

Samaritan Healthcare Experiences Healthier Backups and Restores with ExaGrid

CUSTOMER SUCCESS STORY



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Eric Bending
PC Support Analyst
Samaritan Healthcare

Customer Overview

Samaritan Healthcare is a multifaceted health care organization located in Moses Lake Washington. Organized as Grant County Public Hospital District No.1 in 1947, Samaritan is committed to improving the health and well being of the people of the Columbia Basin. Grant County Hospital Public Hospital District No.1 was formed in 1947. In 2002 a major expansion and modernization project was completed. The projected added 60,000 square feet of new space and modernized another 60,000 square feet. These improvements have resulted in a virtually new facility featuring single-bed rooms, a completely new Intensive Care Unit, a new Mother and Baby Center, new cafeteria, lobby and expanded patient and family waiting areas.

Tired of Tape

The IT department at Samaritan Healthcare was tired of dealing with the hassles of tape and long backup windows and restore processes.

“Backing up to tape was a pain,” said Eric Bending, PC Support Analyst at Samaritan Healthcare. “Our tape library became too cumbersome to deal with. We were experiencing constant problems and our backup windows were getting longer and longer.

Cost-effective ExaGrid Provides Data Deduplication and Improved Backup Window

Samaritan’s IT staff began looking for a disk-based solution that incorporated data deduplication to reduce the amount of data stored , and replication to improve its disaster recovery capabilities.

After researching systems from ExaGrid and several competing solutions, Samaritan Healthcare decided on a two-site ExaGrid system to backup its critical data. The ExaGrid system works in conjunction with Samaritan’s existing backup application, Symantec Backup Exec™. The primary ExaGrid system is located in Samaritan’s main data center and is replicated to the second ExaGrid system located about five miles away.

ExaGrid’s post-process data deduplication processes data after it has landed on the system, ensuring the fastest backup time possible. ExaGrid combines last backup compression along with data deduplication, which stores changes from backup to backup instead of storing full file copies. This unique approach reduces the disk space requires by a range of 10:1 to 50:1 or more, delivering unparalleled cost savings and performance. ExaGrid delivers extremely fast backup performance because data is written directly to disk, and data deduplication is performed post-process after the data is stored to reduce data.

The data deduplication technology also helps speed the transmission of data between Samaritan’s two ExaGrid systems because only the changes are moved between sites, minimizing the amount of bandwidth needed.

Backup Window and Restore Times Dramatically Reduced with ExaGrid

Since installing the ExaGrid, Samaritan’s nightly backups have been reduced from more than eight hours to less than an hour.

“Restores with the ExaGrid are extremely fast. I no longer have to dig through a box of tapes in order to figure out where to



restore a file," said Bending. "I don't have to worry about if the tape has degraded or if it will work."

ExaGrid and Symantec Backup Exec

Symantec Backup Exec provides cost-effective, high-performance, and certified disk-to-disk-to-tape backup and recovery – including continuous data protection for Microsoft Exchange, SQL, file servers, and workstations. High-performance agents and options provide fast, flexible, granular protection and scalable management of local and remote server backups.

Organizations using Symantec Backup Exec can look to ExaGrid as an alternative to tape for nightly backups. ExaGrid sits behind existing backup applications, such as Symantec Backup Exec, providing faster and more reliable backups and restores. In a network running Symantec Backup Exec, using ExaGrid in place of a tape backup system is as easy as pointing existing backup jobs at a NAS share on the ExaGrid system. Backup jobs are sent directly from the backup application to the ExaGrid for onsite backup to disk.

Intelligent Data Protection

ExaGrid's turnkey disk-based backup system combines high quality SATA drives with byte-level data deduplication, delivering a disk-based solution that is more cost effective than standard SATA drives. ExaGrid's byte-level data deduplication technology stores only the changes from backup to backup instead of storing full file copies, reducing the amount of disk needed by a range of 10:1 to 50:1 or more, resulting in a solution that is 25 to 30% the cost of standard SATA drives. The ExaGrid system is easy to install and use and works seamlessly with popular backup applications, so organizations can retain their investment in existing applications and processes.

ExaGrid servers can be used at primary and secondary sites to supplement or eliminate offsite tapes with live data repositories for disaster recovery.

For more information about ExaGrid, please visit us at www.exagrid.com or call us at 1-800-868-6985.

About ExaGrid Systems, Inc.

Customers worldwide depend on ExaGrid Systems to solve their backup problems—effectively and permanently. ExaGrid's disk-based, scale-out GRID architecture adjusts to increasing backup demands due to constantly growing data volumes. It is the only solution that combines compute with capacity as well as a unique landing zone to permanently shorten backup windows and eliminate expensive forklift upgrades. Learn more at www.exagrid.com.