



rakon

About Customer

Rakon is a global high technology company that designs and manufactures world leading frequency control solutions, including crystal oscillators for the telecommunications, global positioning, space, and defense markets.

www.rakon.com

Geo

APJ

Industry

Manufacturing

Solution Area

Accelerate Core Applications

Products in Use

Pure FlashStack™

Rakon Keeps Production Running with Fast Data

Companies around the world rely on solutions from Rakon, a leading global manufacturer of frequency control solutions, to power 5G networks, autonomous vehicles, and cloud computing. From development to manufacturing, data plays an important role in Rakon's daily business.

With FlashStack from Pure Storage and Cisco Systems, Rakon gains much-needed capacity and performance improvements. As a result, Rakon helps ensure high-speed access to core business applications, enabling greater productivity and speed-to-market.

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BEN PARRY,
IS INFRASTRUCTURE
MANAGER, RAKON

Aging Infrastructure Hitting the Bottom Line

Rakon is known for its innovative technologies, but developing those technologies and manufacturing solutions requires reliable access to a great deal of data. "Our old gear was grinding to a halt with monthly server crashes," said Ben Parry, IS Infrastructure Manager at Rakon.

Impact on Rakon



Productivity increased with high-speed, reliable access to core applications



9X faster SQL database performance for test data



5X faster performance for ERP and business apps

Challenges



IT staff needed to juggle storage to keep up with growing capacity needs



Speed, performance, and reliability raised risk of impacting manufacturing



Legacy system lacked integration and was difficult to manage

Results



4:1 compression and deduplication frees-up storage capacity



Zero downtime gives infrastructure team peace of mind



IT saves time with a single console for FlashStack, VMware, and Veeam

Rakon's infrastructure team saw a number of drive failures. They were running out of storage to the point where the team was copying data onto external hard drives. When a power outage led to a SAN shutdown and controller failure, a new storage system became a priority.

Building Data Infrastructure Made for the Future

Rakon chose FlashStack, a unified compute, network, and storage solution from Pure Storage and Cisco Systems. It outperformed all other vendors in cost, performance, capacity, and integration capabilities. It also supported Rakon's plans to move to a VMware environment.

"Pure Storage shone above everyone, built from the ground up to use flash. It has all the latest technologies, whereas everyone else is playing catch up," said Parry. "Installation was so smooth we could set it and forget it. There was one week of installation, then Datacom did the migration in a month. There was no downtime."

Delivering Big Performance in a Simple Stack

With Pure, capacity is no longer an issue. "The 4:1 compression on FlashStack is fantastic," says Parry. "We replaced 80 TB with 44 TB of flash storage, and we still have around 40% storage capacity left."

Rakon has already seen some big performance wins. "It used to take the Business Intelligence team 2.5 to 3.5 hours to run their scripts, but now they're done in 45 minutes," says Parry.

Rakon's testing and equipment no longer struggles to write test data to SQL databases, as tasks that once took four minutes now take 24 seconds. In the file server, transferring 45GB of data takes under five minutes, down from 14.5 minutes. Rakon's ERP system has seen some of the biggest performance gains, with record updates conducted up to 5X faster.

According to Parry, the environment is more stable and simpler to manage. "Things have been rock solid with FlashStack," said Parry. "Strong integrations mean that we can create datastores in VMware or manage our Veeam backup solution from the FlashStack console."

The infrastructure team spends much less time managing the systems. "Our time is now spent being more productive rather than keeping the lights on," said Parry.

purestorage.com

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