SHIPPING INDUSTRY

CLIENT
Asyaport

CHALLENGE
Assure 100% uptime for one of Turkey's largest and most modern logistics operations with the lowest cost

SOLUTION
Vblock® System 200 augmented with EMC VPLEX, Data Domain, and Avamar for active-active data center operations.

RESULTS
Reduced risk of downtime, which could result in lost revenue, financial penalties, and environmental pollution

Decreased total cost of ownership and increased IT agility by easing data center management complexity

TURKEY'S LARGEST PORT ENSURES ALWAYS-ON OPERATIONS

ASYAPORT MANAGES MILLIONS OF CONTAINER MOVEMENTS EVERY YEAR, SHIFTING EACH BETWEEN SHIP AND SHORE WITH UNERRING ACCURACY

The shipping industry is vital to the growth of Turkey's international trade. As the country's newest and largest commercial port, Asyaport is set to become a major hub for cargo to and from Eastern Mediterranean destinations.

Running applications on VCE Vblock® Systems ensures Asyaport continuous port operations, reducing the risk of downtime, which could result in lost revenue, financial penalties, and environmental pollution. At the same time the preintegrated, pretested, and prevalidated Vblock Systems decrease total cost of ownership and increase IT agility, reducing data center management complexity.

Asyaport operations were designed to support 33 land and 11 sea cranes, 49 trucks, and up to 2 1/2 million container handlings. The Vblock System enables the company to future-proof its IT infrastructure to handle further expansion — all managed by just one IT infrastructure specialist.

The Challenge

Asyaport knows all about complex logistics operations. Terminal Operations Software, integrated crane management, and ERP systems enable millions of container locations and movements to be planned, tracked, and efficiently managed.

Ensuring that people and assets are fully utilised at all times, vast quantities of information are created along the way. "Without access to such systems the business would simply grind to a halt," says Serhat Sancaktar, ICT Manager. "So we needed a high-availability solution with the lowest possible total cost of ownership. It also had to be fully tested, and easy to install and manage to reduce our risks."

The Solution

After comparing a number of solutions, Asyaport chose the market-leading converged infrastructure, Vblock System 200. Designed to deliver high availability, the system simplifies IT management by preintegrating Cisco, EMC, and VMware technology within one pretested and prevalidated stack.

The solution includes two Vblock Systems running across twin data centers, acting as a single unified system with EMC VPLEX, Data Domain, and Avamar providing fast, assured disaster recovery. "The Vblock Systems were preconfigured, tested, and delivered in 48 days," says Sancaktar. "VPLEX was a must as we only have three days allocated for annual maintenance. One year on and we've had 100 percent uptime and we're already at 100 percent virtualization."

The Results

Even the shortest of outages are not tolerable in port operations due to potential financial and environmental impacts. As one of the largest ports in Turkey, Asyaport also needs protection against downtime and the serious impact this would have on the business. The robust Vblock System's design mitigates that risk and saves the port from having to deal with potential pollution and financial penalties.

Life cycle management has also been greatly simplified and the associated risks greatly reduced. The VCE Release Certification Matrix means the port can upgrade its Vblock Systems, including the business continuity solutions that come with the it, without any risk. Timely upgrades ensure that Asyaport has access to the latest technologies and security from VMware, CISCO, and EMC.

In addition to risk mitigation, the Vblock System offers performance optimization benefits. For example, VCE's design uses technologies such as fully automated storage tiering to route hot in-demand data to high-end flash drives. The system reverts to lower-cost drives when demand stabilises. "Thanks to Vblock Systems, our most crucial applications are using the fastest resources," confirms IT Operations Manager, Semra Karaca. "And that means our port operates even more efficiently."

The solution has been designed to handle data requirements associated with shifting and tracking five million containers per annum. But storage and compute resources can be easily flexed to match further business growth. That leaves Asyaport free to focus on achieving its goal of being among Europe's top five ports.

Semra Karaca sums up, "Virtualization, server, network, storage, and business continuity in a converged infrastructure has reduced our total cost of ownership and increased our speed. Only needing one specialist to run our entire data center means rapid payback. We don't waste time managing; the system manages itself."

"Virtualization, server, network, and storage in a converged infrastructure has decreased our TCO and increased our speed. Only needing one specialist to manage our data center means rapid payback. **We don't waste time managing; the system manages itself**."

— *Semra Karaca IT Operations Manager Asyaport*

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