Sacramento City Unified School District

After suffering from slow backup times, the school district turned to Micro Focus® GroupWise® Disaster Recovery quick message restore as well as hot backups of post offices and domains.

Overview
Sacramento City Unified School District (SCUSD) uses GroupWise post offices to enable communication and collaboration between 5,000 users and 93 schools and administration facilities. It has become an integral part of operations and is essential for the school district to complete its purposes.

Disaster recovery is necessary for any organization that relies on its email systems. Accidents and disasters happen and could result in catastrophes for organizations that are not prepared. For SCUSD, being prepared for such events is essential.

Challenge
Initially, the IT department was using a third-party backup solution that utilized tape backups in order to secure the GroupWise system. It had difficulty getting a timely backup of the GroupWise post offices, as it usually would take three days to complete a full backup cycle. This is typical of third-party solutions that are not built specifically for GroupWise, and an extensive system such as this one (5,000 users in 93 locations) can be difficult to manage. Fortunately for the school district, a more effective solution existed.

Solution
GroupWise Disaster Recovery is Micro Focus's solution for GroupWise disaster recovery. It offers the fastest backup and disaster recovery tool available for GroupWise, delivering quick message restore as well as hot backups of post offices and domains, ensuring that critical data is always current and available. The software fit perfectly for this school district in Sacramento because it needed immediate backups capable of quick disaster recovery.

Disaster Recovery works using a collector/server model, which can install a Collector on the Linux server that houses the GroupWise Post Office or Domain. The GroupWise Disaster Recovery Collector then gathers the contents of a GroupWise post office OFUSER and OFSMG directory into a staging area on the local GroupWise server. RSYNC technology is used to replicate the contents of the post office to the GroupWise Disaster Recovery server. This new architecture creates faster backups, backup redundancy, elimination of the need to have an on-premises GroupWise Disaster Recovery Server, and less required disk space and processing power.

At a Glance

■ **Industry**
Education

■ **Location**
Sacramento, California, U.S.

■ **Challenge**
The district needed to replace its third-party disaster recovery solution.

■ **Solution**
Use GroupWise Disaster Recovery quick message restore as well as hot backups of post offices and domains.

■ **Results**
+ Cut backup times from three days down to just a few minutes
+ Provided the ability to restore the GroupWise system at the push of a button
+ Provided the ability to restore an email or calendar item in 15 minutes

> "Reload (now GroupWise Disaster Recovery) is the best thing that has happened to GroupWise in a long, long time."

BARBARA GALLEGOS
Network Specialist III
Sacramento City Unified School District

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Results

The solution saved SCUSD time, money, and effort by cutting their backup times from three days down to just a few minutes. With backups now occurring daily, the district is prepared for any disaster and knows that at the push of a button it can restore the GroupWise system.

FEATURE SPOTLIGHT: QUICK MESSAGE AND ADDRESS BOOK RECOVERY

Because GroupWise Disaster Recovery integrates with the Restore feature of GroupWise, recovering an email or calendar item is simple. When an employee of the school district calls the GroupWise Administrator, Barbara Gallegos, to restore an email or calendar item, it only takes her about 15 minutes to get it done. Prior to GroupWise Disaster Recovery, restoring items took several hours. Just as with message recovery, Gallegos was delighted to find that she could also easily recover GroupWise address book information and restore a user's address books. Now, with GroupWise Disaster Recovery, restoring an address book is almost as simple as restoring message and calendar items.

LEARN MORE ABOUT GROUPWISE DISASTER RECOVERY

GroupWise Disaster Recovery is an easy-to-implement and easy-to-use, hot backup solution for Micro Focus GroupWise post offices and domains. Hot backup means that instances of a GroupWise post office are immediately available for restoration of GroupWise mail, calendar items, tasks and address book items in their native GroupWise format, and push-button disaster recovery.

About Micro Focus

Micro Focus is a global software company with 40 years of experience in delivering and supporting enterprise software solutions that help customers innovate faster with lower risk.

By applying proven expertise in software and security, we enable customers to utilize new technology solutions while maximizing the value of their investments in critical IT infrastructure and business applications. As a result, they can build, operate, and secure the IT systems that bring together existing business logic and applications with emerging technologies—in essence, bridging the old and the new—to meet their increasingly complex business demands.

Micro Focus
UK Headquarters
United Kingdom
+44 (0) 1635 565200

U.S. Headquarters
Rockville, Maryland
301 838 5000
877 772 4450

Additional contact information and office locations:
www.microfocus.com

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