

PKZIP Reduces Data Exchange Time by 90 Percent

Company Background:

NC Data collects copyright royalties for musicians and editors throughout eight Nordic and Baltic countries, as well as through its international partners all over the world. The 100-year old company has offices in all eight countries, with headquarters in Copenhagen.

Goal:

NC Data's IT structure consists of a wide area network connecting 11 IBM iSeries e-server machines. "Significant amounts of traffic pass over this network," explains IT manager Klaus Sandvad. "We control all locally-released music on behalf of our customers, so we can collect royalties in accordance with international copyright rules. We gather, key in, and exchange a huge amount of information every day with DBZ database files both between internal departments via our WAN and with global partners across the Internet. We are a very IT-intensive company with large, mirrored databases all over the world.

Challenge:

"Because of continual backups between the 200 GB databases, there is a tremendous amount of traffic on the network. We need to avoid long queues and slow performance, which is why we use PKZIP provided by ddk-software, a PKWARE distribution partner, to compress all our data transferred via both the WAN and the Internet. The result is that user lines are kept clear.

Solution:

"The amount of time PKZIP saves us depends on whether you're talking about data files or text files, but on average data exchange takes only 10 percent of the time that it did before. With PKZIP we have completely solved our data queuing problem and our employees can work more efficiently because the data transfer is running smoothly.

"Our end users don't need to be technical experts, either," says Klaus. "When someone sends a data file or an email attachment, the content is automatically compressed into a ZIP archive, without the user even being aware of it. And when they receive a compressed archive, it automatically unzips when they open it.

"Implementation of PKZIP couldn't have been easier for our IT technicians. Installation required only a very basic knowledge of OS/400. We don't even notice PKZIP during everyday use. We have been using it for almost three years and have never experienced any problems or downtime. And, whenever we've contacted ddk-software with questions, we've always experienced outstanding responsiveness.

"PKZIP definitely stands up to the daily demands we place on it as a utility tool. It's like electricity—you never have to think about it and it always works."

Klaus Sandvad
IT Manager
NC Data



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