CAN YOUR SAP DATA EVER BE TOO PROTECTED?

Doubly protect your critical business data by using SAP HANA system replication and Pure Storage Purity ActiveCluster in tandem.

You keep vital data in an SAP HANA® database for a reason. It is the data that your business needs to function — and it is precisely the essential nature of this data that makes its susceptibility to fire, flood, malware, or ransomware such big risk for your business.

When it comes to critical data, redundant backups are essential. For example, look at what happened to the battery-based backup power at Vodafone's data center in Leeds, UK. The backup worked as planned when flooding knocked out power in December 2015 — or so it seemed at first. But then, those same floods prevented Vodafone engineers from getting to the data center to set up generators before the batteries ran down.[1] You can't head off every threat, but when it is crucial not to be caught with your pants down, wearing both a belt and suspenders makes sense.

Pairing SAP HANA system replication with Pure Storage® Purity ActiveCluster is a great way to double up protection for your critical data. Purity ActiveCluster is a fully symmetric Active/Active bidirectional replication solution. It provides synchronous replication for zero recovery-point objectives (RPOs) and automatic transparent failover for zero recovery-time objectives (RTOs). Purity ActiveCluster spans multiple sites, which enables you to use clustered arrays and clustered hosts to deploy flexible Active/Active data center configurations.

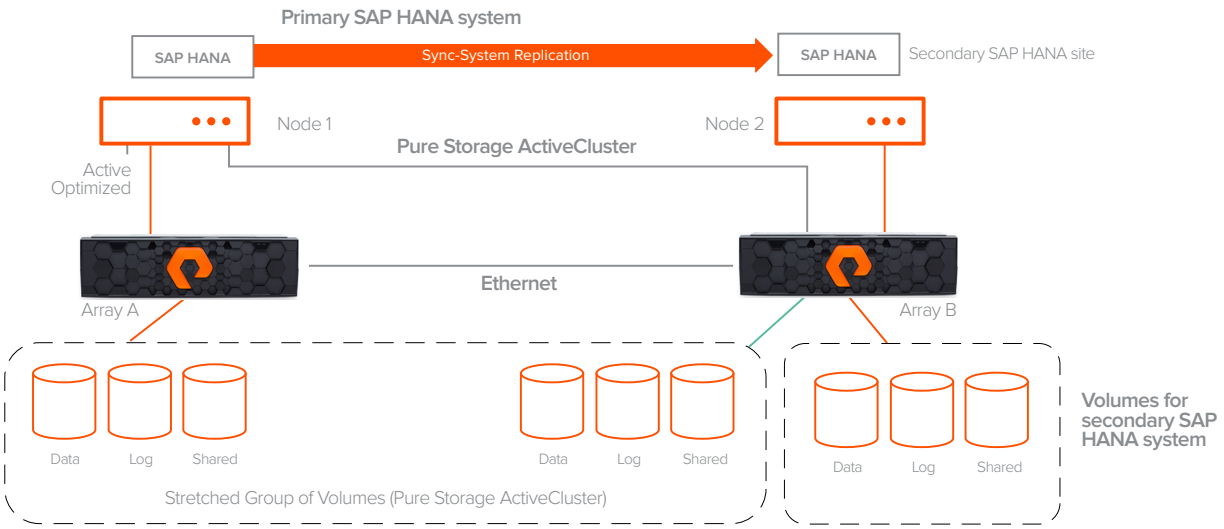

Figure 1. High-level diagram of SAP HANA system replication and Pure Storage Purity ActiveCluster deployed in tandem.

Put another way, using Purity ActiveCluster at the storage layer, in tandem with system replication in SAP HANA at the application layer, means that if the system replication fails for whatever reason (and you lose your primary SAP HANA instance), Purity ActiveCluster will keep your data safe through synchronous replication to your secondary Pure Storage FlashArray™ volumes.

How does the double redundancy offered by Purity ActiveCluster affect SAP HANA performance? Even though this configuration doubles up on data replication, it still runs within required parameters. In testing conducted by Pure Storage on this arrangement, log latency on the primary SAP HANA instance was still well within the range of SAP HANA Tailored Datacenter Integration (TDI) key performance indicators (KPIs) with both system replication and Purity ActiveCluster running in parallel. Moreover, setting up Purity ActiveCluster is easy and, compared to the value of the data being protected, economical. So, given the ease, low cost, and low compute overhead, the question really becomes, why wouldn't you give your critical data an extra layer of protection by running Purity ActiveCluster along with SAP HANA system replication?

To learn more about Pure Storage Purity ActiveCluster for SAP HANA, contact your Pure Storage sales representative or download the whitepaper, "Pure Storage ActiveCluster with SAP HANA 2.0 MDC" at **www.purestorage.com/resources/type-a/pure-storage-activecluster-with-sap-hana.html**.

[1] Sullivan, Ben. "Christmas Floods Take Out Vodafone Data Centre In Leeds." Silicon. January 2016. www.silicon.co.uk/cloud/floods-vodafone-data-centre-leeds-182967.