

LOHR

Automated, efficient and simplified disaster recovery with Quick-EDD/HA and OpCon

Recovering From the Financial Crisis Using Automation

During the financial crisis of 2008, LOHR, a European industrial manufacturing group, was struggling. Significant changes were occurring within the transportation world and for LOHR to remain a leader in the industry they felt they needed to do the same. With SMA Solutions' flagship product, OpCon, LOHR was able to improve operational efficiencies and support substantial growth, even in the middle of a financial crisis.



Manufacturer of goods transport systems

- 5 plants worldwide
- 1,200 employees
- 135 IBM i, Windows, Linux servers
- 7,000 processes per day

CHALLENGE	SOLUTION	BENEFITS
Disaster recovery required hours of work due to many manual processes	Quick-EDD/HA & OpCon fully automated the DRP	Disaster recovery can now be done within 30 minutes
Different automation tools were used on each platform and did not integrate	OpCon is multi-platform automation solution that easily integrates processes	IT is now managed and monitored from a single point-of-control
Monitoring all platforms required many hours from IT staff	OpCon automates the monitoring on all platforms	A five-minute check each day within OpCon is enough to monitor all platforms, freeing up IT staff for other important work

LOHR's IT department, built on IBM i, Linux and Windows applications, was manually maintained by operators spending hours a day on monitoring the performance of IBM i jobs. For the Windows and Linux systems, LOHR used in-house schedulers. SMA Solutions and Traders used OpCon and Quick-EDD/HA to fully consolidate the automation. This enabled LOHR to automate their entire environment from a single point-of-control, reducing costs and improving efficiencies.

Simplified, Automated and Powerful Disaster Recovery

The combination of Trader's and SMA Solutions' products simplified and shortened the disaster recovery time to less than 30 minutes.

“I can now activate the recovery plan myself using only three clicks in OpCon”

Didier Berard IT Manager

With OpCon and Quick-EDD/HA in place, LOHR fully automated their disaster recovery plan (DRP) and can execute it without need for specific platform experts. This strengthened LOHR and eliminated the risk of needing a DRP expert to always be available.

Combining OpCon's Automation with Quick-EDD/HA

In the highly competitive market of transportation, operational efficiencies are essential to survive as a business. This required IT operators to focus on industrialization and fully automating IT operations.

OpCon and Quick-EDD/HA Benefits:

For Daily Operations

- No manual intervention required
- Monitoring effort reduced from two hours to five minutes
- More focus from staff on developments due to less manual work
- Notifications managed by OpCon
- Increased workload without adding resources

For the Recovery Plan Activity

- Full recovery within 30 minutes
- No loss when switching jobs
- Easy use and implementation
- Expert support is no longer necessary to initiate failover proceedings
- The recovery procedure has been reduced from 50 pages to two, with only 18 steps

Reasons LOHR Chose Quick-EDD/HA as Their DRP Solution for IBM i



LOHR's ERP application consists of more than 7,000 daily processes. Using Quick-EDD/HA in case of a failover resulted in no loss of processes. For LOHR, this was a critical feature of Trader's solution.