



North Rhine-Westphalia Police Force Scales with Real Application Cluster and Saves Money

"By using Oracle9i Real Application Clusters on an Intel-based Linux cluster, we estimate that we will be able to save a significant amount of money."

- Polizeidirektor (Marshal) Detlef Gernandt

Key Benefits

- High availability
- Good scalability
- Reduced administrative personnel

Oracle Products & Services

- Oracle9i Database
- Oracle9i Real Application Clusters

Corporate Profile

German Police Force
North Rhine- Westphalia,
Germany

The North Rhine- Westphalia
Police Force, the most
populous district in Germany,
with over 17 million residents.

Industry

Public Service

Employees

25,000

Police Force puts RAC to the Test

The North Rhine-Westphalia Police Force (NRW) uses a system called M1 from MACH Corporation to run their entire range of business operations, including budgeting, warehousing, procurement, inventory and stock management, controlling, and cost and service accounting. The NRW Police Force had been using the M1 system for several years to support some of their local police districts. They wanted to expand their system to include all of their districts. Of course, this type of expansion could normally require much greater costs, for hardware, software and for maintenance overhead.

High-Level Project Goals

- Implementation on lower-priced, Intel-based hardware
- Greater scalability to include 70 districts in their centralized system
- Reduction of maintenance overhead

Why Oracle?

The Police Force decided that they wanted to use a centralized database, to keep maintenance personnel to a minimum, and Intel-based hardware, to reduce hardware costs. The Police Force examined the costs of using Oracle9i Real Application Clusters, running on Linux clusters on Fujitsu Siemens hardware. Their analysis showed that they achieve significant yearly savings with the Oracle/Linux solution.

The Police Force initially implemented their M1 system on 7 separate Informix databases, but they converted to a centralized Oracle system in 2000. They initially used Oracle with a standby database for high availability, and were happy with the results.

Getting a Jump on Their Applications

The NRW Police Force was able to get their M1 applications running against Oracle9i Real Application Clusters in less than 7 days, without having to change anything about these applications to work with Real Application Clusters. They have seen some immediate improvements in performance and availability. The Police Force is currently in production, supporting 7 districts, each with over 500 MBs of individual data. They are currently supporting a user community of over 7,000 users.

Future Plans

The Police Force plans to roll out the M1 system to all 70 police districts, which will encompass a user community of over 25,000 users and a database of over 30 GBs.