PROTECTING ALL TYPES OF DATA WHEREVER IT LIVES

With a wide variety of workloads located in its data center, colocation sites and the AWS cloud, Data Recognition Corporation found one solution to protect them all, with 99 percent deduplication.

Business needs
As an industry leader in conducting surveys and assessments for a wide range of clients, Data Recognition Corporation must protect data generated by diverse and seasonal workloads, including a small but increasing number of cloud-based ones, but its tape backups were failing to keep pace with growth in data volumes and types.

Solutions at a glance
- Data Protection Software
- Data Domain

Business results
- Eliminates tape backups
- Covers on-premise and public cloud workloads seamlessly
- Helps meet strict recovery SLAs
- Boosts visibility with automated, graphical report

Conserves storage via 99% deduplication rates
Ensures fast recovery speeds
Exploding data growth, especially copy sprawl, regulatory compliance, strict service-level agreements and shrinking backup windows have made data protection harder than ever. But that’s not the case for Data Recognition Corporation (DRC) with its highly virtualized and growing cloud environments, which support mostly Linux and SQL workloads.

According to Brian Olson, senior systems administrator at Data Recognition Corporation, DRC’s survey and assessment services require data to be protected no matter where it resides. “We have data in our on-premises data center, in regional colo facilities and a small but growing presence in the Amazon cloud,” he says. “As our school-testing season runs five to six months, running it in the cloud for elasticity just makes sense.”

**Eliminating slow, clumsy tape backups**

When Olson arrived at DRC several years ago, he found that data protection was done via tape backups using Veritas Backup Exec software. “While we already had Dell EMC Data Domain in place, it wasn’t being used anywhere near its potential,” he recalls. “So, we traded slow, clumsy tape backups for next-gen Dell EMC data protection to safeguard our data seamlessly wherever it resides — on-prem, colo or in the cloud.”

To complement DRC’s existing investment in Dell EMC Data Domain, Olson deployed Dell EMC Data Protection Software — a set of 11 powerful data protection features that cover the entire continuum of availability, replication, snapshots, backup and archiving. “The tight integration of both the Dell EMC Data Domain and its Data Protection Software optimizes performance and makes support much more seamless,” he says. “We get fast recovery speeds, helping to meet our recovery SLAs.”

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Brian Olson
Senior Systems Administrator,
Data Recognition Corporation
Reducing copy sprawl by 99 percent

One of the tools Olson uses most is the Dell EMC Data Protection Software deduplication backup application. “We get consistently stable backups with minimal downtime and 99 percent dedupes, saving a ton of storage space, with the Dell EMC Data Protection Software,” he says. “And we’re able to use more of its snapshot capabilities, too.”

Dell EMC’s competitive deduplication leadership is shown by Olson’s use of Dell EMC Data Protection Software with his Data Domain. The combination results in higher deduplication rates than systems that use a third-party application.

Another important tool is the Data Protection Advisor, which unifies and automates monitoring, analysis and reporting across DRC’s various on-premise and cloud backup and recovery environments. “I’ve been able to reduce complexity, save costs and eliminate manual effort by doing our reporting with Data Protection Advisor, which also provides greater visibility,” Olson says. “Management appreciates the visual reporting, too, as they can quickly see and be assured that backups are happening every single day.”

Olson foresees more DRC data workloads, especially seasonal ones, moving to the AWS cloud, and he’ll be counting on Dell EMC Data Protection to help him safeguard those, too.

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