From Complexity to Simplicity:

Improving Backup for a Government Municipality

ORGANIZATION

Our customer is a government municipality located in a scenic region known for its thriving businesses, tourism, and natural attractions.

INDUSTRY

Municipality | Government

Challenges

Before implementing our solution, the municipal organization faced significant challenges with its backup process. They relied on traditional tape libraries for backups, which proved expensive and complex to manage. The backups would often run for extended periods, causing delays in critical operations and hampering productivity—additionally, the growing volume of data and the need for long-term retention posed storage and scalability concerns.

Reflecting on the situation, a key representative from the organization shared the following insights into their challenges:

veeAM

"We struggled with a backup process that was slow and laborious. Backups would drag on for hours, occasionally surpassing 72 hours. Tape backups and long-term data archiving compounded the complexity, making backup storage management a daunting challenge."

These challenges drove the organization to seek a more efficient and effective backup solution that could address their specific needs while streamlining their operations.

Solution

To address the municipality's backup challenges and improve data protection, they implemented our DR365V backup and disaster recovery appliance, powered by Veeam technology. This comprehensive solution transformed their backup infrastructure, providing faster and more efficient data protection.

Significant improvements in backup speeds were achieved through three key factors:

- **Data Movers:** The DR365V appliance employed NAS-based data movers, enabling multiple backup jobs to run simultaneously. This parallel processing capability dramatically enhanced backup performance, reducing the time required for data protection tasks.
- **Zero Latency:** The integration of the Veeam engine directly into the DR365V appliance eliminated latency caused by a LAN connection. With Veeam running on the appliance, backup jobs experienced zero latency, resulting in faster backups and expedited recovery operations.
- **Hot/Cold Storage**: The advanced storage options provided by the DR365V appliance, including NVMe, SSD, and SAS drives, further contributed to improved backup speeds. The utilization of NVMe drives for operating systems and hypervisors ensured optimal performance, while SSD and SAS drives delivered enhanced data transfer rates.

Challenges

Slow backups due to tape complexities, limited scalability, and time-consuming manual management processes.

Solution

Implemented DR365V with NVMe, SSD, and SAS drives, enabling faster backups; zero latency with Veeam running on the appliance; and multiple NAS-based data movers for parallel backup jobs, enhancing overall backup speed.

The Results

- Automated air-gapping, isolation, and ransomware protection.
- Immutable WORM volumes with file lockdown and S3 object lockdown capabilities.
- Reduced Recovery Time Objectives (RTOs) using features such as instant VM recovery, granular file-level restore, and more.

The DR365V backup and disaster recovery appliance not only accelerated backup speeds but also ensuring the highest level of data security and ransomware protection through its air-gapped and immutable backup features. By maintaining an air-gapped environment and immutability, the municipality's backup data remained isolated and protected from cyber threats and unauthorized modifications.

The implementation of the DR365V backup and disaster recovery appliance allowed the municipality to streamline its backup operations, achieve faster backups, and enhance overall data protection efficiency.

The Results

Reduced Backup Window: The implementation of our DR365V backup and disaster recovery appliance resulted in a remarkable 35% reduction in the municipality's backup window. By leveraging advanced storage technologies and parallel processing capabilities, backups were completed in significantly less time, minimizing the impact on critical operations and improving overall operational efficiency.

Automated Air-Gapping: The implementation of the DR365V backup and disaster recovery appliance revolutionized the municipality's backup environment by introducing automated air-gapping. In the past, manual intervention was required to isolate backup data and protect it from cyber threats and ransomware attacks. This process involved physically disconnecting and managing tapes, which was time-consuming and prone to human error.

With DR365V, the municipality embraced automated air-gapping through policy-based controls and immutability settings. Our solution enabled the automatic isolation of backup data, ensuring that it remained securely offline and protected from unauthorized access. By eliminating the need for manual intervention, the municipality achieved a maintenance-free operation with enhanced ransomware protection.

About StoneFly, Inc.

StoneFly Inc., headquartered in California, was founded to deliver upon the vision of simple and affordable storage optimization and disaster recovery protection through IP SAN solutions. StoneFly is a leading manufacturer of high-performance network-attached storage (NAS), storage area networks (SAN) – iSCSI systems, hyperconverged systems, and RAID systems. StoneFly's range of enterprise products also includes cloud storage solutions, cloud storage gateway solutions, and data migration services for enterprise workloads.

Automated air-gapping not only improved the reliability and integrity of the backup environment but also reduced the risk of data breaches and ransomware incidents. IT staff could confidently focus on other critical tasks, knowing that the backup data was isolated and safeguarded without the need for constant manual oversight.

Streamlined Backup Management: Our solution not only improved backup speeds but also streamlined backup management processes. The municipality experienced a substantial reduction in the time dedicated to backup activities, decreasing from 70% of the daily workload to just 20%. With faster backup processes and simplified management interfaces, IT staff could allocate more time and resources to other essential tasks, enhancing productivity and operational agility.

Enhanced Scalability: As the municipality's data volume continued to grow at an average rate of 25% per year, our solution proved highly scalable, accommodating the increasing storage demands seamlessly. The DR365V appliance, equipped with NVMe, SSD, and SAS drives, offered the necessary storage capacity and performance to handle expanding data sets effectively. This ensured that the municipality's backup infrastructure could scale with ease, avoiding potential bottlenecks and guaranteeing efficient data protection for future needs.

Get faster backups and automated ransomware protection. Contact us today

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