

Getting a handle on explosive data growth:

## City of Wuppertal Selects CentricStor and NetWorker for Multi-Platform and Future-Oriented Backup Strategy



»CentricStor really surprised us. Our backup is light years faster now, and we have a solution for our storage strategy on which we can build for years to come.«

Michael Twelker, in charge of server operations at the City of Wuppertal's Information and Communication Systems Department (IuK)

### → The Customer

City of Wuppertal,  
Germany

[www.wuppertal.de](http://www.wuppertal.de)

### → The Project

Consolidation of the storage and backup infrastructure in a heterogeneous system environment

### → The Solution

Deployment of CentricStor Virtual Tape Appliance, NetWorker backup solution, FibreCAT CX600 online storage system and Scalar i2000 tape library

Ideally, every city administration should provide user-friendly, customer-oriented services while operating with outstanding reliability and efficiency. The City of Wuppertal's Information and Communication Systems Department (IuK) managed to accomplish both when it consolidated the backup infrastructure in its data center. The project had become necessary when the data volume, which virtually doubles every year, could no longer be managed economically and rapid access to important information was put at risk. With the CentricStor Virtual Tape Appliance, the city is now able to back up its data quickly, efficiently and for multiple platforms, while at the same time putting the brakes on rising costs.

### About the City of Wuppertal

The whole world knows Wuppertal, Germany, and its unique trademark, the suspension railway, which has been in operation since 1901. When you explore the city from one of the suspended trains running on the 13.3-kilometer line, it's easy to see why its 360,000 inhabitants enjoy living here, with its attractive location and diverse cultural offerings. But there is another factor that makes Wuppertal an attractive place to live, namely the high level of customer service it provides for its citizens. With their new storage and backup infrastructure, the city's services have now become even better thanks to improved access to information and more security for sensitive personal data.



#### Benefits for the City of Wuppertal

- High cost-effectiveness through optimized utilization of storage peripherals and lower operating costs
- High data availability through fast backup and restore
- High investment protection through easy integration of new technologies
- The storage strategy can be further developed to meet changing requirements since CentricStor features integrated ILM functions

#### Project highlights

- Standardized storage and backup infrastructure for the City of Wuppertal
- 1x CentricStor Virtual Tape Appliance, NetWorker backup solution
- 1x FibreCAT CX600 RAID storage system
- 1x Scalar i2000 tape library

#### CentricStor virtual archive ensures quick, economical and reliable backups for all systems and data

Due to strict budgeting guidelines in public administration, cities have to operate with a lot of foresight. That's why the City of Wuppertal decided many years ago to expand its electronic business processes and set up a storage area network (SAN). The subsequent development of the city's IT operations is reflected in its rapidly rising number of server systems, most of which run on the BS2000, Unix, Linux and Windows platforms. Of course, as the data volume increased, so did the demands on the server backup technology. Since these backups required system-dependent solutions, the city was soon faced with a complex and ineffective jungle of backup software and media, which also caused additional problems when data had to be restored. Toward the end of 2003, when the city was planning its technology strategy for the coming years, Michael Twelker, the man in charge of server operations in the IuK department, had no doubts: "In view of the inevitable continued increase in our data volume, there was only one feasible solution, namely to standardize our storage and backup infrastructure."

And Fujitsu Siemens Computers, the city's long-term IT partner, had the perfect solution: CentricStor, the virtual archive that separates the storage peripherals from the servers. CentricStor provides the IT infrastructure with up to 512 virtual drives and uses the NetWorker solution to back up the data from all open server platforms to its virtual drives via SAN. The results are impressive: technical innovations can now be installed at any time without having to change the backup procedures; storage capacities can be used across platforms; backups and restores run significantly faster; fewer tape drives are needed; and magnetic tapes are utilized much more efficiently. In short: CentricStor provides significant investment protection and, since it runs to a large extent automatically, it also frees the IT staff from handling routine tasks. Twelker and his colleagues were surprised by just how effective CentricStor turned out to be: "When we ran our first tests, we initially thought it wasn't going to work. We were backing up relatively large amounts of data and were wondering why nothing was happening," Twelker remembers. Then he found out why: "As it turned out, the backup had already been completed. It is simply light years faster than before. That is certainly an important argument in favor of the new system." Another argument is CentricStor's financial benefits for the City of Wuppertal, since the system also features integrated lifecycle management functions which support data storage optimization in direct relation to the information's importance over time.

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