



Case Study

Revinetix DISK2DISK2DISK™ Backup Appliances Boost Reliability and Cut Backup Time for University of Utah Chemistry Department

University of Utah

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- Rich Christofferson,
Network Administrator,
the University of Utah
Chemistry Department

Background

The University of Utah serves as the flagship public research institution in the state of Utah and is credited with numerous advancements in business, science, and technology. The University's Department of Chemistry relies on Revinetix Sentio backup appliances to protect its network servers used for file, mail, and database applications by faculty, support-staff, and post-graduate students. The Department's former tape-based backup solution was described as unreliable, time-consuming, and expensive to maintain.

Backup Challenges

The switch to Revinetix' disk-based backup device came as the University IT staff sought a more reliable and less time-consuming backup solution over their former AMANDA (Advanced Maryland Automatic Disk Archiver) tape solution.

"We used to backup on tape, but it just took too much time," said Rich Christofferson, Network Administrator for the University of Utah Chemistry Department. "The AMANDA tape system was somewhat unpredictable. I always had to monitor the system on a nightly basis to make sure that everything was OK. Now that we are using the Revinetix solution, we have high confidence in our backups and don't experience the challenges associated with tape."

The Solution

After looking at several backup options, the University selected the disk-based Sentio2000 model from Revinetix, offering up to 1.5TB of raw data capacity and client-side compression to increase capacity to up to 3TB.



Revinetix offers the first true Total Disk Backup solution, delivering the advantages of disk and disk based offsite storage.

The Chemistry Department is currently using two Revinetix Sentio network appliances to backup more than 3 Terabytes of network data that is hosted on five different servers. Key to the University's decision was the Sentio's ease of use, affordability, reliability and support for Linux and other platforms.

"The Revinetix solution is very simple to work with, very straightforward," Christofferson continued. "To set it up, it works from a Web page. Essentially, you just follow the 'bouncing ball' to set up all of the automated backup schedules. It is that easy."

Features

The 2U format Sentio 2000 features hot swappable serial ATA (SATA) drive technology and supports scheduled automated backups to the desktop level for every machine connected to a network. The appliance also includes high performance dual processors, RAID 5 redundancy, Gigabit and Fast Ethernet controllers, and dual redundant load sharing power supplies together with all the necessary client software required that is required.

The University' IT staff also appreciated Revinetix' Bare Metal Restore (BMR) software included with each Sentio. This powerful software tool allows the IT department to save a disk image onto the backup appliance and quickly restore that image when necessary.

Savings

These Sentio appliances have also helped the Chemistry Department's IT staff to realize costs savings in terms of both administrative and equipment expense.

"In IT, we have lots of other things to spend time on, and backup is not something that we wish to spend time troubleshooting if we don't need to," Christofferson said. "With our former backup solution, we were always having problems with the tape drives, and we were constantly buying new tapes, which are quite expensive and not very reliable. The disk-based Revinetix solution, on the other hand, is very dependable."

Advanced Technology

Revinetix uses the latest, highest quality components



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available from leading disk manufacturers to ensure consistent, dependable performance. These cutting-edge quality components, combined with the intelligent software developed by Revinetix, represent the most advanced technology available in today's backup and recovery market.

Powerful Performance

The unique Revinetix system of disk communication allows the device to read and write different files at the same time - an impossible task to accomplish using serial tape technology. This expanded data handling capability dramatically reduces the amount of time required for data backup and recovery.

Unparalleled Flexibility

Revinetix supports hot swappable drive technology that enables customers to grow their capacity without the need to upgrade to new, expensive equipment. This technology allows users to store data off-line and off-site on easily removable archive disk drives, totally eliminating the need to transfer data to serial magnetic tape and providing rapid data access and restore when required.

High Availability and Reliability

Redundant power supplies and fans, as well as hot swappable drives, provide continuous operation, high availability and reliability without the need for periodic maintenance.

About Revinetix, Inc.

Revinetix, Inc. is a pioneer in Disk2Disk2Disk™ backup and recovery solutions. Founded in the fall of 2003, Revinetix has revolutionized backup and recovery technology with the introduction of CLICK-EJECT-ARCHIVE™. Revinetix offers the first total disk backup solution that allows automated backup schedules for every user on the network and allows critical data to be stored safely off-site from a single appliance.

To learn more about Revinetix, visit www.revinetix.com or call 1-888-264-5116 for more information.