

Beating Ransomware in 2 Hours

Retail Success Story | Life's Abundance



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Solution Highlights

Industry | E-commerce

Protected Platforms:

- Hyper-V
- Windows 2012 R2
- Windows 2003
- SQL 2014

Solution

- Unitrends Recovery 714S

Benefits

- Integrated hardware
- Covers a wide variety of systems
- Faster than tape
- Flexible - easy upgrades



Within two hours we were fully operational again... If I was still using tapes, this would have taken 2 days.

Charlie Scherker
IT Director
Life's Abundance



Customer Profile

Life's Abundance makes healthy products that are inspired by nature and informed by science. Their product mix includes dog food, cat food, pet insurance, people supplements and eco-friendly cleaners.

Their IT department is run by, Charlie Scherker. He has more than 25 years in IT management, mainly network and system management, disaster recovery, and security.

The Challenge

Life's Abundance needed to modernize their backup and move away from a cumbersome tape solution. An easy-to-use solution was also a must. Like many IT professionals, one of Charlie's challenges is wearing too many hats as a one-man crew for IT administration and disaster recovery. Charlie also needed a solution to protect a variety of servers and operating systems. Life's Abundance primarily runs Windows 2012 R2 on a mix of physical servers and virtualized Hyper-V machines. A few critical Windows 2003 servers remain and need backup, too. They also rely heavily on SQL 2014 cluster implementation that is their lifeline and requires the highest level of protection.

The Solution

Charlie and his team selected the Unitrends Recovery 713. This physical appliance protects all of his servers and reduces the amount of his time required to manage backup. The Recovery Series Appliance takes care of daily backups and works with the existing tape solution for secondary, off site backup. Unitrends Sales and Support, which Charlie describes as "top notch" and "a pleasure to work with," made the transition process smooth. Charlie is keeping an eye on data growth and DR best practices and is considering a future move to the cloud for off-site backup. Since Unitrends supports a wide variety of cloud implementations, Life's Abundance will be able to choose the cloud solution right for their business, without having to change their on-site backup. After using the Recovery 713 for three years, Life's Abundance upgraded to the newer model, Recovery 714S, with solid state storage.

The Results

The Recovery Series appliance has been an ideal recovery solution for Life's Abundance. As an example, after installing Unitrends, Life's Abundance had a ransomware attack where a user clicked a bad attachment which shut down two workstations and many accessible file server shares. IT Director, Charlie Scherker, told us that, "Within two hours we were fully operational again after a quick analysis of where the problem was isolated to, restoring the encrypted files on the file servers and finally full system restores for the two affected workstations. If I was still using tapes, this would have taken 2 days minimum with the workstations taking the longest."



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