Barracuda

Barracuda Backup Increases Reliability and Saves Time for Mechanicsburg Area School District

Summary
Mechanicsburg Area School District
Located in Mechanicsburg, PA
9 schools district wide

Challenges:
- Unreliable backups
- Lengthy restore times
- Few IT resources to manage backup
- High maintenance costs
- Protect mixed server environment locations

Solutions:
- 1 Barracuda Backup 690

Results:
- Fast and easy installation
- Seamless restores
- Saved IT resources
- Impressive price point
- Efficient all-in-one solution

Costly and Time Consuming Tape

Mechanicsburg Area School District was using Symantec Backup Exec, a tape backup solution, and had become frustrated with its unreliability and the length of time to restore files. Often retrieving the tape library and waiting for the machine to acquire the right tape was excruciatingly slow. Additionally The District was supporting 30 Windows servers, six Linux servers, one Mac server, a Microsoft Exchange agent and multiple Microsoft SQL databases, which required an extensive amount of time to adequately backup to tape, and required The District to purchase additional, costly agents for the solution.

Fed up with tape solutions and their high maintenance costs, Todd Ritter, IT systems administrator, evaluated solutions meeting certain criteria: hardware backup with a subscription-based model. Ritter found that a subscription-based solution worked better with the budget planning that The District implements each year.

> *The Barracuda Backup has provided us with seamless restores and we now restore much more frequently than we did when we were on tape. It is no longer a decision between file importance and need versus time to complete a restore.*
>
> **Todd Ritter**
> *IT Systems Administrator*
> *Mechanicsburg Area School District*

Barracuda Backup Fast Facts
- Automatic local and offsite data backup
- Fast local restore
- Data deduplication
- Affordable monthly offsite storage subscription

About Barracuda Backup
Barracuda Backup is a powerful, all-in-one backup solution that includes all the hardware, software, backup agents, and redundant storage needed for a complete, end-to-end backup solution—at one affordable price. With advanced deduplication and compression, backups are quick and consume minimal bandwidth. Flexible deployment options will fit every environment. And for redundancy, you can duplicate backup files to Barracuda Cloud Storage or to your own, offsite, private cloud.

Reliable Backups and Easy Restores with the Barracuda Backup

Ritter, impressed with the functionality and price point of the Barracuda Backup, bought the Barracuda Backup 690 and deployed it in 2006. "The Barracuda Backup has provided us with seamless restores and we now restore much more frequently than we did when we were on tape," Ritter explained. "It is no longer a decision between file importance and need versus time to complete a restore."

Ritter was pleased with his ability to schedule backups and the accompanying detailed reporting. The efficiency of the backup process with the Barracuda Backup has eased the management burden on Ritter. He noted, "Now, I can quickly add a source to be backed up, configure the parameters and then I rarely need to check or modify the settings. Being able to do this has eliminated the tedious maintenance required to cycle tapes, ensure offsite tape storage compliance, and replace deteriorated tapes."

Ritter continued, "It is great to be able to restore files that may have been inadvertently deleted or saved over good data. Now file restores are simple and fast."

The Barracuda Backup has saved Ritter time and worry. Using the service, he no longer has to wait for tapes to complete or worry about a restored file being corrupted because the tapes have been worn down. Using the Barracuda Backup, Ritter has even been able to successfully restore an entire database server. "I particularly like that the Barracuda Backup allows me to do a test restore to ensure that the system is working properly," he added.

The District currently backs up to the Barracuda Networks cloud service, and they find this to be a simple, quick, and straightforward process. The District's experience with the Barracuda Backup has been positive, enabling it to reliably back up the servers. Ritter added, "The Barracuda Backup has saved Mechanicsburg Area School District time and streamlined our backup costs. I would definitely recommend the Barracuda Backup to anyone, especially my colleagues and other school districts."

About Barracuda Networks, Inc.

Protecting users, applications, and data for more than 150,000 organizations worldwide, Barracuda Networks has developed a global reputation as the go-to leader for powerful, easy-to-use, affordable IT solutions. The company's proven customer-centric business model focuses on delivering high-value, subscription-based IT solutions for security and storage. For additional information, please visit www.barracuda.com or follow us on Twitter @barracuda.