



Panthers Group Implements the Barracuda Message Archiver to Maximize Business Productivity



Profile

- One of the largest private club groups in New South Wales, Australia
- Operates six licensed venues and the Penrith Panthers NRL team
- Currently has 120,000 members and 650 employees

Challenges

- Difficulty in consolidating, locating, and retrieving huge amounts of past data and correspondence collected over the years
- Needed a solution that allows immediate access to information in emails upon request
- The solution must also apply mailbox management principles in the Exchange servers, thereby reducing the volume of data stored on the active exchange servers

Solution

- Barracuda Message Archiver 450

Results

- Seamless integration with existing systems
- Zero engineering risk
- Great customer service with committed delivery

About the Panthers Group

The Panthers Group is one of the largest groups of lifestyle clubs in New South Wales, Australia. The organization operates six licensed venues and the Penrith Panthers Rugby League team. The Panthers Group currently has 120,000 members and 650 employees.

The Business Implications of Data Backup

As the number of members and staff of the community-owned organization grew over the years, so did the amount of business data and communication records. Most of this data, which included contracts and agreements between employees and vendors, were kept on employee emails. Workplace productivity slowed as business information, agreements, and documents were increasingly buried in older email exchanges and in former employees' email accounts. Also, only having disk and disk data backup left them exposed to risks of botnet attacks.

"There was no easy way to call out the data through keyword search – it was simply missing. We really had a gap to fill and knew that we needed an app-styled solution that would be easy to integrate with existing systems and a breeze to manage," said Craig Conway, Panthers Group IT Manager.

A Solid Kick-Off with Message Archiver 450

Reviewing several email archiving solutions, the IT department found that the system needed an upgrade in order to match its new set of data storage and security requirements. In addition to this, the team was looking for a seamless integration between the new system and their existing data. With this in mind, Panthers Group decided to do a round of intensive testing before moving its data to Barracuda's Message Archiver 450.

After a successful test run, the IT department set about a tactical plan for a smooth data migration. The massive data was consolidated and filtered through a digital mesh for the identification and elimination of PST files. After the data migration to the server, Barracuda's dual solution began archiving and securing the data on two levels: structured sorting for immediate archived data retrieval and applied mailbox management principles, which reduced the volume of data stored on the active exchange servers.

Defense, Tackle, and Touchdown

Panthers Group purchased and installed Barracuda Message Archiver 450 in two locations: their primary computing facility and an offsite disaster recovery center. Both servers replicate each other, allowing for both data protection and systems availability protection.

About Barracuda Message Archiver

The Barracuda Message Archiver is ideal for organizations looking to reduce their email storage requirements and boost user productivity with mobile or desktop access to any email ever sent or received. The cloud-connected appliance uses the Barracuda Cloud to move information to the cloud as a secondary tier of storage. In addition, the Barracuda Message Archiver also provides a powerful, yet simple platform for eDiscovery and compliance.



“The big win for us is how the Barracuda Message Archiver has revolutionized the way information is stored in the email space – it is now much more accessible than in the past.”

Craig Conway

IT Manager

Panthers Group

Six months after the implementation process, the Panthers Group IT team reported positive results from the new archiving system. Conway explained: “We are now able to manage the amount of data in the production Exchange environment. We have curbed the data growth on our primary platform with regards to email, and have eliminated the proliferation of PST files. We are now able to manage data effectively and delay further storage acquisitions for our production platform.

Mitigation was highly important in Panthers Group’s unique technical requirements as the data stored and retrieved included legal contracts between staff and third parties, as well as communications on terms and conditions. Having a solution that intuitively located and captured conversations around service agreements that were done via email meant that Panthers can now devote its resources to its operations and service.

Conway said: “Not only is the Barracuda Message Archiver solution helping us improve our business productivity by enabling easier document search and identification, the whole process of implementation in conjunction with Barracuda was very seamless. It was very easy from our end, it was very straightforward, quick and it met our expectations. When you put something in as a solution to a live business, you want the problem solved and for the product to work without any kinks. The Message Archiver integrated smoothly, and worked the way we wanted from the moment it was plugged in.”

Conclusion

It has only been six months since the Barracuda Message Archiver was installed. Operationally, the company has been reporting positive results, with a simpler and faster data retrieval experience by their power users. They’ve also reported heavy email usage across human resources, payroll, legal, marketing and finance. The staff at Panthers Group say they have better success search rates that have allowed them to not just retrieve email, but also identify the gaps that were previously not visible. Together, with the Exchange stubbing function, the Barracuda Message Archiver has made it easier to locate both attachments and email conversations.

Barracuda Message Archiver Product Spotlight

- Cloud connected archiving
- Stackable Appliances
- Federated search
- Comprehensive mobile app
- Exchange stubbing
- PST Collector
- PST Enterprise for Message Archiver
- Instant message archiving
- Retention and litigation holds
- Single instance storage
- Message import and export
- Powerful searching
- Standard format storage
- Usage reports
- Email agnostic
- Cloud relay
- Outlook add-in
- Desktop Search

About Barracuda Networks, Inc.

Barracuda provides cloud-connected security and storage solutions that simplify IT. These powerful, easy-to-use, and affordable solutions are trusted by more than 150,000 organizations worldwide and are delivered in appliance, virtual appliance, cloud, and hybrid deployments. Barracuda’s customer-centric business model focuses on delivering high-value, subscription-based IT solutions that provide end-to-end network and data security. For additional information, please visit barracuda.com.

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