IBM

IBM System Storage N series SnapManager for SAP Software

The foundation of many of today's leading companies rest on SAP. IBM System Storage™ N series SnapManager® for SAP integrates closely with SAP BRTools to help automate and streamline SAP data management and provide fast, space-efficient, disk-based backup, rapid restore and recovery, and flexible cloning.

Highlights

- *Automated SAP® Data Management—Designed to provide full integration with SAP BRTools and Oracle databases to enable automation of SAP data management.*

- *Flexible Database Cloning—Intended to enable the quick creation of complete SAP database clones for QA, development and testing.*

- *Efficient, Disk-Based Backup—Highly space efficient for high performance and low cost. Helps enable high backup frequency to increase protection.*

- *Extremely Rapid Recovery—Designed to help rapidly recover failed databases to full production.*

The Challenge—Optimizing SAP availability and data protection

Today's enterprise is application and data driven. Business-critical applications like SAP rely on data to be available around the clock. Any disruptions have an immediate and visible impact on the core business. With the amount of SAP data growing rapidly and demand on those databases rising, ensuring availability and protecting valuable SAP data assets is becoming increasingly difficult. To succeed, administrators need tools that help them achieve maximum efficiency.

Backups must occur regularly and with minimal impact; restores must be lightning quick; data cloning for testing and development must be non-disruptive; and full SAP database recovery, should it be necessary, must occur in minutes, not hours or days.

The solution

N series SnapManager for SAP software's integration and certification with SAP BRTools makes the full benefits of innovative N series technologies available for SAP data management. SnapManager is designed to automate complex and time-consuming tasks such as backup, recovery and cloning—helping free IT personnel to focus more effort on value-added tasks. Administrators no longer have to worry about the underlying SAP data layout when performing routine data management tasks, because SnapManager for SAP is designed to understand and address the underlying complexity.

Simple, flexible cloning

One of the most vexing tasks that SAP administrators and DBAs face is creating SAP database clones for development, testing, and other purposes. First, enough free storage must be located to accommodate the clones, and then time-consuming consistent copies of the database must be created, wasting time and impacting production. SnapManager for SAP is designed to help avoid these problems with its fast and highly space-efficient cloning process. Using the FlexClone® capability of Data ONTAP®, clones created with SnapManager for SAP share existing storage with the master copy of the database. Additional disk space is consumed only as changes are made to the clone. This space efficiency allows for many more SAP data clones to be created when they are needed with minimal additional storage space.

Automated backup

SnapManager for SAP is designed to provide fast and reliable disk-based backup. SnapManager builds on the capabilities of IBM N series Snapshot™ technology to create extremely rapid and space-efficient backups.

SnapManager for SAP is designed to automatically work with SAP's BRBACKUP tool to identify the backup data set and put the appropriate database in hot backup mode while a Snapshot copy is created to maintain consistency. Backup verification can be done immediately or deferred. Because backups are quick, they can be performed at regular intervals throughout the day, helping provide a higher level of SAP data protection and helping reduce disruption to ongoing operations in the event recoveries are required.

Dramatic reduction in time to recover

One common nightmare for any SAP administrator is a database failure that brings down the production system and necessitates a full database recovery.

SnapManager for SAP is designed to take the pain and uncertainty out of the database recovery process. When a recovery is necessary, SnapManager for SAP is designed to allow the database administrator (DBA) to easily specify the level of granularity, from a full database to a subset of tablespaces or data files.

The IBM N series SnapRestore® capability is designed to allow the administrator to revert a failed SAP database to a saved Snapshot copy quickly. Once the database has been restored to a saved Snapshot copy, it is only necessary to replay the intervening transaction logs to bring the database up to date. Because SAP data backups are typically created frequently with

SnapManager for SAP, log playback is minimized. Once transaction logs are replayed, the database is back in production.

Solution components

Server side requirements

- *SAP BRTools interfaces (v6.4/v7.0)*
- *Oracle9i Database R2/Oracle Database 10g R2 (standalone)*
- *IBM N series SnapDrive® for UNIX® V2.1 or later*
- *NFS or FCP*
- *Solaris™, IBM AIX®, HP-UX*

IBM System Storage N series system requirements

- *IBM N series SnapRestore*
- *IBM N series Data ONTAP 7.x*
- *IBM N series FlexClone*

For more information

To learn more about IBM System Storage SnapManager for SAP, please contact your IBM marketing representative or IBM Business Partner, or visit the following Web sites:

ibm.com/storage/nas/

MB, GB and TB equal 1,000,000, 1,000,000,000 and 1,000,000,000,000 bytes, respectively, where referring to storage capacity. Actual storage capacity will vary based upon many factors and may be less than stated. Some numbers given for storage capacities give capacity in native mode followed by capacity using data compression technology. (this paragraph is required only when we mention MB, GB, TB capacity statements/specifications)

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