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Rob Hilton,
Head of IT, Lee & Thompson

COMPANY NAME:

Lee & Thompson

COMPANY SIZE:

80 employees

INDUSTRY:

Legal

COMPANY WEBSITE:

leeandthompson.com

GEOGRAPHIC REGION:

London, UK

CASE STUDY: LEGAL

LEE & THOMPSON SAFEGUARDS CLIENT DATA AND MAKES PLANS FOR FUTURE GROWTH WITH NETGEAR®.

BACKGROUND

Based in London's West End, Lee & Thompson was established in 1983 and specialises in the media, entertainment and creative industries. The company has grown to represent some of the most recognised musicians, creative talent and sports personalities based all over the world. With a publicised client list including David Beckham, One Direction and Premiership Rugby, data security, integrity and accessibility sit at the top of the firm's IT agenda. In his role as head of IT, Rob Hilton is responsible for progressing Lee & Thompson's IT strategy, with his priorities centred around ensuring a secure, resilient and scalable IT system.

PROBLEM/OBJECTIVE

In recent years, the firm has experienced rapid growth. This, combined with the high profile nature of its client list means scalable and effective data storage has become of paramount importance. In order to support its continued growth plans and provide the highest levels of service to its customers, Lee & Thompson took the decision to review its backup provision. "We have used tape storage for a number of years but the solution was becoming slow and impractical making it impossible to accommodate our expanding volumes of highly confidential client data and documentation," explains Rob.

The firm needed a more efficient way of storing and safeguarding data that could scale with its growth plans and give its clients peace of mind that their data is safe and secure. Scalability and value for money were key requirements in order for the company to remain competitive and secure a good return on any technology investment.





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SOLUTION

To find the right solution to meet its specific needs, Lee & Thompson approached IT consultancy, NETprotocol due to its extensive knowledge and understanding of the legal sector. The consultancy recommended ReadyRECOVER®, the complete backup and recovery solution from business storage expert NETGEAR. Comprising of its ReadyDATA® unified storage platform and ShadowProtect backup and disaster recovery software from StorageCraft, it would offer a fast and highly secure system guaranteeing data integrity, efficient use of storage capacity and minimal impact to computing resources.

The NETGEAR solution provides Lee & Thompson with enterprise-class features without the associated price tag. The ReadyRECOVER platform provides high-end data protection, delivering advanced replication with cloud-based management, built-in intelligence for automatic snapshot synchronisation and rapid file recovery. Full backups of servers, desktops and laptops can be created every 15 minutes and used to quickly and reliably restore files, folders or systems to any platform, physical or virtual from any point in time.

The solution not only makes data restoration simple for Lee & Thompson, eradicating long and complicated process, but it also suits the company's budgetary and usage needs.

"Not only was this option far more secure than anything we could have created in-house, it was a quarter of the cost of the other solutions we looked at." said Rob. "Even more importantly, it also offered us a long-term, scalable solution which can be built upon as our needs and challenges change in future," explains Rob.

RESULTS

As a result of the upgrade, Lee & Thompson has confidence in its data storage strategy, having realised significant improvements in the speed of data storage and replication. Backups were historically made every 12 hours, however with ReadyRECOVER now run every 90 minutes providing even greater peace of mind. There has also been significant improvement in speed, with it taking only a couple of minutes to replicate data to both disk and offsite locations, in contrast to the previous six hour timeframe. The solution has meant the need for storage has been reduced by 54 times for the company's 80 user office, reducing associated overheads and costs by a significant 50 per cent overall and providing a good return on investment.

Since implementing the NETGEAR solution, data has never been more secure. The entire dataset is backed up and replicated 16 times a day meaning it is possible to carry out quick level back ups and restoration of data as required. As a result of this new secure, robust and reliable data storage and business continuity strategy Lee & Thompson can further differentiate its service to clients by providing complete assurance their data is securely protected at all times.

"For the first time in my career, I can now say with confidence that we can both access and restore any data that has passed through our IT systems, almost instantly. This is truly ground-breaking in terms of business continuity and disaster recovery which together form a critical part of any legal firm's IT strategy. This would not have been possible without the NETGEAR solutions and NETprotocol's expertise and technical knowledge of the legal sector," adds Rob.