

Rush Memorial Hospital Protects Medical Records with **Acronis**

Acronis Provides Community Hospital with Faster Deployments, Shorter RTOs, and Simplified Migrations

BUSINESS BACKGROUND

Rush Memorial Hospital of Rushville, Indiana has operated as a community partner since 1950. As in any state-of-the-art hospital, Rush Memorial's IT operations are in a constant state of evolution. This evolution allows for greater levels of patient responsiveness while carrying out extensive reporting activities, meeting records retention requirements, and more.

With patients' health at stake, the hospital's production applications must remain accessible. Unfortunately, its existing tape and disk-based backup and recovery system was no longer agile enough to provide the level of protection the hospital sought. As a result, Rush Memorial replaced it with Acronis Cyber Protect.

FROM TAPE TO IMAGE BACKUPS

Rush Memorial runs a number of database hospital applications, including a Windows-based Healthland EMR (electronic medical records) Solutions system and Merge Healthcare Radiology software for online access to patient images. The hospital had been using Symantec Backup Exec prior to Acronis, but it fell short of the immediate RTOs they require according to Jim Boyer, Rush Memorial's Chief Technology Officer.

"A tape solution requires great effort to recover either individual files or an entire system to a specific point in time. That's assuming you have the tape you need on site," Boyer adds. "That's why we began to experiment with full-image solutions."

INDUSTRY

Healthcare

KEY CHALLENGES

- Enhance ability to recover more quickly
- Accelerate deployments and system upgrades
- Eliminate the need for duplicate servers

KEY REQUIREMENTS

- Fast machine deployment
- Reduced recovery time objectives (RTOs)
- Reduce investment in physical storage
- Production application must always be accessible

PROTECTED RESOURCES

- 260 Windows workstations
- Multiple Windows 2003 and Windows 2008-based servers
- Major applications including Healthland
- EMR Solutions and SQL-based Merge Radiology software packages

BENEFITS

- Achieves faster and more reliable backups and recoveries
- Acronis imaging accelerates deployments
- Ability to recover to dissimilar hardware eliminates the need to maintain expensive spares

Initially, they worked with Microsoft Volume Shadow Copy Service (VSS) image-based backups to take snapshots of the data. While it was effective, it couldn't recover the server, itself, including its operating system, applications, and settings. A better disk imaging solution was needed. "In a crisis situation, disk imaging allows immediate recovery of full systems even from an off-site repository. Taking a server image of the OS and applications is crucial because it allows you to restore in many different ways, including to dissimilar hardware and virtual infrastructures."

A BETTER IMAGING SOLUTION

Acronis came to the hospital's attention when it purchased Acronis Snap Deploy to roll out 260 new PCs throughout the hospital. "Acronis Snap Deploy allowed us to take an image of a departmental PC and push it onto new computers," Boyer says. "Based on this imaging performance, I thought Acronis would be a perfect fit." The IT team began a 60-day evaluation and then decided to transition to Acronis Cyber Protect.

IMPROVED RTOS

Since the transition, the hospital has substantially shrunk its recovery time objectives, Boyer says. "The hospital has been able to achieve an average of 30 minutes to recover 50GB of data." Compare that to the many hours, or days, that a tape or disk-based backup demanded.

SIMPLIFIED UPGRADES

Besides backups, Boyer says Acronis Cyber Protect has simplified migrations to newer, dissimilar equipment and software. "Rather than build a new system from scratch, we can image it, recover the image to the new hardware, build the RAID, and have a server ready to go in 20 minutes."

EXPLORING ALL THE FEATURES OF ACRONIS CYBER BACKUP

In addition, the hospital has recently started to use Acronis data compression on its SAN server. A step that's expected to reduce new disk purchases.

Additionally, the hospital uses VMware to virtualize about 80% of its server population – creating a stockpile of older, still serviceable, hardware that can be repurposed into physical hosts for virtual servers. As a result, the hospital has effectively eliminated the need for expensive standby duplicate servers. "We use Acronis to recover quickly onto a virtual machine, hosted on whatever

platform is available," he says.

"I can have an Acronis image up and running in minutes, so that users can work without interruption until repairs are made and the original machine is back online."

ABOUT ACRONIS

Acronis unifies data protection and cybersecurity to deliver integrated, automated [cyber protection](#) that solves the safety, accessibility, privacy, authenticity, and security ([SAPAS](#)) challenges of the modern digital world. With flexible deployment models that fit the demands of service providers and IT professionals,

Acronis provides superior cyber protection for data, applications, and systems with innovative next-generation antivirus, [backup](#), [disaster recovery](#), and endpoint protection management solutions powered by AI.

Founded in Singapore and headquartered in Switzerland, Acronis now has more than 2,000 employees and offices in 34 locations worldwide. Its solutions are trusted by more than 5.5 million home users and 500,000 companies, and top-tier professional sports teams. Acronis products are available through over 50,000 partners and service providers in over 150 countries and 26 languages.

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Peter French, Managing Director