JK Tyre prepares for the future with a new SAP HANA platform

HPE ConvergedSystem 900 for SAP HANA delivers reliability and scalability

Objective
Replace aging hardware environment which had become inefficient

Approach
Migrate from Unix® to standard x86 servers and from an Oracle database to SAP HANA

IT Matters
• Up to 10-20 times faster reporting
• Cycle times reduced from five minutes to two minutes
• Offline backup that used to take six hours a week is now instant

Business Matters
• Business agility supported by enhanced performance
• Improved reporting streamlines business decision-making and avoids delays
• Scalability supports continued business growth

Challenge
Aging infrastructure
Headquartered in New Delhi, India, JK Tyre & Industries Ltd. manufactures tyres, tubes and flaps and is one of the country’s market leaders for truck and bus radial tyres. Part of the giant JK Organization industrial group, JK Tyre is a pioneer in the radial and tubeless sector and is a rapidly expanding company. With its takeover of the Tornel tyre business in Mexico and a subsequent acquisition of India’s Cavendish Industries Ltd., it now has nine manufacturing plants in India and three in Mexico with a total production capacity of nearly 35 million tyres a year.

Because SAP HANA is absolutely business critical to the successful daily operations of India’s JK Tyre, a powerful and reliable platform is required to support these vital SAP applications. When it was time for a hardware refresh, HPE ConvergedSystem 900 for SAP HANA was the obvious choice.

Company-wide IT services are centralized. They are delivered to approximately 2,500 IT users at more than 160 locations from a main production data center in Mumbai and a secondary disaster recovery (DR) site in Hyderabad.
“HPE ConvergedSystem 900 for SAP HANA is an optimal solution both in terms of performance and reliability. Its power and scalability are now enabling us to move ahead as a business.”

— Sharad Agarwal, Head – IT, JK Tyre & Industries Ltd.

SAP enterprise software is at the core of JK Tyre’s operations. The company runs all the major SAP modules including Sales & Distribution (SD), Materials Management (MM), Financial Accounting & Controlling (FiCO), Controlling (CO), Production Planning (PP), Product Lifecycle Management (PLM), Plant Maintenance (PM), Project Systems (PS), Business Intelligence Warehouse (BIW) and Business Objects (BO) to name few. In December 2016, JK Tyre implemented SAP HANA, SAP’s in-memory database, replacing its previous Oracle database.

“SAP HANA supports virtually everything we want to do at JK Tyre,” says DGM – IT, Deepak Gupta. “Be it production, sales, marketing or procurement, all our functions are run by SAP. It is business critical so its vitally important that we have an efficient and reliable platform to run it on.

“Since 2007, our entire landscape has been HPE and we have used our legacy HPE servers very successfully for ten years. However, because of their age, we felt it was time for a hardware refresh. We were also moving the SAP database from Oracle to HANA.”

Seeking a replacement for its aging UNIX® systems, JK Tyre issued a Request for Proposal (RFP) to major vendors and evaluated the submissions over a six-month period. Numerous brainstorming sessions were held with HPE technical and pre-sales teams. IT staff from JK Tyre also visited the HPE Center of Excellence in Bangalore.

Solution

Taking the appliance route
In common with all SAP HANA users, JK Tyre had the choice of either taking a SAP HANA appliance ‘all-in-one-box’ approach with pre-configured components or using a Tailored Datacenter Integration (TDI) deployment. Since it wanted a speedy implementation with quick time-to-value, the company decided on the former approach with three HPE ConvergedSystem 900 for SAP HANA appliances. Reliability, Availability and Serviceability (RAS) features were important considerations as these appliances support highly critical workloads.
The CS900 appliances are located in Mumbai and Hyderabad, and are clustered using HPE Serviceguard for Linux®, for replication and high availability purposes. They are divided into four hard partitions, HPE nPARs that are electrically and physically isolated from each other and being used for various workloads. The second CS900 delivers replication of the first for High Availability and the third is used for Disaster Recovery.

Specifically built for SAP HANA, the powerful CS900 appliance is based on HPE Superdome technology and designed for massive scalability and high availability.

In addition to the CS900 appliances, JK Tyre also purchased HPE ProLiant BL460c Gen9 Server Blades, HPE ProLiant rack servers, HPE 3PAR StoreServ Storage arrays and HPE StoreEver Autoloaders. It also migrated from its legacy Cisco networks to a new infrastructure including HPE 5900 Switch Series and Aruba Routers.

Because of the criticality of the systems, they are covered by HPE Proactive Care Advanced support.

**Benefit**

**Quicker reporting and backup**

The HPE CS900 systems were delivered pre-configured, pre-tested and fully optimized so a considerable amount of implementation and SAP migration time was saved. The entire rollout was achieved in one month with only minimal business downtime.

Business agility has been increased significantly due to the performance of both the HPE hardware and SAP HANA software suite. Increased speed is one of the main advantages that JK Tyres has gained from its new solutions. Cycle times have been reduced from five minutes to between one and two minutes, which has increased commercial productivity. Reporting has also become much faster, as high as 10-20 times.
“Improved reporting means that we now have the right information at the right time which is of paramount importance to making the right decisions. It’s a major business gain.”

— Deepak Gupta, Dy. General Manager (IT), JK Tyre & Industries Ltd.

“Having the right information at the right time is of paramount importance for making the right decisions. Previously the sales teams were getting information with a one to two-hour lag due to the sheer complexity of the supply chain and the number of SKUs we deal with, but using HANA live reporting means that we are now able to track month-end sales on a real-time basis. That’s a major gain that we have achieved for the business,” says Gupta.

SAP HANA running on the CS900 delivers better performance during busy month-end periods and the device-agnostic user interface of SAP Fiori apps has increased business flexibility.

Offline backups used to take six hours a week but backups are now disc-to-disc and instant.

The new solution is providing vital scalability for this rapidly expanding company designed with the next five to six year’s growth in mind, but it is the whole relationship with HPE that is most valued by JK Tyre.

“When we chose to move to HANA we were an early adopter so we needed full support for both the application and the hardware from HPE and the OEM.

“They guided us to an optimal solution both in terms of performance and reliability, and this enabled us to take a bold step while our competitors and other large-scale conglomerates were still waiting to move to HANA,” says Gupta.

“We had lots of help from many HPE contacts right up to top management. Apart from the technology, one of the main reasons for our continuing relationship with HPE is its excellent service levels. Its responsiveness and investment in new technology are winning criteria.”

Learn more at [hpe.com/info/sap/hana](http://hpe.com/info/sap/hana)