vtesse NETWORKS

case study

Synchronous Storage Replication

A BENEFIT OF THE OPTICALLY ENABLED ENTERPRISE

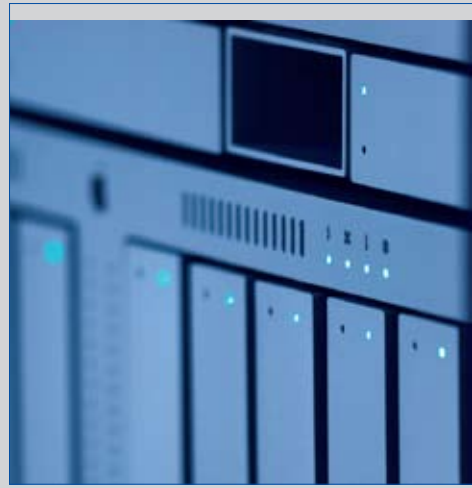
Synchronous Storage Replication

Customer profile

This leading finance company is in the top five within its sector of the industry and manages over £10bn of assets for its clients. Over the last five years, it has successfully outperformed most of its competitors and it puts this achievement down to what it describes as a "structured, disciplined, risk controlled approach"

Business requirements

The company strategy is to protect its clients and its reputation with a business continuity structure that exceeds regulatory requirements. This meant going beyond just providing disaster recovery back-up for its datacentre. It required the development of procedures for the whole company that enable it to continue effective operation in the event of a catastrophe at its primary IT centre.



Synchronous Storage Replication

A BENEFIT OF THE OPTICALLY ENABLED ENTERPRISE

The challenge

The central requirement was to establish an optical network between datacentre and back-up site across which data could be synchronously replicated (and which would house staff in the event of a disaster). On the one hand, corporate standards required the back-up location to be far enough away to insulate it from any chemical or biological attack. On the other hand, the maximum latency allowable for SRDF replication on their EMC storage dictated that route distance be kept to a minimum. It should also not be subject to variation from circuit switching.

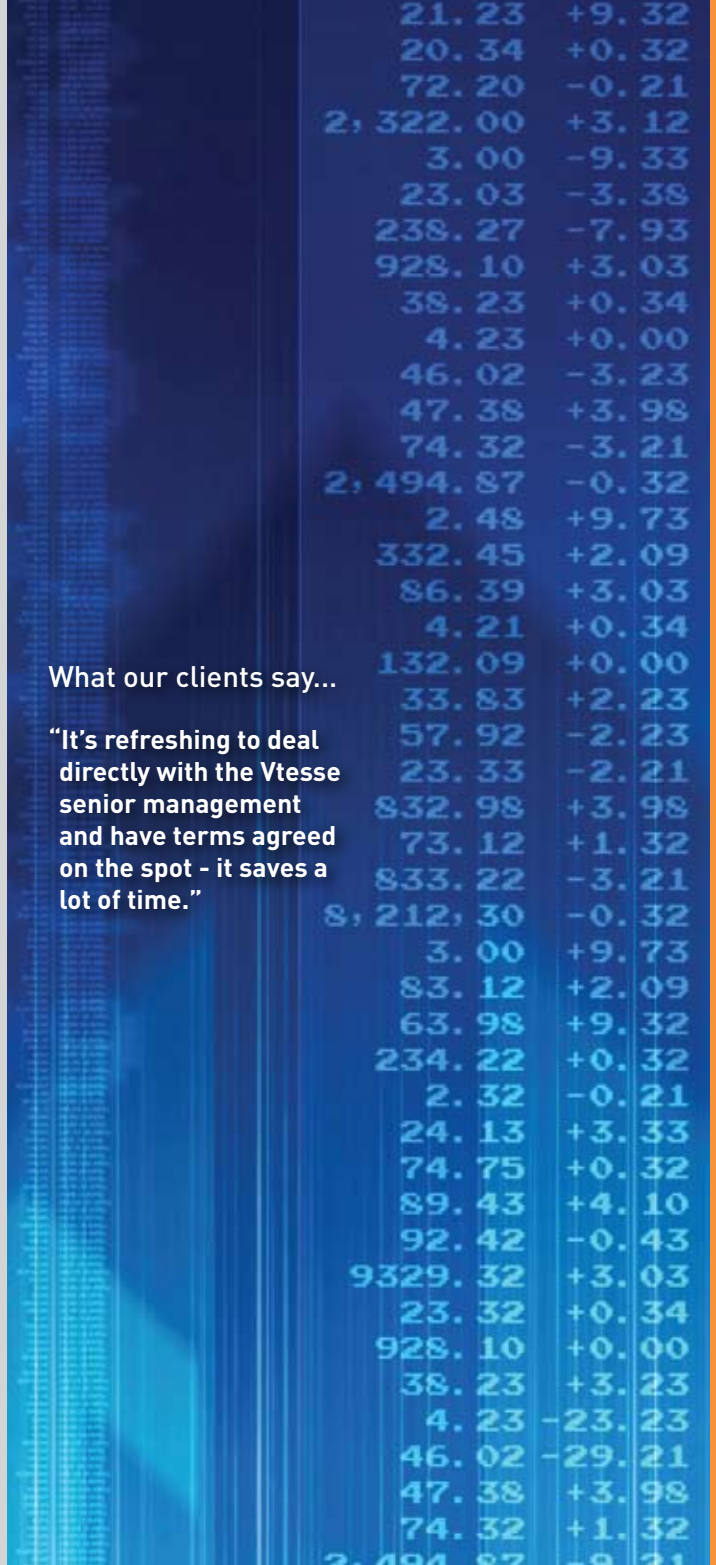
The solution

The service was implemented via a 65km private fibre network built by Vtesse and overlaid with wave division multiplexing technology supporting multiple fibre channel and gigabit Ethernet links.

With a point to point optical networking service, the solution Vtesse offered had none of the overheads of an SDH infrastructure. It had consistently low latency, as required in service level agreements, as well as enormous scalability: within a matter of days, the bandwidth was upgradeable by tens of gigabits per second. With one eye on the future, we were also able to guarantee true diversity over every route metre for future upgrades.

With clear end-to-end visibility over a known and dedicated route, the client was able to retain control over the network. Since all traffic (in this case Fibre Channel and Ethernet) was in native format, and because there were no wide area protocols or equipment to support, the network was also highly manageable.

The solution we offered also brought cost advantages, costing less to run than tariff-based services.



What our clients say...

"It's refreshing to deal directly with the Vtesse senior management and have terms agreed on the spot - it saves a lot of time."

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