Comune di Mira Ensure Consistent Protection Despite Infrastructure Constraints

Challenges

- Consistently replicate data across restricted bandwidth and unreliable network connections.
- Improve RPOs and RTOs without disruption or impacting production performance.
- Reduce the time and resource requirements to conduct regular DR testing, monitoring and maintenance.

Solution

- Lightweight, block-level, replication ensures application consistent recovery across low bandwidth.
- Continuous, agentless replication with no snapshots provides RPOs of seconds and RTOs of minutes.
- Simple, elegant solution enables real-time monitoring with testing, failover and failback in just a few clicks.

Zerto Results

- **No Agents, No Snapshots**
  Non-disruptive, continuous replication across limited bandwidth with no performance impact

- **Unified Management**
  Of replication and recovery across 3 sites, regardless of underlying infrastructure

- **Consistent Recovery**
  Multi-VM applications are always recovered with write-order fidelity to preserve integrity

ABOUT COMUNE DI MIRA

Mira is a municipality of more than 38,000 people within the larger city of Venice. The council employ 150 people across 4 sites to support the Citizenship General Register Office, Local Police Force, Courts & Legal Systems, among other services.

With a responsibility to secure so much critical and sensitive data across multiple sites and heterogeneous infrastructures, Comune di Mira needed to find a simple, yet powerful solution that would provide near real-time protection without disrupting their critical operations.

“"The ability to test on an isolated network without disruption is key - it gives us more confidence in making changes before rolling them out to production”

Stefano Mainardi
IT Manager, Comune di Mira
Overcoming Network Constraints

With 5TB of data to protect across three sites, all with differing infrastructures and network connections, Comune di Mira were facing challenges in ensuring that all their critical applications were successfully backed up on a regular basis. The low bandwidth at one site in particular – just 4Mbps – was being entirely consumed by the backup process, meaning it could only be run at night. Even then, it remained an unreliable process as the backup may not complete before normal operations needed to resume the following day, causing it to fail entirely.

The team at Comune di Mira decided to invest in replication rather than backup in order to improve their RPO, but specifically wanted to avoid the performance impact and storage overheads of utilizing snapshot-based solutions. Long-term partners, Computerland, introduced Zerto Virtual Replication (ZVR) to the team and setup a trial at the most challenging site. After a seamless installation, complete in an hour with no disruption, Comune di Mira were successfully replicating their mission-critical data and applications across a 4Mbps link, with an RPO of just 50 seconds.

Because ZVR is continuously replicating compressed, VM block-level changes at the hypervisor layer, it does not flood the network with large chunks of data in the way that snapshots do. This means that it can operate across very low bandwidth and still offer aggressive RPOs of just seconds. Even if there is an interruption in connectivity, ZVR will continue to track and log the changes until the connection is restored and the data can be sent to the recovery site.

Simple Management

It was key for Comune di Mira to find a solution that would simplify, rather than complicate the management of their environment. With three differing sites to protect, the team did not want to introduce multiple solutions to achieve their goals.

With ZVR, Comune di Mira have a single, complete solution for replication and automated recovery of critical data, with VM consistency groupings to protect applications regardless of physical location, infrastructure or domain. All replication and recovery processes are controlled through a single, intuitive web-based UI, significantly reducing the management overheads and time invested in monitoring and testing.

About Computerland

Founded in 1994, Computerland operates with the belief that growth is dependent on the ability to keep promises and exceed expectations. Using experience gained over years working alongside the leading companies in Italy, the company provides advice, experience and technical expertise, on system/network management, designed networks, IT security, virtualization and disaster recovery.

About Zerto

Zerto, a Hewlett Packard Enterprise company, empowers customers to run an always-on business by simplifying the protection, recovery, and mobility of on-premises and cloud applications. Zerto’s cloud data management and protection platform eliminates the risks and complexity of modernization and cloud adoption across private, public, and hybrid deployments. The simple, software-only platform uses continuous data protection at scale to converge disaster recovery, backup, and data mobility. Zerto is trusted by over 9,500 customers globally and is powering offerings for Microsoft Azure, IBM Cloud, AWS, Google Cloud, Oracle Cloud, and more than 350 managed service providers.

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