



# C&S Installs ExaGrid to Ensure Data Restoration in the Event of Catastrophic Data Loss



## Customer Overview

Headquartered in Syracuse, New York, C&S provides a wide variety of multidisciplinary services, including architecture, planning, engineering, environmental, construction management, and general/specialty contracting throughout the U.S. Markets that C&S serve include aviation, education, government, healthcare, industrial, site development, transportation, and wireless communication.



USA

## Data Loss Forces Implementation of More Reliable Backup Strategy

C&S Companies recently installed an ExaGrid appliance to ensure ease of data restoration in the event of a mass data loss and are extremely pleased with the results.

With the recent loss of several of its virtual servers because of an outage, the C&S IT staff had been forced to work a tedious 48-hour shift to get the systems back up and running. The nature and diversity of its services cause the data that C&S backs up to be a little different than many other environments. They regularly have a very large amount of new data and even when they are able to locate the backup data (a time-consuming task in and of itself), they regularly experienced painfully slow restore times due to the sluggishness of the tapes they were restoring from.

"Experiencing this painful process once was enough," said James Harter, senior network administrator at C&S. "We immediately sought an alternate solution to avoid the potential catastrophic data loss – and the ensuing tedium of slow and unreliable restoration – from recurring. The recent outage made it very clear that we needed an immediate solution to this issue," said Harter.

They had tried some of the software-based deduplication available in the past and were not happy with the results. They had not tried ExaGrid, but when they did their research, they realized it would potentially work well and play well with their existing backup software (Veritas Backup Exec and Quest vRanger) and infrastructure. This was a huge plus as there are so many pieces that they could not afford to change to "fit" a new backup solution.



## Key Benefits:

- Saved over 150 hours per year in administration and management time
- Scalability to accommodate growth
- Better data security with ExaGrid not possible with tape
- Cost savings realized by no longer using tape
- Product is easy to use

**"I would personally highly recommend the ExaGrid to anyone or any organization that is looking for a high-quality, easy-to-use backup solution that will do everything they need it to do and more."**

**James Harter**  
Senior Network Administrator

## Easy to Install and Maintain, Time and Money Saved

According to Harter, it took more time to get the ExaGrid out of the box and installed in the rack than it did to actually configure it! Once installed, the C&S IT staff noticed a significant reduction in the time they had to spend managing backups as well as savings we realized in tape used. They estimate that they are saving over 150 hours per year in administration and management time as well as thousands of dollars annually in tape costs!

## Scalability to Grow

Of value to C&S is that the ExaGrid system can easily be expanded to accommodate more data.

ExaGrid's award-winning scale-out architecture provides customers with a fixed-length backup window regardless of data growth. Its unique disk-cache Landing Zone allows for the fastest backups and retains the most recent backup in its full unduplicated form, enabling the fastest restores.

ExaGrid's appliance models can be mixed and matched into a single scale-out system allowing a full backup of up to 2.7PB with a combined ingest rate of 488TB/hr, in a single system. The appliances

automatically join the scale-out system. Each appliance includes the appropriate amount of processor, memory, disk, and bandwidth for the data size. By adding compute with capacity, the backup window remains fixed in length as the data grows. Automatic load balancing across all repositories allows for full utilization of all appliances. Data is deduplicated into an offline repository, and additionally, data is globally deduplicated across all repositories.

This combination of capabilities in a turnkey appliance makes the ExaGrid system easy to install, manage, and scale. ExaGrid's architecture provides lifetime value and investment protection that no other architecture can match.

## Easy to Install and Maintain, Time and Money Saved

The ExaGrid system is easy to install and use and works seamlessly with the industry's leading backup applications so that an organization can retain its investment in its existing backup applications and processes.

In addition, ExaGrid appliances can replicate to a second ExaGrid appliance at a second site or to the public cloud for DR (disaster recovery).

"Needless to say, C&S is a true fan of ExaGrid and in addition to everyone on our staff, I would personally highly recommend the ExaGrid to anyone or any organization that is looking for a high-caliber, easy-to-use backup solution that will do everything they need it to do and more," said James Harter, senior network administrator at C&S.

## ExaGrid and Veritas Backup Exec

Veritas Backup Exec provides cost-effective, high-performance backup and recovery – including continuous data protection for Microsoft Exchange servers, Microsoft SQL servers, 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 Veritas Backup Exec can look to ExaGrid Tiered Backup Storage for nightly backups. ExaGrid sits behind existing backup applications, such as Veritas Backup Exec, providing faster and more reliable backups and restores. In a network running Veritas Backup Exec, using ExaGrid 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 ExaGrid for backup to disk.



## About ExaGrid

ExaGrid provides Tiered Backup Storage with a unique disk-cache Landing Zone that enables fastest backups and restores, a Repository Tier that offers the lowest cost for long-term retention and enables ransomware recovery, and scale-out architecture which includes full appliances with up to 2.7PB full backup in a single system.

Learn more at [www.exagrid.com](http://www.exagrid.com).

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