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LEOPOLD KOSTAL

Boosting efficiency and slashing costs at KOSTAL with Commvault® Cloud

KOSTAL

Leading global manufacturer slashes storage costs by €5 million in three years and increases productivity by 60% with a single data protection and management solution.

Industry: Manufacturing

Headquarters: Germany

URL:
https://www.kostal.com/en-gb/

Key Facts

- Operates five business divisions in 46 locations across 21 countries
- 60 PB of raw data with 7 PB of compressed backup copy
- 1,300 VMware virtual machines
- Various databases, including Microsoft SQL, Oracle, and PostgreSQL
- Microsoft Exchange and Active Directory
- 40 virtual machines in Microsoft Azure

CHALLENGES

- Expensive and labor-intensive process for storage and recovery of backup data with tapes
- Difficulty managing long-term retention and storage policy with multiple backup solutions in different locations
- Wanted a single data protection solution to minimize cyberattack risks and reduce storage costs

SOLUTION

- Adopted Commvault® Cloud Backup & Recovery Software as the single data protection solution for the entire on-premises environment across 46 locations
- Added Commvault® File Storage Optimization to drive storage efficiencies and lower costs
- Commvault Partner DMP installed the Commvault solutions and provided implementation support

RESULTS

- Saved up to **€5 million** in storage costs over three years
- Reduced backup copy size by **88%** using deduplication feature
- Increased productivity **60%** by consolidating five backup solutions into a single platform
- Recovered data in just **one to two days** instead of two months
- Anticipates another **40% cost reduction** over the next five years

ENSURING CONTINUOUS OPERATIONS WITH A SINGLE BACKUP SOLUTION

Established over 100 years ago as a family-owned business in Germany, Leopold Kostal GmbH & Co. (KOSTAL) has become a global leader in developing and manufacturing innovative and reliable electronic and mechatronic products for the automotive industry. It offers a wide range of solutions, including seat and door control units, smart displays, drive technology, plug connectors, and solar power generation and storage systems, as well as testing and automation systems. KOSTAL's vision is to deliver quality products while ensuring its customers, suppliers, and employees are always satisfied.

With over 46 manufacturing locations across 21 countries, KOSTAL needed a single, reliable backup solution to protect a massive volume of data and support continuous operations.

DRIVING STORAGE EFFICIENCIES TO SUPPORT DATA GROWTH

In the past, KOSTAL used up to five backup products, including Legato Networker and SnapCenter, to copy data (such as virtual machines and Exchange files) from all its European locations to its main data center in Germany. It then stored the backup copies on tapes at an offsite location.

With over 60 PB of raw data, this process could take almost two months to complete and consume up to 200 tapes per month. Mert Tufangil, Backup Architect at Leopold Kostal GmbH & Co., explained that he used to drive to the storage location and secure all the tapes from the tape library in a safe, then put new ones in for

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the next backup copies. If the business wanted to recover data, Tufangil had to search and restore the data from the old tapes. It was a labor-intensive and costly process that negatively impacted business operations.

"We simply did not have the resources to keep changing tapes and recovering data manually. As our data is growing rapidly every day, this became unsustainable and risky for the business," said Tufangil.

After evaluating various products, KOSTAL selected Commvault Cloud to protect critical data for the entire on-premises environment. It also implemented Commvault File Storage Optimization to drive storage efficiencies and reduce costs.

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ACCELERATING DATA RECOVERY AND SLASHING STORAGE COSTS

Integrating Commvault Cloud with NetApp storage systems provides a single solution for KOSTAL to protect and store a wide range of workloads, including various databases, Microsoft Exchange, Active Directory, and 1,300 VMware virtual machines (which will increase to 2,000 VMs when implemented in Asia and America).

"Previously, we could only restore one stream of data with tapes. Using a single dashboard via Commvault Command Center, we can easily and quickly recover the data we want in one to two days instead of months," said Tufangil.

With the consolidation of backup solutions, KOSTAL now has one global team to support teams in different locations or time zones rather than working in silos. Thanks to the intuitive user interface of Commvault, KOSTAL's Shared Service Center and the first-level support team restored their own data without involving IT. This allowed Tufangil and his team to cut the time spent on data management by two working days every week. They can also focus on activities that help to drive the business, such as optimizing new technologies to support the environment.

"We are no longer wasting time managing tapes and going through them to find out what is required. Our productivity has improved by almost 60%," said Tufangil.

Through the superior deduplication functionality of Commvault, the size of the backup data has decreased by 88%—from 60 PB of raw data to just 7 PB.

"Commvault has good data compression capabilities. In just three years, we have saved up to €5 million in storage costs. That's a massive benefit for us," said Tufangil.

With the increased threat of ransomware attacks, KOSTAL also wanted to ensure that its data is secure and available for critical manufacturing operations. By using Commvault® IntelliSnap® technology, KOSTAL automates and orchestrates snapshot management with NetApp storage systems, enabling rapid recovery of data in the event of disaster or cyberattacks.

"A few years ago, we had a ransomware attack, and it took almost one week to get everything working," said Tufangil. "With Commvault, snapshot data can be orchestrated and replicated instantly, helping us to reduce disruption to the business."

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OPTIMIZING STORAGE TO IMPROVE SCALABILITY AND REDUCE RISK

As a global manufacturer of electronic and mechatronic products, KOSTAL has a large volume of unstructured data in product development and innovations. The business is also required to retain backup copies for up to 15 years. In the past, multiple backup solutions made it difficult for KOSTAL to manage long-term data retention across different locations and set the right storage policy for growing data volumes. Retaining data for too long increases storage costs and cyberattack risks.

By combining Commvault Cloud with Commvault File Storage Optimization, KOSTAL now have an overview on who is producing the data and make faster decision on backup policies. Through the automation of tiering long-term retention and archiving data, KOSTAL can also quickly identify and categorize business critical and low-value data and align them to the appropriate storage tiers.

"We were constantly under a lot of pressure to ensure we had enough storage headroom for backup copies," said Tufangil. "Using the automation and insight provided by Commvault solutions, we can easily identify data at risk in each location and take faster actions to back up, archive, or move them to the right place. This gives us peace of mind every day."

KOSTAL expects to further reduce costs by 40% over the next five years by using Commvault Cloud with Commvault File Storage Optimization.

SUPPORTING TRANSFORMATION TO THE CLOUD

To improve the flexibility and scalability of managing data growth, KOSTAL is looking to move more data to the cloud and add Commvault Cloud Backup & Recovery for Microsoft 365 to protect cloud backups. KOSTAL is currently implementing this built-by-Commvault SaaS solution and is considering using Commvault Cloud Air Gap Protect to support its digital transformation journey to a hybrid cloud.

With the support of Commvault Partner DMP, KOSTAL successfully completed the implementation of Commvault solutions within the required timeline.

"DMP is professional and has good knowledge about Commvault. They have helped us to achieve our goals, and I am very happy to work with them," said Tufangil. "Overall, Commvault makes my life so much easier. I can deliver more value to the business and ensure our data is safe and secure."

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