

SAN Monitoring using Zabbix

A perfect dress for a powerful engine

IntesaSanpaolo bank: Italian Leader with a European Scale

- Largest domestic network: approximately 4,400 branches and 11.1 million clients_
- Strategic international presence
 - Selected commercial banking presence in Central and Eastern
 Europe and Middle Eastern and North African countries reaching
 8.3 million clients in 12 countries through a network of
 approximately 1,400 branches

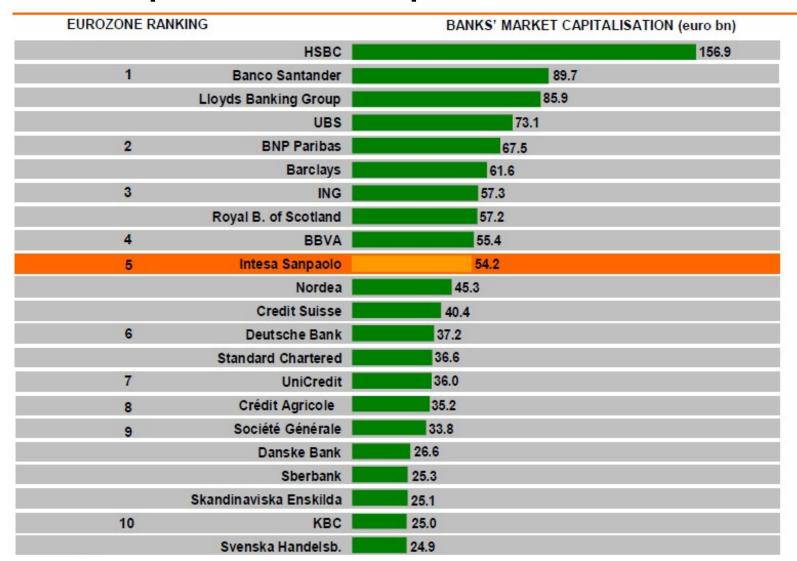




Market Capitalisation⁽²⁾ euro 54.2 bn



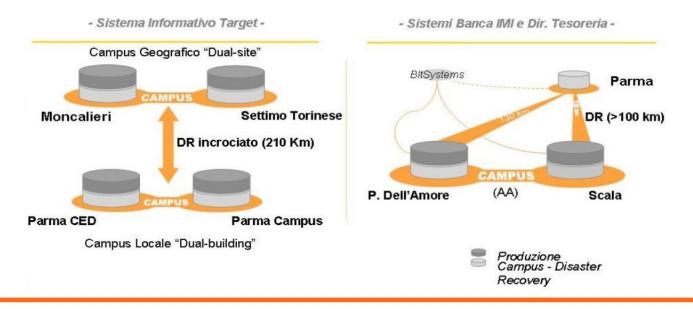
IntesaSanpaolo bank: European Scale





ISGS: ICT service for IntesaSanpaolo

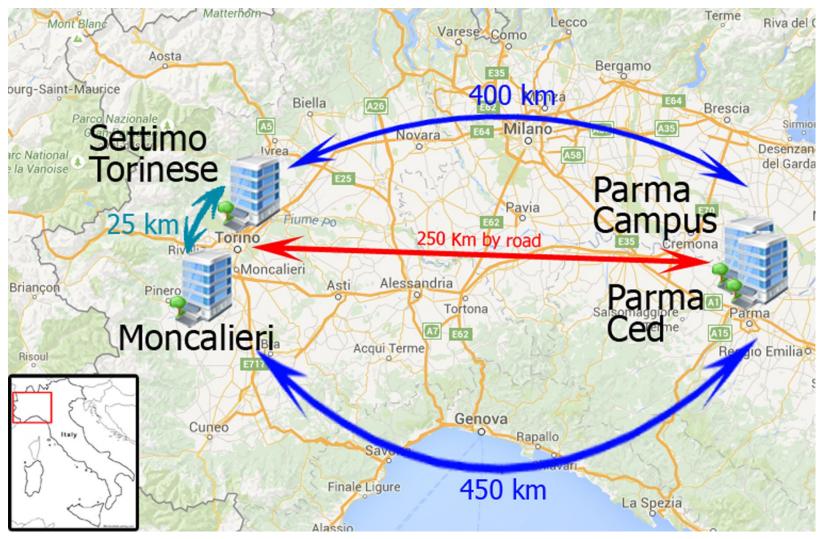
- 90 mln of transactions per day supported by our ICT infrastructure.
- 4 Datacenters to allow high reliability of data in case of disaster.
- Avalaibility of 2 sites in each of the 3 production centers (Torino, Milano and Parma) in sincronous copy mode.
- Disaster recovery assured by a third site avalability for each site in asincronous copy mode.





IntesaSanpaolo Datacenters

Datacenters distribution and replication paths





The Storage Area Network (SAN)

A Storage Area Network (SAN) is a high speed network that connect Storage devices.

In our SAN Mainframe 45 Storage devices (IBM's System Storage DS8000 and IBM Tape libraries) are connected with 6 IBM mainframe z/systems via 28 Brocade DCX 8510-8 Backbone Ficon director.

- Ficon directors are the heart of SAN.

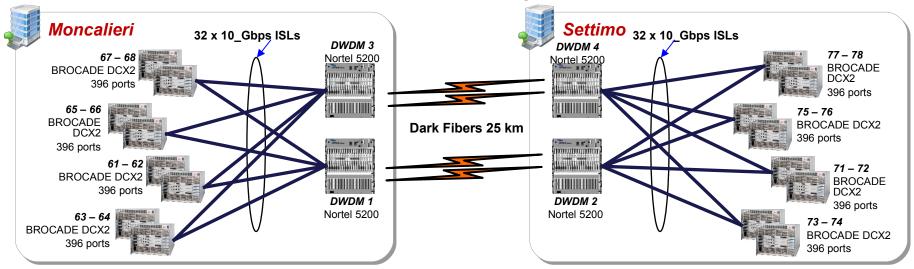
 Ficon directors are fibre channel switches with more than 128 ports that connect an high number of storage devices forming a SAN.
- Monitoring Ficon Director means receive health status information from all storage devices of the SAN and the quality of data througthput. Indeed all data traffic passes through it's ports.





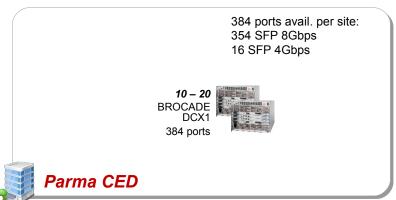
SAN Mainframe: metropolitan data replication

Mainframe Ficon director Metropolitan configuration

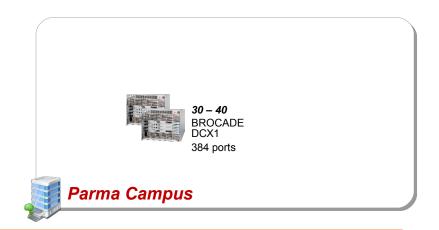


Torino

Parma









SAN Mainframe: Geographic data replication

SAN Mainframe geographic ficon director configuration Moncalieri Settimo **CCMGEOA SETGEOA BROCADE DWDM 4** DWDM 3 DCX2 **BROCADE DCX2** Nortel 5200 Nortel 5200 160 ports 160 ports Officer B B 12 x 10Gbit ISL 12 x 10Gbit ISL Dark Fibers 25 km Manager B. B. 1. 1. Total Barrell **SETGEOB BROCADE DCX2 CCMGEOB** (1) 160 ports **BROCADE DCX2 DWDM 1** DWDM 2 160 ports ammannaini Nortel 5200 Nortel 5200 mmannaimir DWDM 5 DWDM 7 ADVA SFP3000 ADVA SFP3000 **Torino** Dark Fibers 400 km Dark Fibers 450 km Parma 300 m. DWDM 8 ADVA SFP3000 DWDM 6 ADVA SFP3000 **CEDGEOA CAMGEOA** 12 x 10Gbit ISL 12 x 10Gbit ISL **BROCADE DCX2 BROCADE DCX2** 12 x 10Gbit ISL 160 ports 160 ports **CAMGEOB CEDGEOB** Parma CED **BROCADE DCX2** Parma Campus 160 ports 160 ports



SAN Mainframe summary

- 28 Brocade DCX 8510-8 Backbone Ficon director with 9728 ports
- Every Ficon director's ports are divided in three virtual partitions named Contexts (Base, Ficon and PPRC contexts)
- 32 ISL link at 10 Gbps speed to connect Moncalieri to Settimo Torinese
- 24 DS8000 IBM Storage devices (3589 Tb) e 21 IBM TS3500 and TS77x0 Tape Library devices (19742 Tb)

Ficon director is the core of SAN.

Monitoring them allows to control all the network.

What's to be monitored? From past to present.

Alerts from the z/OS

Tracing IOS error messages from mainframe z/OS. This didn't allow to know the type of failure and its position.

Alerts directly from the Ficon director

This allows to know where is the failure and to solve the problem faster.

Monitor of the 57% of SAN

Before we monitored only the 16 metropolitan ficon director. We noticed problems involving only the ficon contexts.

Monitor all the SAN

To extend control to all the contexts including geographic replication (PPRC) and disaster recovery devices.



Why Zabbix?

- Many ways to monitor the SAN Possibility to collect data using both SNMP protocol, Zabbix trapper and network simple checks.
- Automatic build and update of monitored objects Using Zabbix low level discovery powerful features we have to set initial template rules to find all the ports and let the SAN to form itself.
- Easily manage great volumes of objects
 In our SAN we have a large amount of items per host and 390 NVPS:

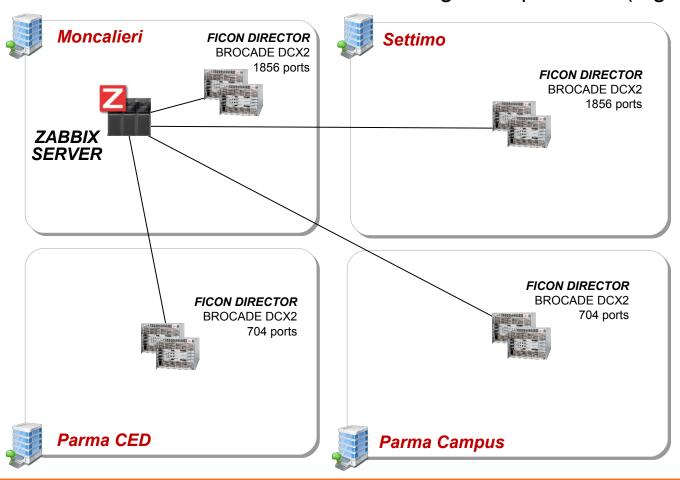
1774 items x 72 hosts = 127728 items to be monitored !!!

- Tailored front end for NOC and Storage and Data Management With Zabbix API we can develop a tailored front end fitting different needs to monitor, manage and analyze problems of SAN.
- Zabbix knowledge and support on site Working side by side with Zabbix expert and front end developers it's fundamental to reach our targets.



How Zabbix works in IntesaSanpaolo?

Zabbix connects to all ficon directors through SNMP protocol. Same of the network checks are made using other protocols (e.g. SSH).



How we structured Zabbix: Hosts and templates

- 2 Templates to manage context with different severity levels In our SAN the base context is the most critical because its ISL ports manage all the traffic that passes from a datacenter to another.
- 4 host groups: One for each data center
 We have created four host groups to fastly recognize the location of device in trouble and save time in technical resolution of the problem.
- 72 hosts: every host represent a switch context This hosts organization has been designed to reflect that each context transmits distinct kind of data with different severity.
- 27 Items per port and 14 items per switch context
 These are divided in 6 applications that represent different types of item:
 - 2 apps for switch and port technical details and attached device
 - 2 apps for traffic quality (Rx / Tx and port errors)
 - 2 apps for port healthy status and switch hardware controls



A customized front end with Zabbix API

WHY?

- Improve data presentation We needed better performance and data organization. Zabbix maps and Latest data panel were inadequate for our targets.
- High interactive data analysis Zabbix graphs couldn't offer anything else than time range selection and static information.
- Custom extra features for NOC We needed an advanced system to track problem management.

HOW?

- Modern and flexible web technologies utilization Using javascript framework like EXTJS we built leaner interfaces with custom layouts.
- Custom powerful graphs Using HIGHCHARTS advanced features we take advantage of items compare, zoom and customized graphical mode.
- DB for events management Issues are recorded as they happen, and purged as they are solved.

SAN Mainframe monitor: targets and organization

Monitor

- Near real time alert dashboard
- Switch groups map
- Custom triggers to avoid false alarms

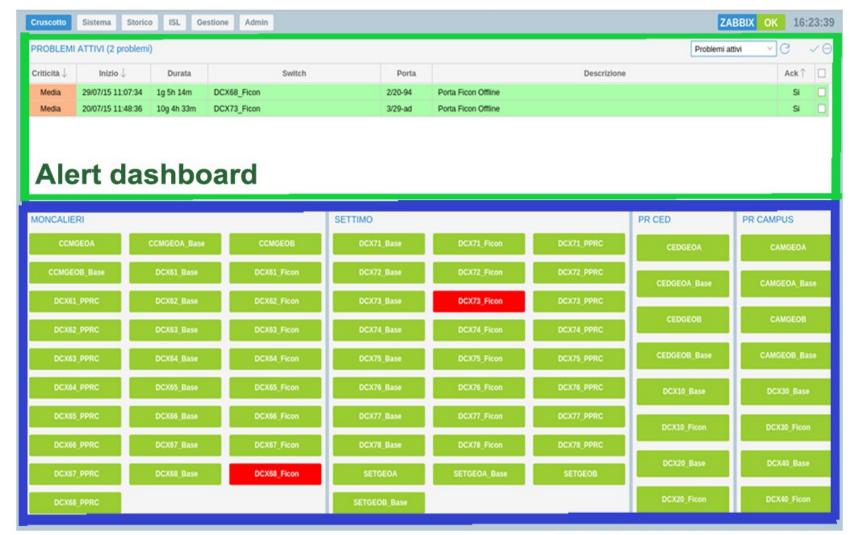
Manage

- Issues management system for NOC
- Ignored issues filtering system
- Administration panel

Analyze

- Switch context overview panel
- Port details panel
- Port traffic and errors charts

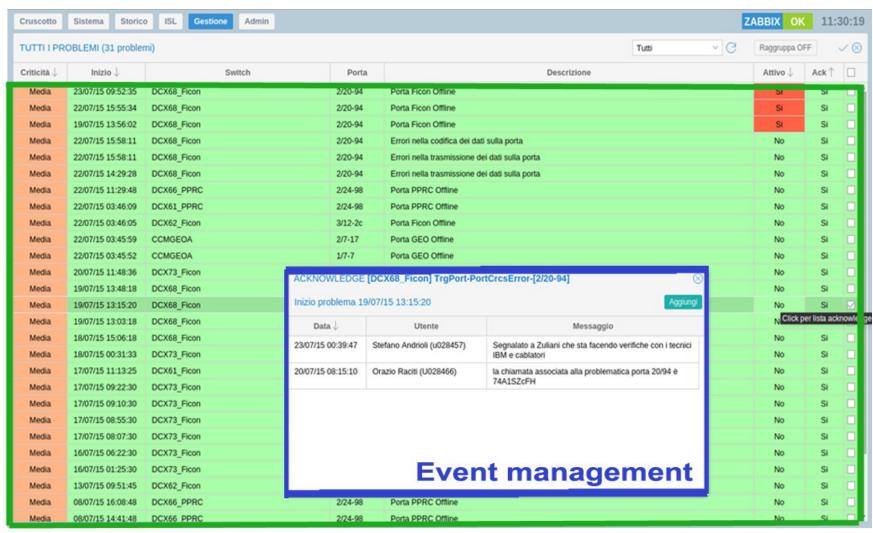
SAN Mainframe monitor: the alert dashboard panel



Context host groups



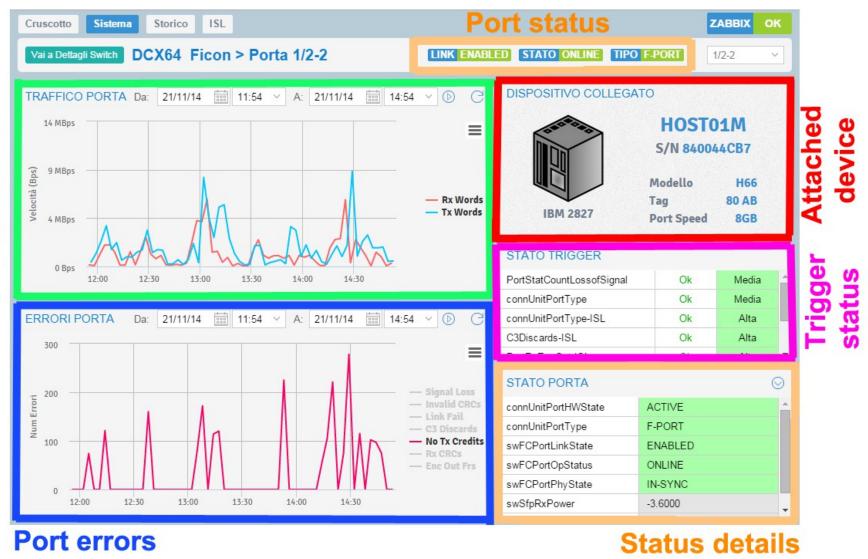
SAN Mainframe Monitor: the management panel



Issues list



SAN Mainframe Monitor: the port details panel





Future purposes

- IBM DS8000, TS3500 and TS77x0 monitoring
- Z/os Mainframe data configuration integration
- Service based items aggregations for SLA measurement

Thank you for your attention