

LAFARGE Benefits From Optimized Access to Hyperion Application with BoostEdge

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ActivNetworks, web traffic acceleration and optimization experts, accompanies LAFARGE Group, the world leader in building materials, in the implementation of a network infrastructure allowing for the improved availability, performance and response time of its Oracle Hyperion Financial Management application.

As part of its Hyperion S9 migration plans, the LAFARGE Group aims to enhance the reliability of its infrastructure across multiple reporting sites through an easily accessible web-based application featuring quick response times and high availability. The aim of this project is to improve working conditions while limiting network operating costs through reduced application bandwidth requirements. This project concerns approximately 1 000 users spread over approximately 140 sites.

With these goals in mind, the LAFARGE Group looked to a solution and team with the necessary skills to leverage the Hyperion application. After having consulted various alternative solutions they chose BoostEdge based on the performance results of running different models and load tests. BoostEdge is a platform that sits at the front-end of the server to accelerate, secure and increase the reliability of web applications. As demonstrated time and again, BoostEdge has proven to work exceptionally efficient within Hyperion environments.

BoostEdge was quickly installed, in a non-intrusive way, within the LAFARGE Group's IT network infrastructure. The solution has reduced required network bandwidth resources, when using the Hyperion S9 environment, by 2 to 3 times. In addition, a redundant infrastructure, relying on the BoostEdge cluster functionality, is able to guarantee high availability.

The first BoostEdge deployment was successfully achieved in 2004. Various adjustments to the network infrastructure were completed in 2008 in time for a Hyperion software update. BoostEdge equipment has since been upgraded and fault tolerance features activated in order to meet customer requirements. By activating the BoostEdge Load Balancing features, LAFARGE was able to simplify its network infrastructure and retire their legacy Nortel Alteon Load Balancers. BoostEdge has not only simplified their network, but it has also allowed LAFARGE to reduce maintenance costs and activate new features without having to allocate new budgets.

Today, the LAFARGE Group can rely on a redundant infrastructure allowing it to maximize performance thanks to compression and optimization of web streams. The technical teams at the LAFARGE Group have highlighted the strong skills of ActivNetworks in regards to the Hyperion environment and the quick reaction of their tech support teams through all stages.

“ After extensive evaluations of available web acceleration products, BoostEdge was revealed as the best performing solution. Today, we are able to meet our users’ expectations through high availability and quick access to our Hyperion platforms spread around the 76 countries where the Group is located ”, said Ronan Pasquer, Technical Manager in Corporate Financial IT Office at LAFARGE Group. “ The expertise and the responsiveness of the technical team at ActivNetworks make it a partner of choice for the optimization of our financial applications ”.

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