

# Memory without failure for a distribution giant

## Informadis moves to full flash storage with Dell EMC and Atos

Subsidiary of the E. Leclerc group, for which it is the authorised IT provider, Informadis has selected the XtremIO solution of Dell EMC, integrated by Atos, for a reliable, sustainable and competitive response to the large storage volumes needed to meet the specific requirements of their customers.

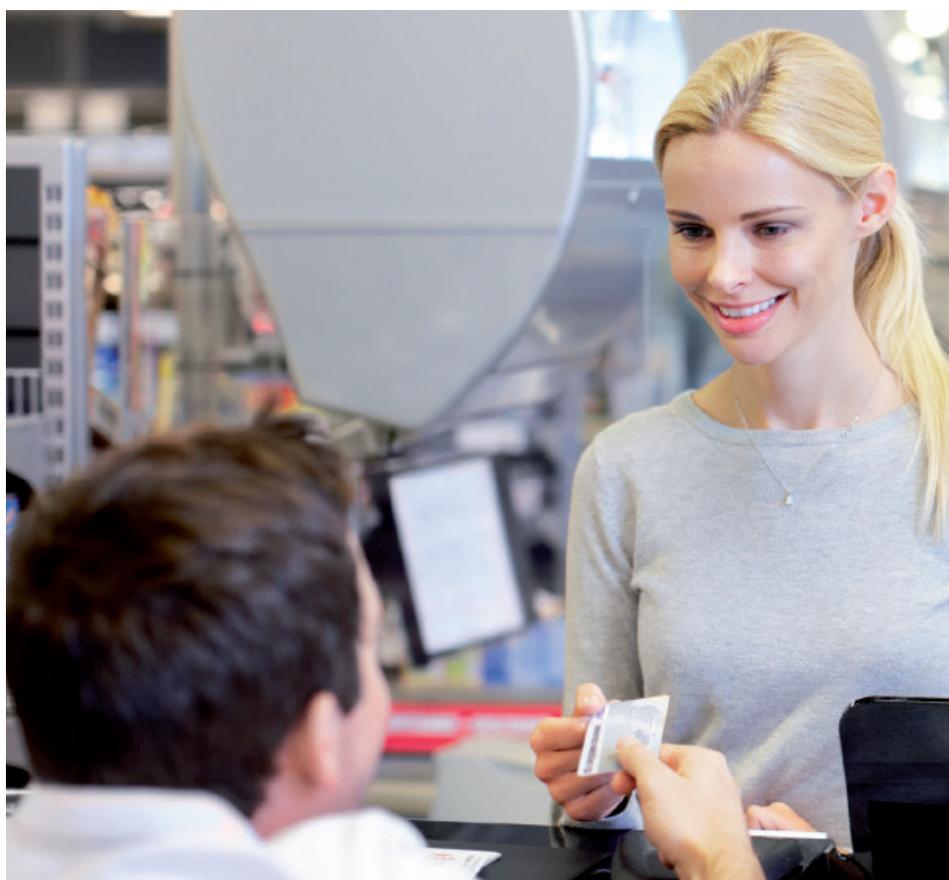
“Our long-standing relationship with Atos means there is a mutual trust and openness between us that allows us to make progress and innovate.”

**Vincent Dorrier**

Chief Technology Officer Informadis

### Systems at their limits

As the company responsible for integrating, accommodating and operating the IT environments of the entities in the E. Leclerc group, Informadis supports the evolving professional and technological requirements of its customers while maintaining impeccable service levels. Since its storage system was beginning to show signs of burnout, Informadis wanted to resolve this with a sustainable solution that would structurally strengthen the performance, availability and resilience of their platform.



## An environment unlike others

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Unlike the majority of users, the huge volumes managed by Informadis in their data centres are due to the coexistence of several dozen independent environments each of a moderate size, which present few opportunities for merging and essentially are made up of active transactional data.

This is reflected in the strong predominance of large numbers of write operations over read operations, as well as many opportunities for deduplication. The system must also be able to absorb peak distribution loads and an annual growth rate of 15-20 %, which traditional arrays, with 80 % occupancy, were no longer capable of. After securing the

infrastructure through virtualisation, which allows real-time replication between the two production sites and automatic switchover in the event of an incident, Informadis decided to replace its disks with full flash technology which, in principle, could meet the specific details of its requirements.

## The Dell EMC/Atos team show their effectiveness

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When Informadis was asked to extend this throughout the company, they found a lack of information available on its application at this scale, and they wanted to validate their choice by testing different solutions. After a trial period lasting from February to October 2015, this benchmark was rolled out in real operating conditions.

production environments, dual disk arrays for both data centres and a synchronised load, distributed between the two sites. Long-term Informadis providers, Dell EMC and Atos, submitted their own solution for this lifesize experiment, which they took advantage of to refine their proposal. On their side, the Informadis teams had the chance to acquire the various tools under consideration and conduct a detailed evaluation of them.

Finally the Dell EMC XtremIO solution stood out for its high performance, scalability and total cost over five years. On this last point in particular, the demonstrator validated the economic competitiveness of full flash compared to traditional disks, particularly thanks to a compression factor of 4. Finally the availability and professionalism of Atos offered the guarantee of serious, reliable support and monitoring for this solution.

## Results that meet expectations

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Deployed in three days, with no need for subsequent adjustment or disruption to end users, the platform exceeded all expectations. In addition to deduplication, the Dell EMC XtremIO full flash arrays offer significant performance improvements as their read-write capacity is 5-10 times higher for the same volume.

The latency time is restricted to 3 ms, whatever the circumstances, and the load can be carried for up to 99 % use of the array. This performance improvement secures batch processing in particular, which no longer risks overloading and jamming up systems. Finally, for administrators, the ease of use, management and reporting are easier than with the previous system.

This confirmation that full flash was effectively capable of meeting its needs prompted Informadis to shift all of its production to the new environment ahead of time. And the linear change guaranteed by a scale-out approach means it is now ready for the future.

## About Informadis

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A subsidiary of the E. Leclerc group, Informadis takes care of accommodating, integrating, maintaining and administering the IT tools of their stores and the publishing of dedicated management software.



E.Leclerc is a retail chain, headquartered in Ivry-sur-Seine with a revenue of 45.7 Billion Euros in 2014. It has currently has 640 locations (hypermarkets, supermarkets etc.) in France including 557 cash points and 88 stores outside of the country (as of 2014). The chain enables semi-independent stores to operate under the Leclerc brand.

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