



Delivering reliable, high performance services to remote island businesses

Elektron reduces costs and strengthens service reliability with more scalable, resilient infrastructure and a flexible virtualization platform

elektron

Customer: Elektron

Industry: IT services

Country: Faroe Islands

Elektron's recent infrastructure refresh has improved its service continuity and performance, enabling seamless operations for government agencies, financial institutions, and businesses across the Faroe Islands. With upgraded infrastructure and a new virtualization platform in place, the IT service company delivers 100% data availability, reduces storage power consumption by 75%, and supports seamless expansion.

Strengthening service reliability

Located in the North Atlantic, the Faroe Islands rely on digital infrastructure to stay connected, support businesses and government operations, and power essential services across its remote, weather-exposed communities. As the leading IT hosting provider for the archipelago, Elektron plays an important role in maintaining this infrastructure by delivering secure and reliable solutions to public and financial institutions.

However, following recent changes to its virtualization platform's licensing structure, Elektron faced sharp cost increases and uncertainty. The company's IT infrastructure was due for a refresh, offering an opportunity to review its technology stack.

"We needed a solution that was both cost-effective and suited our largely Microsoft-based environment," says Ragnar Joensen, head of technology at Elektron.

By upgrading its infrastructure and moving from VMware® to Microsoft Hyper-V for its virtualization platform, Elektron has improved its performance, reduced costs, and gained the flexibility to scale as needed. The new setup also delivers reliable access to services and streamlines data protection while simplifying management. This ensures that critical applications — such as banking transactions and public e-services — run without delays or disruptions.

Vision

Ensure scalable, cost-efficient, and resilient digital infrastructure to support uninterrupted service delivery and business growth

Strategy

Deploy a high performance infrastructure to boost system availability, maximize resource utilization, and simplify management for greater scalability

Outcomes

- Ensures uninterrupted access to digital services for government agencies, financial institutions, and businesses, minimizing downtime and disruptions
- Reduces processing times and accelerates workload performance to support growing demands
- Saves €20,000 per month in licensing fees and lowers energy consumption by 75%
- Improves resource efficiency, optimizing performance while controlling operational costs

Improving performance and efficiency

Elektron's infrastructure upgrade was driven by a need to improve reliability, scale efficiently, and streamline management without driving up costs. Given its geographically remote location, the company required a solution that would not only boost its performance but also simplify system administration to reduce the burden on its small in-house team.

"We knew we needed to upgrade our infrastructure," says Mikkel Hansen, technical architect at Elektron. "So as part of our transition to Hyper-V, we also evaluated our storage and computing needs. It was the right time to enhance our performance and scalability."

To meet these goals, Elektron deployed HPE Alletra Storage MP B10000, the industry's first disaggregated, scale-out block storage with a 100% data availability



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^{1,2} ["HPE Storage substantiation,"](#) HPE, 2024.

guarantee.¹ The company chose the solution for its ability to handle high performance workloads while integrating seamlessly with Hyper-V to provide efficient storage and compute resource management. Powered by AMD EPYC processors, HPE Alletra Storage MP B10000 also enables faster recovery times and eliminates overprovisioning, reducing costs by up to 40%.²

Together with the storage revamp, Elektron implemented HPE ProLiant DL345 Servers with AMD EPYC 9124 CPUs to deliver maximum performance and support growing workloads. It also refreshed its HPE Synergy frames with HPE Synergy 480 Compute Modules. The company selected HPE Synergy for its highly manageable platform, which simplifies administration and reduces physical changes, enabling greater operational efficiency and scalability.

The new setup features synchronous replication capabilities to ensure data availability and reliability without added complexity. It also provides a more intuitive and cloud-based management interface, reducing the time and expertise required to manage storage.

"Compared to our old infrastructure, we have better performance now at a lower cost," notes Hansen. "The transition was easy, and we've improved how we distribute resources, which translates to faster services and greater efficiency for our customers."

The upgrades have eliminated dependencies on outdated systems that were becoming increasingly difficult to support. By updating its entire stack, the company has reduced risks related to hardware failures and strengthened long-term scalability, delivering consistent service for customers, including government agencies and financial institutions such as local banks.

Scaling without bottlenecks

Elektron's new infrastructure has improved its ability to scale on demand. With better storage performance and a more efficient virtualization platform, the company can now deploy new workloads faster while maintaining reliable access to data.

"One of our key concerns was making sure we could grow without running into performance bottlenecks," explains Joensen. "The scalability of our new platform gives us the flexibility to support new projects and services as demand increases."

The superior flexibility provided by HPE Alletra Storage MP B10000 enabled Elektron to scale both performance and capacity independently, enhancing efficiency and keeping costs in check as workloads change. As Hansen adds, "Things are running smoothly. We haven't even pushed the system's limits yet, and we're already seeing significant gains."

Ensuring resilience and business continuity

While disaster recovery and data protection are vital for any IT service provider, they are even more critical for one operating in a region as isolated as the Faroe Islands. Elektron's infrastructure upgrade has strengthened its ability to maintain service continuity, even during unexpected disruptions. To boost its data protection, the company consolidated its HPE Alletra Storage MP B10000 data backups onto highly cost-effective HPE MSA 2062 Storage using Veeam Backup and Replication.

"Our infrastructure now provides greater resilience," says Joensen. "We've consolidated our backup solutions and improved SAN management, as well as centralized our data protection. This means we can recover faster and ensure our customers experience minimal downtime."

The company is currently evaluating new disaster recovery improvements with support from Hewlett Packard Enterprise. As Hansen notes, "Disaster recovery isn't something you implement once and forget about. We're always testing, assessing, and looking for ways to improve."

Lowering operating costs

In addition to performance and scalability, Elektron has reduced its operating costs, with the move from VMware to Hyper-V giving it more control over expenses.

"It has given us cost savings of about DKK 140,000 per month, or roughly €20,000," shares Joensen. "That's just from licensing alone. It's a big number and has really made a difference in our overall budget."

The company's AMD EPYC-powered HPE Alletra Storage MP B10000 also consumes just 25% of the electricity used by its predecessor. This delivers cost savings while contributing to the company's sustainability goals.

Streamlining management

Elektron's new setup — along with its cloud-based management tools — has introduced greater efficiencies for its IT team, enabling it to monitor and manage resources more effectively.

"Before, managing our storage was entirely on-premises," says Joensen. "Moving to cloud-managed storage was a big change, but once we got used to it, the cloud-based management has worked very well and made everything run more efficiently."

Strong support from HPE and technology partners also helps Elektron quickly address any issues before



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they escalate. According to Hansen, "A major reason for choosing HPE was their stability and support. We're in the middle of the North Atlantic. We don't have the luxury of a large IT team, so we need reliable partners. HPE has been great in listening to our needs, and they've taken us seriously even though we're not a large partner."

Laying the groundwork for scalable growth

Now, Elektron is looking to continue improving its infrastructure to explore new service opportunities and keep up with the changing needs of the Faroese market.

One focus area is optimizing its storage use and increasing efficiency through deduplication and compression. "We know there's more we can do to get the most out of our storage," says Joensen. "We'll explore ways to fine-tune our environment as we collect more data."



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Solution

Hardware

- HPE Alletra Storage MP B10000 powered by AMD EPYC Embedded processors
- HPE Synergy Frames with HPE Synergy 480 Compute Modules
- HPE ProLiant DL345 Servers with AMD EPYC 9124 processors
- HPE MSA 2062 Storage
- HPE SANnav Management Software

HPE Services

- HPE Tech Care Service

Key partners

- ALSO A/S
- P/F Elektron

HPE

AMD