Mukki

After inheriting multiple financial planning and accounting solutions from a series of recent mergers, Mukki set out to simplify and modernize its IT infrastructure by migrating its mission-critical applications to SAP S/4HANA. The company deployed its new SAP environment on IBM Power Systems servers running SUSE Linux Enterprise Server for SAP Applications to achieve consistent performance, always-on availability, and simplified system management.

Overview
Established in 1966, Mukki processes, pasteurizes, bottles, and distributes dairy products to customers throughout the Tuscany region of Italy. Recently, Mukki merged with milk production plants in Pistoia and Livorno, and established a new factory in dell’Olmatello—enabling the company to produce a wide range of premium milk, cream, ice cream, butter, cheese, and yogurt products.

Challenge
Producing fresh, nutritious, and delicious dairy products requires expertise, careful planning, and close cooperation with a large network of dairy farms and artisanal manufacturers.

As one of the longest-established dairy companies in Tuscany, Mukki knows that the recipe for commercial success must be continually adapted to meet the changing demands of consumers.

Stefano Ricci, CIO at Mukki, begins: “Over the past few years, we have expanded our operations by welcoming more milk producers and farms into our cooperative. As we acquired new companies, we also inherited their planning, accounting, and finance systems. As a result, our core finance systems and the underlying infrastructure grew in complexity, which in turn made system maintenance increasingly time-consuming and costly.”
To reduce complexity, Mukki decided to modernize and consolidate the core systems supporting its strategic operations: a move that would help the company to strengthen business continuity and optimize resource management.

**Solution**

To simplify its operations, Mukki migrated its core planning, accounting, and finance applications to SAP S/4HANA on two IBM Power Systems H922 servers, equipped with IBM POWER9 processors running SUSE Linux Enterprise Server for SAP Applications.

Mukki enlisted the help of SAP Gold Partner VAR-BMS to implement six instances of SUSE Linux Enterprise Server for SAP Applications, with three instances of the operating system configured for the SAP S4/HANA application servers and the remaining instances dedicated to the company’s SAP HANA database.

“SUSE solutions came highly recommended by our business partner, VAR,” says Stefano Ricci. “SUSE Linux Enterprise Server for SAP Applications stood apart from other operating systems due to its inherent compatibility with IBM and SAP solutions, and the rich customization features it offers.”

“We were especially impressed that we could easily integrate SUSE Linux Enterprise Server with IBM PowerVM, which makes it easy to consolidate our workloads and manage multiple virtual environments from a single point of control.”

To keep its group financial planning and accounting processes running smoothly, Mukki also worked with VAR to implement the SUSE Linux Enterprise High Availability Extension, a bundled component with SUSE Linux Enterprise Server for SAP Applications.

“Processing millions of liters of milk and milk-based products requires us to keep our planning, production, and accounting systems running around the clock, so any unplanned disruption can have a costly impact,” explained Stefano Ricci. “SUSE Linux Enterprise Server High Availability Extension gives us the robust failover and replication tools we need to keep our most critical systems running 24/7.”

**Results**

By moving its core finance and accounting applications to SAP S/4HANA on IBM Power Systems servers with SUSE Linux Enterprise Server for SAP Applications, Mukki has reduced system complexity while also boosting efficiency.

“Replacing dozens of finance and accounting systems with a single solution based on SAP S/4HANA has made running our daily operations much easier,” comments Stefano Ricci. “And thanks to SUSE Linux Enterprise Server, we can manage and maintain all of our core SAP applications much more efficiently while making better use of our internal IT resources.”

Since migrating to SUSE Linux Enterprise Server for SAP Applications, Mukki has enjoyed consistently high application performance and has improved the resiliency of its mission-critical systems.

Using the Virtual Persistent Memory (vPMEM) feature of the IBM PowerVM hypervisor, Mukki can restart critical databases faster following planned maintenance or unplanned outages, as it is no longer necessary to reload large amounts of data from disk into memory.

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**Stefano Ricci**

CIO

Mukki
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“Thanks to the SUSE Linux Enterprise Server High Availability Extension, we have practically eliminated unplanned downtime,” says Stefano Ricci. “The SUSE solution provides rapid, reliable recovery and failover options for our most important systems, especially in conjunction with vPMEM. And with SUSE providing ongoing support for our critical systems, we can rest assured that any issues that may arise in the future can be resolved swiftly and effectively.”

Stefano Ricci concludes: “With reliable, performant, and easy-to-manage IT systems underpinning core activities such as group accounting and financial planning, we are much better placed to continue expanding our operations and can dedicate more resources to developing new products.”
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