MBV Systèmes d’Information

To meet client requirements for high-performance analytics on large volumes of data in the cloud, MBV SI deployed four SAP HANA appliances running on SUSE® Linux Enterprise Server for SAP Applications on Dell PowerEdge R920 servers. This combination of application, operating system and hardware gives MBV SI’s clients the required enterprise-level reliability, availability, scalability, manageability and security.

Overview
MBV Systèmes d’Information (MBV SI) is a fast-growing systems integrator based in France. Set up by experienced managers from industry sectors where high-availability computing is critical, MBV SI aims to provide extremely reliable business services to its clients. The company prides itself on offering tailored solutions that adapt to its clients’ changing requirements.

Challenge
Technology plays an increasingly important role in practically every business today. The explosive growth of web, mobile and social technologies is driving faster cycles of change, requiring businesses to become more agile and responsive. For businesses facing competition from smaller, more nimble start-ups, there is significant untapped value in putting enterprise data to better use.

Solution
MBV SI saw a clear opportunity to help its clients on both fronts by launching a hosted SAP HANA offering that would enable them to create cloud-based environments for high-speed analysis.

“With SUSE Linux Enterprise Server, we can offer our clients high-availability, high-performance SAP HANA landscapes in the cloud.”

THIERRY MARTIN
Commercial Director
MBV SI

Thierry Martin, Commercial Director of MBV SI, said: “Our clients recognize that their vast stores of ERP data are a source of deep intelligence that can help them steer their businesses. By analysing that data in new ways and in real time, they can identify commercial opportunities and threats much faster and respond more appropriately. For clients using SAP ERP, there is also an interest in trying out new cloud-based systems and interfaces alongside their existing on-premises infrastructure.”

MBV SI at a Glance:
MBV SI is a highly experienced systems integrator, hosting and managed services provider specializing in the adaption of business solutions to the specific business requirements of its clients.

- Industry and Location
  Computer Services, France

- Products and Services
  SUSE Linux Enterprise Server for SAP Applications
  SUSE Manager

- Results
  + Enabled clients to deploy new SAP HANA systems rapidly
  + Provided extremely high availability and performance
  + Supported large databases and delivered real-time reporting
“High availability is a cornerstone of our commercial offer: clients know that they can trust us to keep their systems running at all times.”

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Given MBV SI’s focus on enterprise-class services, the integration of the SAP Linux Enterprise High Availability Extension in SUSE Linux Enterprise Server for SAP Applications was another attractive feature. Deploying similar capabilities in the other leading Linux distribution would have required MBV SI to license an additional three products, increasing the complexity and the cost.

“The combination of Dell servers and storage with SUSE Linux Enterprise Server gave us a fully supported and certified platform for running SAP HANA, including certification for SAP HANA Virtualized,” said Thierry Martin. “With SUSE Linux Enterprise Server, we can offer our clients high-availability, high-performance SAP HANA landscapes in the cloud.”

MBV SI uses a kernel-tune option in SUSE Linux Enterprise Server for SAP Applications to optimize performance for its SAP HANA workloads. As standard, the Linux kernel swaps out rarely accessed application memory pages and uses them as a cache to accelerate file system operations. The kernel-tune option ensures that when the page-cache is filled to the configured limit, application memory takes priority and does not get paged out in this way—keeping it available for SAP applications.

“Deploying SAP HANA on SUSE Linux Enterprise Server was easy, and the support is great from all three parties: Dell, SUSE and SAP,” said Thierry Martin. “We plan to deploy SUSE Manager in the near future to help us manage our whole SUSE Linux Enterprise Server landscape more efficiently and effectively.”

**Results**

“With SAP HANA, our clients can answer business questions that were simply impossible to answer before,” said Thierry Martin. “They are free to explore the potential of SAP HANA without thinking about the underlying infrastructure. In this respect, MBV SI is like the ‘electricity’ for the solution: we provide a high-performance platform on SUSE Linux Enterprise Server, enabling them to focus purely on the SAP application itself.”

A major area of interest for MBV SI’s clients is using SAP HANA to accelerate the SAP Business Planning Consolidation application. This solution helps clients streamline financial planning, budgeting and forecasting and provides what-if analysis and scenario planning to help them make better decisions in real time.

“To support real-time decision-making in SAP HANA, our clients need complete confidence that the platform will always be running optimally,” said Thierry Martin. “SUSE Linux Enterprise Server offers the required enterprise-level reliability, availability, scalability, manageability and security. High availability is a cornerstone of our commercial offer: clients know that they can trust us to keep their systems running at all times.”

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