Hewlett Packard Enterprise

QWERTY sistemas SL

Volcano Teide® experience

Industry
Tourism

Objective
Improve response time in business applications.

Approach
Installation of HPE Nimble Storage All Flash Array.

IT Matters
• Replace hard drives with flash drives.

• Attain greater speed for the queries that are done in the SQL Server cluster.

• New inline deduplication and compression capabilities.

Business Matters
• Improvements in stability, efficiency, and productivity.

• Ability to reduce maintenance tasks.

• Manageability and monitoring in a mission-critical environment.

HPE NIMBLE STORAGE CONQUERS MOUNT TEIDE AT AN ALTITUDE OF MORE THAN 10,000 FEET

The Mount Teide Cable Car is revamping its storage systems with HPE solutions

The Mount Teide Cable Car, located in Mount Teide National Park, has become one of the most popular destinations in the Canary Islands, since it is the highest cable car in Spain, spanning an incline of almost 4,000 feet. HPE technology plays a key role in making it all possible.

"Thanks to HPE Nimble Storage we've improved in stability, efficiency, and productivity. Our applications respond more quickly to the queries that are executed in the SQL cluster. Moreover, we've been able to reduce the maintenance tasks, thereby taking a major burden off our ITC department's shoulders."

– Claudio García, IT Department Head for Mount Teide Cable Car

For tourists who go to Mount Teide National Park in Tenerife (Canary Islands), going up in the Mount Teide Cable Car offers the unique experience of being able to see a geological treasure from on high—one in which volcanoes, craters, and lava rivers create a breathtaking, one-of-a-kind array of colors and shapes.

The facility has two stations: the "Base Station" and the "Upper Station". The former is located at an elevation of about 7,700 feet, and two cabins leaving the station make the trip in eight minutes. The "Upper Station" sits at an elevation of over 11,600 feet, and is where some of the national park's most popular trails begin, such as the Teide Crater Trail, the La Fortaleza Lookout Trail, or the Pico Viejo Lookout Trail.

Cable car construction began in April 1962 and its opening event was on July 18, 1971; it opened to the public on August 2 of that year. Between 1999 and 2007 the equipment was updated, replacing the existing cabins with more modern and aerodynamic ones.

The track and hauling cables, as well as the four towers, were replaced. The stations underwent improvement works to adapt them to the new requirements and integrate them into the environment. The machinery and power plant were also updated. Moreover, the security and control systems were changed and a safety and periodic review plan was put in place.

CHALLENGE

Ten years later, a digital transformation process was laid out for the facility, with a focus on updating its storage systems. As Mount Teide Cable Car's IT Department Head Claudio García explains, the installation "had a fairly old storage array with hard drives that were causing performance and continuity issues in our business." At that point the business proposed going with a more efficient and robust storage solution that "would allow us to build an iSCSI network for our SQL failover cluster".

Beyond that, the new solution needed to be sufficiently robust to adapt to challenging weather conditions. As Claudio García put it, "The meteorological conditions are truly harsh. We also have two generators that supply our Online UPS grouping in the Base Station's CPS. The problem we have is with certain batteries, since they don't last as long at this altitude."

After weighing the various options available, Mount Teide Cable Car settled on the HPE Nimble Storage array and engaged with QWERTY, an HPE partner, for installation and configuration of the new solution.

SOLUTION

Mount Teide Cable Car went with QWERTY for this installation because of its "extensive experience in the IT arena, the demonstrated professionalism of its technical team and the extraordinary technical support from our designated sales rep," the Mount Teide Cable Car spokesman said.

What is certain is that QWERTY has wide-ranging experience in working with HPE solutions. And as Romén Sicilia, managing director of QWERTY, explains, "The company has been in this area for more than 25 years and representing HPE in the Canaries. The certified storage solution techs have more than 10 years of experience and have taken part in countless HPE storage system installations."

"Since we're in a completely isolated and hostile environment at an altitude of more than 10,000 ft, having a robust and stable storage solution that was also easy to manage and monitor was crucial. HPE Nimble Storage has proven well able to meet the needs of Mount Teide Cable Car."

– Luis Bravo de Laguna, QWERTY sales department

Customer at a glance

Solution
Installation and configuration of the HPE Nimble Storage array to ensure the Mount Teide Cable Car applications respond more quickly to the queries that are executed, providing visitors with the best possible service.

Hardware
• HPE Nimble Storage All Flash

Software
• HPE InfoSight

According to Luis Bravo de Laguna from QWERTY's sales department, the new solution's installation involved "replacement of the old storage system with an HPE Nimble Storage All Flash Array, which needed to be integrated with servers via radio link."

As has already been noted, the main challenge to overcome was the high-altitude installation of the storage array, since as Romén Sicilia recalls, "given the high-mountain environment, the conditions are extreme and the environment critical in areas like connectivity. Moreover, as a key tourist destination for the island of Tenerife, the installation had to take place outside of work hours, considering the criticality of what was involved in working with a unique storage system being migrated to a new solution."

BENEFITS

After going from a disk-drive-based solution to an all-flash storage array, Mount Teide Cable Car was quick to experience the benefits. As Claudio García explains, his technology infrastructure "has improved in stability, efficiency, and productivity, since our applications respond more quickly to

the queries that are executed in the SQL cluster that hosts the iSCSI network in the HPE Nimble Storage array."

At the same time, he emphasizes "the speed, its deduplication capabilities, and its potential for expansion, not to mention the fact that thanks to HPE InfoSight we've been able to reduce the maintenance tasks, thereby taking a major burden off the ITC department's shoulders."

In this respect, Mario López Gutiérrez, HPE Indirect Sales Storage Business Development Manager, highlights the fact that "HPE InfoSight is able to nip problems in the bud, monitoring the entire data path, from the array to the application, including the network infrastructure, the servers, and the virtualized systems. HPE Nimble Storage is thus able to offer six 9s guaranteed availability, with 86% of problems resolved automatically, 54% of which are unrelated to storage."

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