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To: Sanjoy Das/San Jose/IBM@IBMUS
cc:
Subject: Split Mirror - DB2 UDB/AIX - ESS

Hallo Sanjoy,

The SAP ATG team is very pleased to inform you that upon a detailed review of your automated implementation of the Split Mirror Backup/Recovery solution on the IBM Enterprise Storage Server (ESS), you and the SSD team have met the requirements specified by SAP for this class of advanced infrastructure solutions.

You have implemented this high availability solution on a system landscape that comprises SAP R/3 4.6B with DB2 UDB 7.1 on AIX 4.3.3 operating system platform using the SAP-designed SSQJ database.

This solution has utilized, for the first time, two newly created DB2 UDB relational database capabilities for Online Split Mirror handling such as:

1. SET WRITE SUSPEND FOR DATABASE to suspend all I/Os to both logs files and all tablespaces while allowing read-only transactions to continue and
2. SET WRITE RESUME FOR DATABASE to resume all write I/Os and remove the prior suspended state for all the tablespaces enabling resumption of normal processing.

We are especially pleased to note that you have successfully integrated these DB2 UDB commands with the ESS's advanced copy service functions, PPRC (Peer-to-Peer-Remote-Copy) for synchronous copy (mirroring) and FlashCopy (instant local copy) functions to create consistent, near instant copies of the production database. The new PPRC capability - taking a FlashCopy of a PPRC target while it is in sync with the source - is exactly the solution our large customer accounts have requested.

We observed one particular element highlighting the ESS's ease of management capability for DB administrators - the implementation of the commands that control the backup process at the storage subsystem level was fully supported by the web-based graphical interface of the ESS Copy Services SPECIALIST module. These commands can be invoked from the UNIX command line or can easily be integrated in management tools such as SAPDBA.

Fully integrated with SAPDBA and BACKINT for seamless execution in automated environments, this end-to-end solution provides customers the flexibility for integrating it into a range of R/3 implementation plans. With this solution, SAP customers using DB2 UDB relational database on AIX platforms, can now implement IBM's "serverless", "zero downtime" consistent backup without any impact on the production system.

Additionally, conformance to SAP's data layout recommendations for DB2 UDB databases within the ESS in the implementation of your tests, indicates that customers can attain both ease of data management and optimization of performance through maximum parallelism enabled by ESS's robust implementation of RAID5 architecture.

Both split mirror implementations - inside one ESS or between two ESS storage systems - exploit the same copy capabilities. We can

now make this advanced infrastructure solution available to a range of customers. Some customers will wish to start with one ESS storage subsystem. Those customers, who require remote data vaulting or need to scale to a larger database size, can simply extend this split mirror solution to an additional ESS.

With this special DB2 UDB solution, IBM has now delivered the same consistent approach towards an automated implementation of SAP's high availability Split Mirror solution for customers across DB2/OS390 (November, 1999) and DB2 UDB/AIX platforms - thus providing DB administrators with an uniform ease of use and management capability in heterogeneous SAP R/3 system landscapes.

We expect the details of the DB2UDB/AIX Split Mirror Backup/Recovery tests to be published in a forthcoming white paper as an extension of our Advanced Infrastructure Solutions whitepaper series.

We wanted to thank you, Sunny Godavari and the IBM/SSD team at the Open Systems Solution Lab, San Jose, for delivering this exciting solution to SAP customers.

Bye, Siggi.

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