

2008 VISIONARY AWARD

EMEA Visionary



SIEMENS AG

Michael Geiges

Career Highlights

- IT Manager for Backup & Recovery, Siemens AG, 2004 to Present
- Held various positions of increasing scope and responsibility since joining Siemens AG in 1997
- Previously served as IT System Engineer at MCF Firmware GmbH

Education

- University Degree in Engineering (Telecommunications)
- Certified Systems Engineer, EMC CLARiiON Storage Systems
- Certified Systems Engineer, EMC Centera Disk Archiving System
- Data Privacy and Integrity Specialist
- Information Security Specialist

Tech Trends to Watch

- Storage virtualization
- Server virtualization
- Data center availability

The bar has been set very high for employees at Siemens AG, which has more than 160 years of technical achievements, innovation, quality, reliability, and internationality. Michael Geiges, IT manager for backup and recovery in the Industry Automation and Drive Technologies Divisions and a 2008 EMEA Visionary, is up to the challenge, leading efforts to implement leading-edge backup-and-recovery initiatives that drive tangible business value for the divisions.

Geiges and his team consolidated backup and recovery on Veritas NetBackup 6.5. They also elected to engage Symantec Residency Services for help in managing day-to-day backup operations. Different features in NetBackup 6.5 being utilized include disk staging, which allows the team to leverage an intelligent lifecycle policy to categorize data and backups accordingly and VMware Configuration Backup support. There are a number of results. First, data backups have been dramatically cut, from nearly two and a half days to approximately one and a half days. Second, the number of IT staff managing backups and recovery has remained static at four and a half while backup volume has grown 50 percent since deployment in 2007. Finally, media server load balancing in NetBackup 6.5 enabled the Siemens' team to slash the amount of time managing server load balancing by 30 to 40 percent.

Geiges and his team also added NetBackup PureDisk for one of its branch offices; the solution reduced backup volume and windows by lowering storage volumes through data deduplication and change blocks. Further, they achieved an 80 percent reduction in backup volume, engendering significant tape savings and slashing backup windows.