

Tool manufacturer implements iSCSI cluster with Open-E

POLY-TOOLS bennewart GmbH uses a High Availability solution with Open-E DSS V7 Active-Active Failover for highest reliability in tool development and manufacturing

POLY-TOOLS bennewart GmbH is an international manufacturer of technically complex blow molds. The company develops and produces high-quality tools with the most modern construction methods, at the same time providing efficient and sophisticated manufacturing processes, high product quality and competitive prices.



Challenges

The storage environment of POLY-TOOLS required a complete renewal: The existing NAS solution was not reliable as it used to be, too slow and did not meet the increased demands of the company. Especially working with CAD applications, such as Siemens NX for creating complex 3D models, the ERP system along with various databases was becoming more and more difficult to manage for the company's 70 users.

Solution

POLY-TOOLS contacted their long-time IT consultant – save IT first from Germany – who proposed a strategy with two new VMware ESX servers and a storage system. By co-operating with Open-E Gold Partner EUROstor from Filderstadt, who presented an active-active iSCSI cluster configuration based on Open-E DSS V7, the company would be able to cover all requirements.

With this setup, POLY-TOOLS was able to reach the required speed and performance for the most demanding applications. By mixing SSDs and SAS Nearline disks as well as by using NAS shares for backup, all requirements could be fulfilled. For more secure storage, the NAS environment is additionally mirrored to the second system. Furthermore, the new solution offers simplified management of all storage resources with Open-E DSS V7 which allows for an easy overview of the whole storage environment. Hardware failures can now be immediately analyzed and fixed.

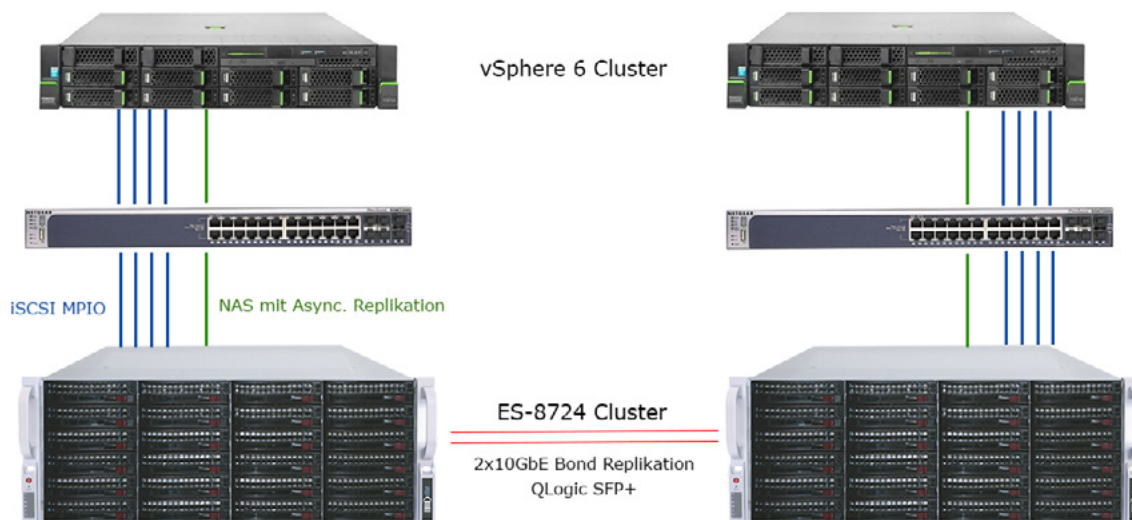
The two new ESX servers by save IT first and the active-active cluster from EUROstor are now working perfectly together. Performance, management and reliability were increased significantly. EUROstor directly installed the systems.

Hardware setup

The active-active cluster is based on two ES-8724 systems from EUROstor. Each system contains 6 x 1GbE as well as 2 x 10GbE ports. I/O-critical applications are stored on a separate SSD RAID set. Additionally, 11 x 1TB SAS Nearline disks are used for the remaining virtual machines. The NAS part includes 4 x 2TB SAS Nearline disks and the ES-8724 systems are using QLogic 10GbE SFP+ network cards for synchronous replication.

The ESX servers from save IT first include two powerful Xeon E5V3 CPUs as well as 128GB DDR4 RAM each. Both servers are running in the High Availability mode, same as the storage.

Active-Active Cluster Setup with Open-E DSS V7



Benefits

Tobias Lickteig, IT Project Manager and Enterprise Administrator at POLY-TOOLS:

“Our High Availability storage solution is very easy to administrate with Open-E DSS V7 and offers exceptional reliability. By purchasing the EUROstor storage systems, POLY-TOOLS was able to ensure highest security of the IT-specific and critical processes. Downtime could be reduced to a minimum and data throughput was drastically increased.”

About POLY-TOOLS

POLY-TOOLS bennewart GmbH is based on proven experience and technical know-how of Bennewart Werkzeugbau e. K. from Germany. The company was founded on October 10th, 2008 and is a leading manufacturer of blow molding in Europe. The main goal of POLY-TOOLS is to be a reliable and a knowledgeable partner for customers. The company's mission is to comprehensively support customers from the first idea to the successful final deployment of a product.

More information on: www.poly-tools-bennewart.de/en/

About EUROstor

EUROstor is a developer of storage systems, especially RAID sub-systems and storage appliances, based in Filderstadt / Stuttgart in Germany. The company develops, produces and sells high-quality data storage systems for professional use throughout Europe. EUROstor's clients range from enterprise and SMB customers to educational institutions.

More on www.eurostor.com

About save IT first

Since its establishment in 2011, save IT first GmbH has become a reliable partner for professional and innovative IT solutions. The company uses products of industry-leading manufacturers and supports customers with individual consulting and integration services. save IT first offers professional support and many other services for all their solutions. Despite their rather short company history, save IT first was already able to work with customers such as Krombacher Brewery and Axel Springer.

More information: www.saveitfirst.de

About Open-E

Open-E is a well-established developer of IP-based storage management software. Open-E JovianDSS and Open-E DSS V7 are robust, award-winning enterprise storage applications which offer excellent compatibility with industry standards, and are the easiest to use and manage. Additionally, they are some of the most stable solutions on the market and undisputed price performance leaders. Open-E accounts for over 27,000 installations world-wide and has received numerous industry awards and recognition. Thanks to its reputation, experience and business reliability, Open-E has become the technology partner of choice for industry-leading IT companies. For further information about Open-E, its products and partners, visit www.open-e.com