



BVQ AND SRS – AN IDEAL SOLUTION FOR GASCADE GASTRANSPORT GMBH

Thanks to a fully-fledged BVQ installation together with the Storage Reporting Service, GASCADE Gastransport GmbH benefits from optimum and proactive monitoring of its storage infrastructure alongside target-oriented planning certainty for future expansions.

AT A GLANCE

THE TASK

Monitoring and analysis software for everyday operation and proactive monitoring by SVA storage specialists

SYSTEMS, SOFTWARE AND SERVICES

- > IBM Spectrum Virtualize (SAN Volume Controller)
- > IBM Storwize V5000
- > IBM Storwize V3700
- > SVA BVQ (Base Edition)
- > SVA BVQ Storage Reporting Service

BENEFITS

- > Central monitoring of the entire storage infrastructure
- > Additional proactive service enables early detection of bottlenecks and guarantees high availability
- > Detailed and targeted evaluation of environment by SVA experts
- > Added value and an improved overview thanks to dashboards and extensive reporting and alerting options

GASCADE GASTRANSPORT GMBH

GASCADE Gastransport GmbH, which has around 400 employees, is an independent transport network operator based in Kassel, Germany. For this purpose, GASCADE plans, builds and operates gas infrastructure in Germany. With a pipeline system based on the highest technical standards, the company offers expert and end-to-end transport services, directly linking five European countries and ensuring the secure provision of energy in Germany and Europe in the future, too.

THE CHALLENGE

Within its IT storage infrastructure with an office and process network, GASCADE Gastransport GmbH runs two areas in which the storage virtualization solution IBM Spectrum Virtualize is used together with IBM V5000 Storwize systems as backend storage facilities.

In order to analyze the performance and capacity requirements for these areas and provide high availability, a solution that enables simple monitoring was required.

GASCADE's IT administration staff are responsible for numerous other tasks alongside the storage infrastructure. Therefore, an additional service was required that performs a proactive check of the current performance and capacity utilization on a monthly basis and can analyze the results of these on the basis of a wealth of expertise in the storage systems used.

On the basis of these evaluated results, GASCADE was to be able to identify possible bottlenecks in capacity and performance, thereby ensuring the required high availability of the storage infrastructure in the long term.





“The monthly reports – evaluated by a storage specialist at SVA – offer us considerable added value with regard to the current health status of our storage infrastructure and our future plans.”

“In addition, BVQ offers full flexibility with its numerous monitoring and reporting options, even allowing us to perform analyses independently when required.”

*GASCADE
IT Administration*

BUSINESS VOLUME QUALICISION (BVQ) IN CONNECTION WITH THE STORAGE REPORTING SERVICE (SRS)

In order to master these challenges, GASCADE Gastransport GmbH has opted for the Business Volume Qualicision (BVQ) software solution from SVA. Using the software installed in the data center, all information on the storage infrastructure can be queried and permanently saved. Therefore, the influence of an event that occurs within the system, for example on performance, can be analyzed in great detail.

In order to guarantee proactive monitoring without requiring a great level of expertise on the part of the IT administration staff at GASCADE, the BVQ Storage Reporting Service was introduced in addition to the existing on-premises installation. Via a secure remote connection, an SVA storage specialist connects to the customer's BVQ environment once a month and conducts reports on the system's capacity and performance.

These reports build up a precise history over a long period of time and can also be used to create growth forecasts in the areas of capacity and performance. The SVA storage specialist with years of experience in GASCADE's systems can use these to determine possible bottlenecks and future requirements, discuss these with the customer and make the corresponding plans.

Furthermore, the BVQ version installed on-premises with predefined favorites for the most common use cases offers a simple way to analyze the environment independently and at short notice. Another useful function are monitoring dashboards that offer a continuous overview of the storage infrastructure on a single screen. Alerts enable IT administration staff to be automatically warned via email on the basis of defined threshold values – without having to actively perform a BVQ analysis.

As such, GASCADE has the full flexibility to perform independent analyses while also allowing the company to rely on the expertise of SVA's storage specialists.

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