technology complements a solution that includes Sun and HP processing servers as well as SAP, Oracle database, and Microsoft Exchange applications.

To guarantee the continuity of business processes, PGPB recently created an alternate data center to store critical business operations. EMC solutions, along with a collaborative approach between EMC Global Services and the PEMEX systems department, facilitated the creation and validation of personnel procedures as well as the recovery solution now sustained by two data centers located in Villahermosa and Nuevo PEMEX in Tabasco.

“Regarding information management, we require the best solutions for organizing, managing, and storing information as well as guaranteeing its safety and availability,” says Jorge Riquelme, Jefe de Servicios Informáticos. “According to estimations from analysts like IDC, storage capacity in the corporate world is growing an average of 60 percent each year. Therefore, cost-efficient data management is vital. EMC solutions provide a combination of cutting-edge hardware and software as well as comprehensive services and expertise.”

Technology: the best investment

Over the last eight years, PGPB has followed a strategy of information lifecycle management (ILM) based on EMC storage technology. This has enabled the company to improve productivity and eliminate application idle times as well as achieve its business objectives in compliance with rules like the Federal Law of Transparency (Ley Federal de Transparencia).

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Jorge Riquelme, Jefe de Servicios Informáticos

“The objective of creating a storage solution was to collect the information generated in the different SAP-implemented modules during the project called TICV (Transformación, e Innovación de Cadenas de Valor),” says Riquelme. “Our experience with EMC’s storage technology was positive. There’s no doubt that we chose one of the best combinations of hardware, software, and services available.”

To support information management, backup, and disaster recovery, PGPB has deployed EMC Symmetrix® DMX series systems, EMC Connectrix® directors and EMC Connectrix Manager software, EMC TimeFinder® and EMC Symmetrix Remote Data Facility (SRDF®) backup and recovery software, and EMC PowerPath® path management software. EMC integration and solution implementation services were engaged to help reorganize and implement production and replication environments.

“Through synchronous replication, once users complete an operation, information is automatically stored in the alternate data center located in Nuevo PEMEX,” says Riquelme. “EMC’s technology processes these transactions immediately, regardless of the distance between the Villahermosa and Nuevo PEMEX data centers which are 30 kilometers apart.”

In addition, a Microsoft Exchange integration kit was also a part of the EMC Symmetrix DMX™ high-availability scheme.

“E-mail management and Web page services have become a priority because all of our customers and internal users have access through this last tool,” says Riquelme. “Also, e-mail is vital to our operations. Gas readings are sent and confirmed by the customers and general management is performed through e-mail.”

Continued improvements planned

Fully equipped with the replication equipment to support its new disaster recovery program, the creation of PGPB’s new computing center marks the end of the first phase of its technology improvement initiatives.

In 2007, more phases will be rolled out with consolidation of the information infrastructure within a new centralized location as the end result. To continue this project, the company’s system department, along with EMC Global Services, will work together to develop the next hardware-based phases. Additionally, PGPB will continue to implement the methodology and the procedures to manage its disaster recovery program with the help of its technology partners.

“We’re in a process of continuous improvement regarding information management and will continue to count on a great ally, EMC, to help us achieve our goals,” says Riquelme.



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