

CASE STUDY

ATIH

ATIH manages data from all French hospital facilities, which puts significant demand on volume and storage performance. Its previous infrastructure could not meet its needs, so ATIH went looking for a better solution. In order to improve the speed of its services and the access to the data for its end users and internal teams, [ATIH](#) chose Pure Storage® to upgrade its storage and benefit from advantages including flash performance, fiber channel flexibility, and integrated data encryption.

Business Transformation

The Pure FlashArray™ system provides significant improvement in data and ATIH services access time by end users, ending the delays experienced with the previous system.

Challenges

- Improve volume and address performance
- Engage supplier that has fiber channel technology as well as native and integral data encryption

Solution Benefits

- Data reduction rates of 8.3:1 and 4:1 on both arrays
- 66TB of data stored on only 8TB effective on one array, and 104TB on 26TB effective on the other
- Constant IOPS rate above 20,000 with latency lower than a millisecond
- Reduced asynchronous replication time between the two arrays from 12 hours to 3 hours



Geo

France

Industry

Healthcare

Company

ATIH

www.atih.sante.fr

Use Case

- VMware vSphere®

“Pure is a truly disruptive technology compared to anything that has been done in the storage market so far. Its solutions have the advantage of being based on current technologies that combine performance and simplicity.”

BRICE SAUVAJON, ATIH

L'Agence technique de l'information sur l'hospitalisation (ATIH), the technical agency for information on hospital care was founded in 2000 and employs 120 people. ATIH is a public institution in charge of collecting, hosting, and analyzing data from French hospitals. Its data management is key for health services—particularly in the financing of institutions, the analysis of the institution's activity, and the organization of health care provision. Its activities focus on health insurance, regional health agencies (ARS), hospital federations, health professionals, and patient associations.

In place since 2009, ATIH's storage infrastructure had performance issues and limited capacity, prompting the search for a new supplier.

“At ATIH, we handle large volumes of data and do not have much visibility on the projects that come to us, which can lead to capacity problems in the event of overload. Not to mention the high volume and performance needs of our many employees dedicated to statistical data processing,” explained Brice Sauvajon, assistant head of Systems and Network. “With our previous system, our internal teams complained about processing times that affected the quality of their work. By extension, our end-users were also impacted by these delays, not benefiting from optimal service from ATIH.”

Two Main Criteria: Fiber Channel and Data Encryption

ATIH identified two primary criteria for its new storage solution. “First, we needed a storage array that would work on fiber channel to meet our enormous needs in terms of performance and volume, and to be able to manage multiple concurrent workloads,” Sauvajon said. “Second, we needed an array which would be entirely encrypted and would guarantee the protection of our data, which are very sensitive.” Finally, [flash technology](#) was also important to meet performance needs.

After finding out about Pure Storage through system integrator [Stordata](#), the ATIH team attended a presentation of Pure's Storage solutions. ATIH then performed a proof of concept (POC) test on a Pure FlashArray™ system.

“We submitted the array to benchmarks and production workloads to see how it reacted,” said Sauvajon. “We were very impressed by the result, seeing that the performances promised by Pure was fulfilled. But it was the simplicity of use that impressed us the most.”

“Our end users have gained in terms of speed of access to our data and use of our services. That’s a certainty.”

BRICE SAUVAJON, ATIH

Concrete Improvements for End-users

After the month-long POC, ATIH acquired two Pure Storage [FlashArray//X50 arrays](#).

“The installation took less than a day, unlike our old system which required almost a week, and we were able to immediately migrate all our activity on them, without service interruption,” Sauvajon said.

“The skills transfer performed by Pure Storage’s technical teams that day was enough to understand how the arrays work, without requiring any additional training,” he said. “Since then, we have been very satisfied with this equipment. The feedback has been very positive.”

Sauvajon reports strong benefits from the FlashArray deployment, including:

- Data reduction rates of 8.3:1 and 4:1 on the two arrays, allowing ATIH to store 66TB of data on only 8TB effective capacity on one array, and 104TB on 26TB on the other
- The IOPS rate is consistently above 20,000, with latencies below one millisecond
- The replication time between the two arrays was cut by 75%, going from 12 hours with the old system to only 3 hours

In addition, flash technology and a 10-fold increase in processing speed have enabled ATIH to deploy new data-processing solutions, such as [Hadoop for big data](#).

Pure’s main advantage, according to Sauvajon, is that all features are included in the price of the array.

“Unlike our former supplier, with whom we constantly had to buy licenses to take advantage of an update or a new feature, with Pure Storage the question does not arise any more. All the software features are directly available to all users, without additional licenses or hidden costs.”

The Pure storage solution has positively impacted users both inside and outside ATIH. “Our internal teams have seen a reduction in times to access the virtual machines and servers,” Sauvajon explained. “Our end-users have also gained in terms of speed of access to our data and use of our services. That’s a certainty.”

Storage Visibility and Day-to-day Peace of Mind

ATIH is also pleased to see its data protected by [Pure’s encryption-at-rest](#) feature.

“We no longer need to set up a third-party protection system, nor arbitrate between the performance and encryption of our data,” explained Sauvajon.

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“With Pure Storage, encryption is automatically integrated into the array, and is performed continuously and transparently. This is a relief, because the security of our data is paramount.”

Sauvajon praised the ease of management of the Pure arrays, specifically the [cloud-based Pure1™ tool](#). “As our team is not very large, we value a fully integrated solution like Pure1, which provides high visibility into our storage capacity, with an alert system directly integrated into the array.”

Finally, Sauvajon is feeling more serene on a daily basis. “With our old solution, the storage management required a lot of time to reallocate data and maximize remaining capacities. But this is no longer the case today,” he said. “We were also reluctant to make any changes on our array; with Pure Storage, this is done naturally.”

ATIH’s next step with Pure Storage will be to take advantage of [NVMe-over-fabrics technology](#) to further reduce latency. “Pure is a truly disruptive technology compared to anything that exists in the storage market. Its solutions have the advantage of being based on current technologies that combine performance and simplicity.”

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PS1025-0112/2019

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