accenture

About Customer

Accenture Financial Advanced Solutions & Technology (AFAST) is Accenture's Financial Services hub that uses advanced technologies to support the digital evolution of banks and insurance companies by providing greater efficiency, competitiveness, and value creation.
www.accenture.com/it-it/ services/financial-services/ financial-advanced- solutions-technology

Geo
EMEA

Industry
Service Provider

Solution Area
Accelerate Core Applications

**Pure Storage®
Products in Use**
FlashArray//X™
Pure1®

For Accenture FAST, storage is sustainable

The benefits of flash technology mean nothing if the storage system then fails to ensure 100 percent uptime. This is what Accenture Financial Advanced Solutions & Technology (AFAST) discovered when the flash storage solution in use was causing failures in delivering the required performance, including those of its banking and financial clients.

Working with Pure Storage, AFAST was able to restore seamless operations. The transparent migration to Pure Storage FlashArray systems improved sustainability and energy-saving ratios by aligning with Accenture's J2C (Journey to the Cloud) cloud-first strategy.

If Storage Comes and Goes

Headquartered in Padua, AFAST is a multi client service delivery center from Accenture that delivers services to medium and large banking clients. Emanuele Meloni, the company's CTO, explains: "AFAST is a highly specialized boutique that tailors solutions to a clientele with particularly high expectations, a trait that is explained by the critical

"Storage should add value, not be a source of troubles. Since we chose Pure Storage, storage has become completely transparent again."

EMANUELE MELONI,
CTO, ACCENTURE FINANCIAL ADVANCED SOLUTIONS & TECHNOLOGY

Impact on AFAST

Transparent overnight migration for minimal impact on customers

Increased sustainability with 65% less space and 75% less consumption

Creation of cost savings that improve financial forecasts

Challenges

Provide customers with constant availability of data

Increase performance without expanding the physical infrastructure

Ensure customers' visibility of systems to meet contractually binding SLAs

Results

Increased uptime with synchronous active-active replication

Space reduction with 4:1 deduplication in production, 6:1 in DR

Consultation of detailed reports without waiting using Pure1

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operational requirements typical of financial services and the requirements that come with operating within the perimeter of a strict regulatory framework subject to the control of entities such as the Bank of Italy and the European Central Bank."

The group led by Meloni reacted immediately when the previous flash-based storage solution began to fail to deliver the required performance. Meloni adds that the partner, despite having doubled the physical infrastructure in an attempt to alleviate the problems, failed to provide a satisfactory response to the services failure.

A Transparent Migration

AFAST has chosen Pure Storage to resume smooth operations. "The architecture is back in its optimal form with two FlashArray//X in synchronous active-active replication with ActiveCluster™ plus a third remote array in asynchronous replication via ActiveDR™ with a 6:1 deduplication ratio for DR purposes," Meloni affirms. The migration from the old system took place in a single night following a resource slippage plan put in place with the support of Pure Storage: "The procedure was completely transparent, sharing the relevant milestones with customers and meeting them on time. Everything went so smoothly that even a customer who had a technical audit going on at the time didn't notice anything, and meanwhile with Pure1 we no longer have to wait to get the reports we need."

Green It—It's Not Enough to Be Flash

Migration to Pure Storage has particularly improved sustainability KPIs. With a 4:1 deduplication ratio on storage systems, storage occupies 65% less space within the data center. This helps reduce CO_2 emissions by 70% while reducing energy consumption by 75%. AFAST has also been able to cut costs with savings that have improved the company's financial forecasts. These are definitely significant benefits considering the fact that the legacy system was already hinged on flash technology.

"The Pure Storage infrastructure is already ready for us to transition to the cloud," Meloni continues. "Moving to the cloud will allow us to move flexibly from Capex to an Opex approach. Pure Storage offers us additional benefits such as hardware buyback and the ability to move existing licenses to the cloud along with the data already on Pure systems."

Meloni concludes, "Storage should add value, not be a source of troubles. Since we chose Pure Storage, storage has become fully transparent again."

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