



Case Study: DR Site Implementation

About the Company

A Multi-media domain organization provides premium television entertainment through its DStv, DStv Indian and DStv Portuguesa bouquets to over 1.3 million subscribers in South Africa. Operations include world-class subscriber management services and digital satellite television platforms broadcasting 70 video, over 40 audio and 28 radio channels and more than 6 data channels, 24 hours a day on its DStv platform. Included are six data channels, which introduce the first Interactive television offerings on the continent. The operations span over 50 countries delivering services and entertainment to millions of consumers via television and the Internet.

Business Challenges

The database of organization has grown to 3 Terabytes. The organization's most critical applications must be continuously available (excluding limited planned downtime). Service Level Agreements (SLAs) for Recovery Time Objectives (RTO) and Recovery Point Objectives (RPO) are as follows:

- Recovery Point Objective (RPO): A maximum of 5 minutes worth of transactions can be lost at failover time.
- Recovery Time Objective (RTO), or the maximum amount of downtime allowed before a system is available following a failure depends upon the scope of the failure.
 - RTO in the event of server or disk failure is 10 minutes.
 - The Disaster Recovery (DR) RTO in the event of primary site failure is 15 minutes.

Nihilent's Role

Our approach was to provide best solution of organization's requirement as mentioned in the business challenges. Based on the input received, Nihilent has provided Oracle 10gR2 Physical Data Guard Solution to fulfill their requirements. The standby domain has sufficient processing capacity for the standby database to maintain synchronization with the primary database and can support production immediately following a failover, though at a much reduced level of service. The primary and standby configuration is provided in Figure.

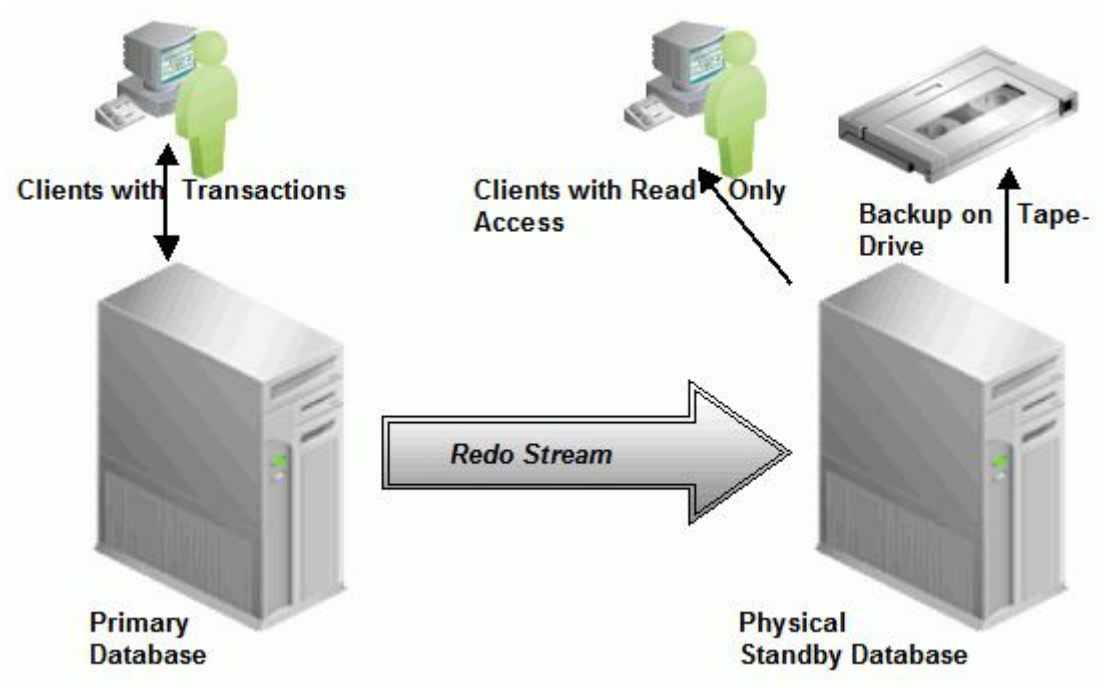


Figure: Physical Standby Database Representation

Benefits Achieved

Protects Against Data Loss and Downtime: - An exact replica of the Global Single Instance is maintained at a remote location, the remote standby database can be transitioned to the primary role within Organization's Service Level Requirements

Reduces Cost: - Data Guard can be run on any server licensed for Oracle Enterprise Edition – there is no additional license or support cost, the same database licenses and servers are utilized by other applications and databases while in standby role, maximizing ROI for DR resources

Keeps it Simple: - Data Guard automates the process of synchronizing the primary and standby databases, it isolates the standby database from events that can make the primary production system unusable, it comes with a powerful, integrated, graphical user interface in Oracle Enterprise Manager that makes it easy to configure and manage

Proves it Works: - Data Guard can easily transition database roles from primary to standby, and back again, This makes it possible to test the reliability of the disaster recovery solution