We needed expert advice and help to optimise our database operations at a time when customers are asking for better streaming and content delivery services..

Laurent Pythoud, EBU IT Web Mgr

European Broadcasting Union (EBU) is a premium media distributor of live sports, culture, news and entertainment content. They operate the popular song content where heartthrob compatriot Måns Zelmerlöw’s rendition of “Heroes” won the EBU’s flagship programme, the Eurovision Song Contest, watched by 200 million viewers.

The EBU is the world’s leading alliance of public service media with 73 Members in 56 countries across Europe and beyond. The EBU’s platform provides content creators in the broadcasting industry with high-quality material, its most famous production being the annual Eurovision Song Contest.

CHALLENGE
Demand for high quality web-based video and audio content from customers challenged the resources of the EBU’s small internal IT team to keep its technology infrastructure running, especially during spike viewing times. Therefore, the EBU wanted world-class technology and expertise to keep its web-based services, powered by 16 open source databases, online around the clock.

SOLUTION
After a review process in early 2014, Severalnines was recommended to the EBU by a Swiss IT services provider. Severalnines was selected due to its in depth knowledge of managing open source databases and clustering technologies like Galera Cluster for MySQL, which form the basis of the EBU’s IT architecture. It took just under a month to conduct a thorough investigation of the automation and management capabilities of ClusterControl.
The EBU signed up for Severalnines’ 24/7 Support, enterprise-level subscription package, which offers additional peace of mind when running mission-critical database clusters. Once the decision was made, ClusterControl helped quickly configure database clusters and high availability settings according to EBU’s needs.

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With Severalnines, EBU's internal IT teams now had the tools to manage and monitor all database clusters via a single dashboard providing access to real-time information to act promptly on performance issues. Severalnines helped EBU to focus on new business initiatives such as delivering mobile services to customers, as well as save on hiring one full time Database Administrator per year.

Laurent Pythoud, IT Web Manager at EBU, said: “We needed expert advice and help to optimise our database operations at a time when customers are asking for better streaming and content delivery services. Severalnines was the best fit and a lot of good reviews online gave us the confidence to work with them. Led by their CEO, Vinay Joosery, the Severalnines team offered excellent, personalised support and gave us practical advice on how to enhance our systems. Thanks to Severalnines, we can spend more time working with our customers to deliver the next generation of content services as our back end is completely protected.”

Vinay Joosery, Severalnines CEO said: “It has already been a good year for Sweden. As a Swedish company, “we don't know if we are happier about winning the Eurovision Song Contest or hearing about how ClusterControl has helped the EBU to succeed”. With our goal to help enterprises operate open source databases at the heart of their IT fabric, it is great to see our technology is the number one hit for EBU. We look forward to continue our work and make EBU’s databases sing!”

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