

# High-availability IT for Swiss holiday destination, Davos Klosters

“The IT system had to be harmonised after the holiday resorts of Davos and Klosters were merged. Our requirements were high availability, simple support and maintenance as well as an attractive price.

That is why HP Storage P4500 is the perfect match for Davos Klosters Mountains.” Thomas Grebner, IT manager, Davos Klosters Mountains



## Objective

Needed to harmonise different IT infrastructures, develop a high-availability, scalable storage and server solution at an attractive price and integrate with a Linux and GroupWise mail system.

## Approach

Contacted SKyPRO, an HP Gold Preferred Partner to provide consultancy. Reviewed different solution approaches and products from various manufacturers. Davos Klosters Mountains chose HP Storage.

## IT improvements

- Installed two HP Storage P4500 systems at different locations
- Implemented virtualised server environments
- Ensured completely redundant operation
- Migrated all operating applications to the server and storage system

## Business benefits

- Achieved a stable, new, high-performance server and storage environment
- Ensured business continuity through smooth operation and high availability
- Introduced system scalability to deliver flexibility

**HP customer case study:** Davos Klosters Mountains deploys HP P4500 Storage Area Networks (SANs) to create a high-availability, centralised IT system.

**Industry:** Leisure



Davos Klosters Mountains connects the two top Swiss ski destinations, Davos and Klosters. Over 700 kilometres of marked hiking trails in the summer and more than 300 kilometres of ski slopes in the winter make this ski and hiking region unique, with a variety of experiences.

“Davos Klosters Mountains operates five mountain railways and 22 hotels with 1,700 beds. We must offer our guests an infrastructure with smooth operation to be able to compete with other holiday destinations. That is why we do not compromise when it comes to our IT. To update our server environment, we collaborated with SKyPRO AG, our trusted HP Preferred Partner of many years, and selected an HP Storage P4500 solution,” says Thomas Grebner, IT manager, Davos Klosters Mountains.

Davos, the highest city in Europe and Klosters, a beautiful mountain village with traditional Swiss chalets, merged into Davos Klosters Mountains five years ago. After this merger, different IT infrastructures were available that had to be consolidated. Davos Klosters Mountains is a multi-faceted company that operates



## Customer solution at a glance

### Hardware

- 2 HP Storage P4500, 10.8TB SAS Virtualisation SAN Solution
- 2 nodes to 12 SAS HDD with 450GB

### HP Services

- Consultation during the evaluation phase
- Support for the development and installation of the solution
- Knowledge transfer
- Consultation for the further enhancement of the systems

mountain railways, including artificial snow systems, web and live cams, guest information, slope guidance systems, hotels, sales and marketing operations and an online ticket shop. The goal of this holiday destination is to be among the best in Switzerland and to further exceed its guests' expectations. Only then can Davos Klosters Mountains prevail against competitors and optimise booking figures.

## Innovative infrastructure for long-term success

The systems of Davos Klosters Mountains must be highly available, particularly at weekends and during the holiday periods. Guests expect trouble-free mountain railways, information display boards with up-to-date information, smooth hotel check-ins and a continuously available online ticket shop. The IT systems must work perfectly and efficiently to ensure outstanding service so Davos Klosters Mountains decided to evaluate a new server and storage solution.

Grebner explains: "we work with Linux and use Novell's GroupWise solution as our mail system. We wanted to integrate a new storage system within this environment and replace our high number of older, smaller servers with a virtualised server solution. We wanted a partner who is familiar with these topics and can provide optimal and neutral advice. Our first choice was SKyPRO, a company that we've trusted for many years."

## HP storage for a demanding company

The objectives were compiled, solutions from different manufacturers were checked and installations were examined in co-operation with SKyPRO. Finally, Davos Klosters Mountains decided on an HP Storage P4500 Storage Area Network solution, which offers the functions of an HP Enterprise Virtual Array at a very attractive price. Conventional storage systems may encounter performance bottlenecks due to the higher server utilisation but a virtualised solution compensates for these bottlenecks and that has become affordable with HP Storage which was another reason for Davos Klosters Mountains to select the HP P4500. Today, Davos Klosters Mountains can reap the benefits of these systems, including fast availability of data, security in case of failure, cost-efficient expansion and simple, central management.

The HP P4500 offers everything a SAN should provide in terms of power and efficiency. In case of increased storage requirements, it scales the performance and capacity without interrupting the operation and, thanks to thin provisioning, storage is only assigned if data is actually written. The backup is created with snapshots - immediate copies of data which are available at a specific point in time. Administrators can use these snapshots to restore individual files or folders or reset to a previous state. Remote copy enables a central backup and disaster recovery by replicating snapshots between HP P4500 SANs at different locations.

## Convincing solution in every way

An HP P4500 SAN was implemented at two locations, Jakobshorn and Parsenn, which are linked with a fibre connection. The HP Storage P4500 integrates storage space, computing power and network components and can be directly connected to the company's LAN via Internet Small Computer System Interface (iSCSI) protocol. Additionally, a virtual storage SAN was set up. The software automatically combines the two systems into a failure-resistant cluster so that data is permanently available, even in case of server problems. Today, the mail and archiving system, accounting, time recording, mountain railway maintenance application, online ticket shop and hotel applications (booking system, locking system, internet access for guests) run on the new storage and server solution. The installation delivers stable, powerful operation and ensures easy and cost-efficient management. In addition just three employees take care of the IT for 120 users.

"We are highly satisfied with the entire course of the project. SKyPRO gave an impressive demonstration of its comprehensive know-how and excellent consultation work. With the HP Storage P4500 solution we not only have a reliable infrastructure but also more security and dynamics thanks to the virtualised environment. Davos Klosters Mountains continuously develops and grows - and so does our IT solution," concludes Grebner.

Share with colleagues     



### Get connected

[www.hp.com/go/getconnected](http://www.hp.com/go/getconnected)

Get the insider view on tech trends, alerts, and HP solutions for better business outcomes

© 2011 Hewlett-Packard Development Company, L.P. The information contained herein is subject to change without notice. The only warranties for HP products and services are set forth in the express warranty statements accompanying such products and services. Nothing herein should be construed as constituting an additional warranty. HP shall not be liable for technical or editorial errors or omissions contained herein.

