



EVERYTHING FOR THE GUEST: RIML GETS ITS OWN TECHNOLOGY OFF THE GROUND WITH HPE

IT service provider PEAKNET consolidates a Tyrolean tourism company's data center with HPE SimpliVity hyperconverged infrastructure

Industry

Tourism

Objective

- Modernization of entire IT environment
- Ensuring highest availability and reliability
- Enabling maximum agility and scalability

Approach

- HPE SimpliVity 325 hyperconverged infrastructure
- HPE StoreEasy NAS Storage

IT matters

- Agile, compact, and highly available system
- State-of-the-art Enterprise technologies for SMEs
- Simple, centralized management
- All-Flash technologies

Business matters

- Complete future-proofing
- Basis for extensions and new IT services
- Time and cost savings on management



The name Riml is to the Tyrolean Ötztal as snow is to winter. Riml is not just a tourism company, but an institution in the entire region. This family-run business has numerous hotels and guest houses, mountain cabins and restaurants as well as sports shops. Riml depends on high-performance IT to offer all of its guests the best possible service under one roof, both in summer and winter. And it has now received a “modernization injection” for its infrastructure technology in the form of HPE SimpliVity hyperconverged infrastructure from the IT service provider PEAKNET.

“Whatever our guests desire in the future and wherever our journey may take us, we are well equipped with HPE SimpliVity.”



COMPANY PROFILE

The Martin Riml GmbH is a tourism enterprise located in the Sölden municipality of the Tyrolean Ötztal. The family business includes hotels, restaurants, mountain cabins, and sports shops. With around 200 employees, Riml is a model for companies in the region.

INITIAL SITUATION

“Our guests are clearly at the center of our attention. They are much more demanding today than ever before, especially when it comes to IT. Today, for example, wireless LAN connections in hotels are often more important than hot water. Given technology’s importance, it was time to get our IT off the ground—in a new way and with the future in mind—to ensure maximum availability for all of our services,” states Christoph Riml, IT manager at the tourism company holding the same name.

In the past, only one server was needed to run the Tyrolean family business. Today, that’s not enough. After all, Riml—which started in 1928 with a mountain restaurant called Sonnblick in Hochsölden and expanded in 1948 with a sports shop in Sölden—currently consists of five hotels and guest houses with up to 700 rooms, twelve mountain cabins, apres-ski bars, restaurants, and five sports shops. The underlying strategy is: Our guests deserve everything. And all under one roof.

IT modernization at a glance

It’s not surprising that the medium-sized enterprise in the Tyrolean border area to Italy needs high performance IT to make its

guests happy. Starting with management and cash register systems for hotels and restaurants, online bike and ski rentals for sports shops, and extending all the way to the wireless LAN infrastructure—the internal Riml-IT (with accounting and more) secures access to all data, (which is in some cases extremely business-critical), and applications around the clock.

Even though the HPE StoreVirtual 4335 cluster at the central data center location in Sölden was still performing well, it nevertheless was outdated. There was a need for something new and modern. The requirement was an IT platform that not only met today’s requirements in tourism, especially in terms of availability, but also one that left plenty of room for future requirements. And not just any new IT but the best, if possible: “We apply high service standards for our IT, that we use for our tourism sector—and we expected the same with HPE SimpliVity,” Christoph Riml exclaimed, talking about the desired outcome of the IT modernization project.

SOLUTION

Riml is thankful to PEAKNET for ultimately deploying an HPE SimpliVity 325 2-node solution, based on HPE ProLiant DL325 Gen10 servers and equipped with modern AMD EPYC 7000 processors. The IT service provider, with head office in Bad Vöslau, has supported Tyrolean enterprises for about 25 years. Oliver Pergler, Managing Director at PEAKNET happily states, “Riml’s success story is truly unique. It’s very nice that we have been allowed to contribute our part for many years.”



“We apply high service standards to ourselves in the tourism sector and to our IT as well—and this was achieved by using HPE SimpliVity.”



It's not surprising that PEAKNET already knows the largely virtualized IT infrastructure of Riml like the back of its hand. Because their experience with HPE gear has been consistently positive over many years, Oliver Pergler and PEAKNET were confident that HPE would also have the answers for its IT modernization project. “HPE SimpliVity is exactly what Riml needs today: Performance and availability on the one hand, agility and scalability on the other. And all from only one source. In a nutshell: a hyper-converged infrastructure with state-of-the-art Enterprise technologies for medium-sized companies,” Pergler stated.

This makes the HPE SimpliVity 325 platform the only hyperconverged system on the market that can be operated efficiently and securely in smaller IT environments with only two nodes. It also offers all the advantages of hyper convergence. That means server, storage, and networking components are integrated into a single, compact system, resulting in a reduction not only in used space, but also in energy and licensing costs, and above all in maintenance and management expenses.

All-Flash—fast and powerful

In August 2020 the project started. After extensive stress and failure tests in its own laboratory, PEAKNET implemented the new HPE SimpliVity components into Riml's IT and migrated all 25 existing virtual machines (VMs), including all data from the old system to the new one, in a flawless manner. And the 50 active IT users of the 220 employees in the company's tourism group didn't notice any performance issues while working on their PCs and POS systems except, perhaps, that access to data and applications was faster and the use of applications was demonstrably more efficient, as Christoph Riml reported.

This is especially ensured by HPE's All-Flash technologies used in the HPE SimpliVity platform. Software-optimized deduplication, tiering and modern data compression ensure that both the storage space itself and the data lines from the Riml branch offices to the central data center are not clogged.

The Tyrolean tourism business currently has a total of 7 TB of All-Flash capacity available for use, with HPE SimpliVity achieving data efficiency of 2:1, thus gaining more from it. The redundant design in the cluster includes HPE StoreEasy NAS storage and synchronously mirrored storage via RAID controller (including transparent failover, if needed), ensuring the highest availability of all data.

THE RESULT

Christoph Riml is thrilled to have this new, hyperconverged system. “We don't just have the best technology for our individual needs in the data center, but we've also created the basis for future projects.”

Riml is destined for growth. Plans for new tourism projects, hotel and restaurant extensions and buildings are not yet ready for prime time, but they are being considered for the future. Additionally, internal modern merchandise management systems and a central financial accounting system will increase further synergy potential for the entire Riml Tourism Group. All this requires one special thing: Powerful IT support. As Christoph Riml happily states, “Whatever our guests desire in the future and wherever our journey may take us, with HPE SimpliVity we are well equipped.”



Case study

Riml

Industry

Tourism

Customer at a glance

Hardware

- HPE SimpliVity 325 (2 nodes)
- AMD EPYC 7000 processors
- HPE StoreEasy NAS Storage

Services of partner

- Conception of new IT environment
- Implementation of new platform
- Data migration
- Ongoing support

ABOUT PEAKNET

PEAKNET GmbH is a system vendor and IT service provider for (almost) all IT infrastructure needs. Since 1993, 10 employees have been taking care customer IT needs. Whether small business, medium-sized business, or large corporation—PEAKNET ensures that everything fits in the data center.

ABOUT HPE

Hewlett Packard Enterprise is the global edge-to-cloud platform-as-a-service company that helps organizations accelerate

outcomes by unlocking value from all of their data, everywhere. Built on decades of reimagining the future and innovating to advance the way people live and work, HPE delivers unique, open and intelligent technology solutions, with a consistent experience across all clouds and edges, to help customers develop new business models, engage in new ways, and increase operational performance.

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