MilliporeSigma Chooses SGI® UV™ for SAP HANA® to Achieve Significant Business Growth
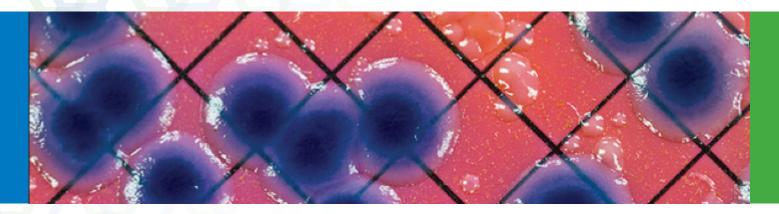
SGI's massive scale-up system powers MilliporeSigma's entire SAP HANA application suite

Background Information

Organization:
MilliporeSigma

Location:
St. Louis, Missouri

Field:
Life Sciences

Overview

The life science business of Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany, which operates as MilliporeSigma in the United States and Canada, collaborates with the global scientific community to solve the toughest problems in life science. With a broad portfolio of more than 300,000 tools and solutions and a leading eCommerce website, www.sigmaaldrich.com, MilliporeSigma is helping to progress research and develop manufacturing and diagnostic solutions to deliver the promise of a healthier world.

MilliporeSigma has 19,000 employees and 65 manufacturing sites worldwide.

"Our goal is simply to transform into a true, real-time enterprise by leveraging the immense computing power of SAP HANA for all transaction and analytic systems," said Silji Abraham, chief information officer at MilliporeSigma. "At the heart of this transformation is the desire to provide best-in-class products and solutions to our customers around the world to help them accelerate their research and find solutions."

The Challenge

In order to perform the real-time analysis needed to proactively manage its internal and external business processes, MilliporeSigma required a powerful scale-up offering that could match the growing data demands of its business.

While MilliporeSigma's SAP HANA solution provided the ability to transform the business to a real-time enterprise, there were limitations on a multi-node horizontal deployment model.

With significant natural growth of an already extremely large database, Abraham wanted to partner with a company that had a clear product roadmap for scaling beyond the market limitations of eight sockets. This led the team to look to SGI for a scalable, building block architecture for the infrastructure to support growing business needs with optimal investments.

The Solution: Scale & Simplicity

"SGI has offered us a unique scale-up technology for SAP HANA beyond the normal limits. This allows us to realize our vision of transforming our entire enterprise to a 'real-time enterprise,' without worrying about our ability to support the exponential growth of big data," continued Abraham.

To address the need to continually accommodate the exponential growth of data and support high availability and disaster recovery configurations spanning multiple data centers, MilliporeSigma will deploy 45 appliances of SGI UV for SAP HANA featuring Intel® Xeon® E7 8890 v2 and v3 processors. In total, these solutions deliver more than 200 terabytes of in-memory compute power to run all ten of MilliporeSigma's HANA-based enterprise applications including; enterprise resource planning (ERP), extended warehouse management (EWM), supply chain management (SCM), global trade service (GTS), customer relationship management (CRM), supplier resource management (SRM), human resources (HR), master data management (MDG), hybris merchandising (HY) and SAP business warehouse (BW).

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For each of these ten applications, the seamless high availability and disaster recovery capabilities are ensured with three servers, two of which run at the company's primary facility replicating synchronously with a high availability configuration to constantly work as a backup. The third is an asynchronous replica running at a secondary offsite facility, which also serves as a user acceptance testing and disaster recovery system.

Results

SGI UV for SAP HANA provided MilliporeSigma a seamless scalability platform that will allow them to manage their ever increasing growth of data. Eventually, the eight separate SAP HANA business processes (ERP, EWM, SCM, GTS, CRM, BW, SRM and HR) will be merged into one large SAP HANA instance for MilliporeSigma. A true end-to-end SAP Business Suite powered by SAP HANA with a scale-up, single-node SGI system.

About SGI

SGI is a global leader in high-performance solutions for compute, data analytics and data management that enable customers to accelerate time to discovery, innovation, and profitability. Visit sgi.com for more information.

To purchase SGI UV for SAP HANA, please contact SGI Sales at 1-800-800-7441.

About the Life Science Business of Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany

The life science business of Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany, which operates as MilliporeSigma in the U.S. and Canada, has 19,000 employees and 65 manufacturing sites worldwide, with a portfolio of more than 300,000 products enabling scientific discovery. Udit Batra is the global chief executive officer of MilliporeSigma.

Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany completed its $17 billion acquisition of Sigma-Aldrich in November 2015, creating a leader in the $125 billion global life science industry.

Merck KGaA of Darmstadt, Germany is a leading company for innovative and top-quality high-tech products in healthcare, life science and performance materials. The company has six businesses – Biopharmaceuticals, Consumer Health, Allergopharma, Biosimilars, Life Science and Performance Materials – and generated sales of €12.85 billion in 2015. Around 50,000 employees work in 66 countries to improve the quality of life for patients, to foster the success of customers and to help meet global challenges.

Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany is the world's oldest pharmaceutical and chemical company – since 1668, the company has stood for innovation, business success and responsible entrepreneurship. Holding an approximately 70 percent interest, the founding family remains the majority owner of the company to this day.

Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany holds the global rights to the name and the trademark "Merck" internationally except for the United States and Canada, where the company operates as EMD Serono, MilliporeSigma and EMD Performance Materials.

"At an abstract level, SGI's technology is simply enabling us to realize our vision to create a real-time enterprise for the first time in the market...This transformation unleashes the true potential of our employees, and thereby creates an unmatched competitive advantage for MilliporeSigma to serve our customers in this information-based economy."

Silji Abraham,
Chief Information Officer
MilliporeSigma

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