



CASE STUDY:

## A double data centre to support business



### COMPANY PROFILE

Commerciale Tubi Acciaio Spa (CTA) is among the largest steel suppliers internationally with 30,000 tons of stainless steel, alloy steel and carbon steel pipes stored at its warehouses, with a handling capacity of around 200,000 tons per year. The company has 170 employees, a main office in Italy and numerous branches throughout Europe and Asia.

“We were established in 1959,” explains Giorgia Miele, Communications Manager at CTA, “and throughout these years we have played a leading role in major changes, adapting to the evolution of our target markets. In particular, we cater to the chemical, petrochemical, refining, gas processing, power generation and nuclear industries with our services and products. Our strengths include innovation and a focus on sustainability: indeed, CTA is also at the forefront of the energy transition, specifically focusing on the element of hydrogen.”



## CHALLENGE

IT is a critical component for CTA, supporting core activities across the business and making it possible to align services and applications with business requirements.

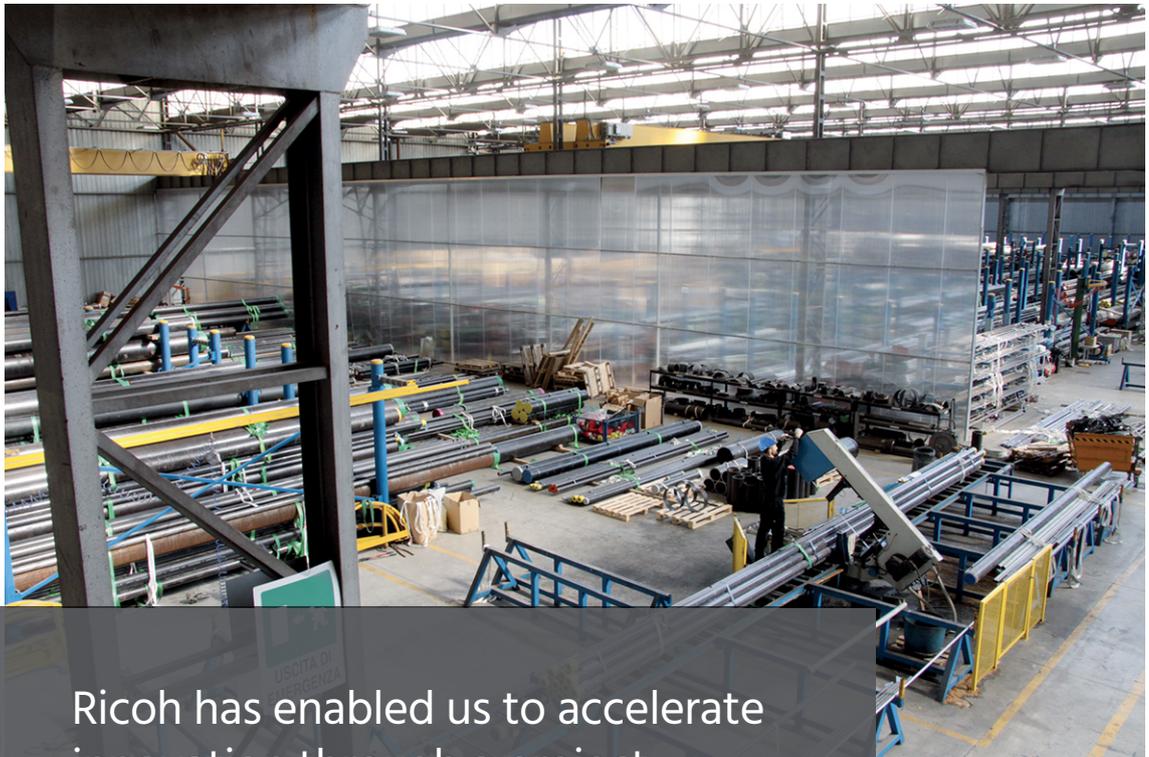
“With this in mind,” clarifies Luca Trombotto, IT manager at CTA, “we decided to replace the old ERP system with a solution that would be more integrated at the company level and able to respond to new needs that have emerged over the years. To support the new ERP from a performance standpoint, we decided to renovate the Data Center. This was in fact a decision that we had already budgeted for and was simply brought forward, since our IT strategy requires periodic replacement of systems so that maintenance and management costs are reduced and optimised.”



Ricoh professionals analysed the current situation, defining the Data Centre’s performance needed to support the new ERP and the migration from the old to the new environment.

*LUCA TROMBOTTO*  
*IT Manager, CTA*





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*IT Manager, CTA*



## SOLUTION

CTA approached different suppliers and chose Ricoh Italy to embark on a path of innovation. Luca Trombotto continues: “We really appreciated this provider’s consultative approach. Ricoh professionals analysed the current situation, defining the performance needed to support the new ERP and the migration from the old to the new environment. Based on this data, the Data Center was designed in all its components including servers, storage, and switches.”

Performance, cost optimisation, and information security were the drivers behind the project. With regard to security, Luca Trombotto comments: “Many critical processes depend on the IT environment, and we cannot afford any downtime.”

CTA therefore built a fully equipped Data Center: the infrastructure located in the main office in Grugliasco was joined by a second infrastructure in a building located opposite.

Storage is synchronously replicated, along with the servers. Among other things, this has made it possible to effectively distribute the computational capacity of servers and to boost performance. If necessary, the Data Centre ensures really fast recovery times, representing an important component in CTA’s Business Continuity and Disaster Recovery plan.

## BENEFITS

The benefits achieved with the new infrastructure were immediately clear, including:

- Increased performance
- Resource optimisation
- Business continuity
- Reliability of technologies
- Reduced complexity
- Scalability and flexibility of the solution
- Simplified and automated governance
- Environmental sustainability through systems with optimized energy consumption

“Ricoh”, Luca Trombotto concludes, “has enabled us to accelerate innovation through a project developed around our needs. Ricoh is not only our partner for IT infrastructure, but also for PCs and printing solutions, handling technical support and maintenance. Being able to rely on a single trusted partner for all these aspects allows us to focus on our business with peace of mind. We have a constant exchange with Ricoh and its perspective really makes a difference for us.”

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## ABOUT RICOH

Ricoh is empowering digital workplaces using innovative technologies and services that enable individuals to work smarter from anywhere. With cultivated knowledge and organisational capabilities nurtured over its 85 year history, Ricoh is a leading provider of digital services, information management, and print and imaging solutions designed to support digital transformation and optimise business performance.

Headquartered in Tokyo, Ricoh Group has major operations throughout the world and its products and services now reach customers in approximately 200 countries and regions. In the financial year ended March 2022, Ricoh Group had worldwide sales of 1,758 billion yen (approx. 14.5 billion USD).

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