DELL EMC

BREAKING NEW GROUND WITH CLOUD DATA PROTECTION

Nuna Group of Companies uncovers cost savings, business agility and better data protection with centralized backup and recovery across the data center and cloud

NUNA
Group of Companies

Construction & Engineering | Canada

Business needs

Diamond mining and ice road construction in the harsh Canadian Arctic is business as usual for the Nuna Group of Companies. But when long data backups prevented employees from getting their work done, the IT team knew this was one challenge that needed to be resolved quickly.

Solutions at a glance

- Dell EMC Data Domain
- Dell EMC Data Domain Virtual Edition
- Dell EMC Data Protection Software
- Partners: VMware, Microsoft (Azure)

Business results

- Lowers costs of storing backups in the cloud
- Centrally manages on-premises backups and long-term data retention in the cloud
- Scales backup storage capacity to match business demand with ease

More than

50%

reduction in
backed-up data
with data dedupe

Completes

93%

of backups in
under an hour

When it comes to harsh, unforgiving settings, ice road construction and diamond mining in the Canadian Arctic rank high. These challenging environments are just another day in the life of the Nuna Group of Companies, one of Canada's largest heavy civil construction and contract mining companies. But when data backups were taking too long and locking up virtual machines (VMs) due to Nuna's Unitrends system, the IT team moved fast to resolve this challenge and evaluate alternative solutions.

Darryl Turner, IT manager, Nuna Group of Companies, says, "We looked at Veaam, Commvault and Rubrik, but Dell EMC passed with flying colors. Dell EMC Data Protection checked all the boxes for a single end-to-end solution that integrated on-premises backup with Microsoft Azure cloud for long-term data retention. The deduplication rate is phenomenal—way better than what other systems deliver. Plus, Dell EMC stood out as the most cost-effective solution."

Nuna replaced Unitrends with an on-premises Dell EMC Data Domain backup appliance and Data Protection Software. The IT team uses Data Domain Virtual Edition software to replicate backups to Microsoft Azure for short-term redundancy and to store backups older than 35 days. The Dell EMC Data Protection solution protects Nuna's VMware virtualized environment, Microsoft SQL Server, Microsoft SharePoint, Microsoft Exchange, file servers, unstructured data and other applications.

Backup in the cloud lowers costs

With Data Domain deduplication, Nuna reduced data backup requirements from 45 terabytes (TB) to just 21 TB. "The great dedupe and compression we're getting with Data Domain Virtual Edition reduced the amount of backed-up data by over 50 percent," says Turner. "It was more cost-effective to use Azure for short-term redundancy and long-term retention of our backups than a collocation facility."

> "*With Data Domain Virtual Edition, we can manage our on-premises backups and replicate them to Microsoft Azure from a single pane of glass.*"
>
> **Darryl Turner**
> IT Manager, Nuna Group of Companies

Improves
user productivity

He continues; "With 59.7:1 reduction ratio on our Data Domain box, we're getting 35 days' worth of full backups of 33.36 TB of data in 24.71 TB of Data Domain space. Uncompressed, that amount of data would consume 1,476.35 TB of disk space as straight copies."

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Fast backups without the worry

Previously, Unitrends backups and restores were taking too long and locking up servers so employees couldn't do their work. Turner states, "With Dell EMC Data Protection Software, we back up a VM in under 15 minutes compared to one hour and without any impact on user productivity. In fact, we complete 93 percent of our backups in under an hour."

Confidence in backup success also has grown, according to Turner; "With Dell EMC Data Protection Software, when we create a new VM, even if we don't set up a protection plan, it's included. I don't worry because everything is backed up."

Scaling for business growth

Simplified backup administration and scalability have proven valuable to Nuna. "With Data Domain Virtual Edition, we can manage our on-premises backups and replicate them to Microsoft Azure from a single pane of glass," explains Turner. "It's a slick, user-friendly solution."

Turner concludes, "With 96 terabytes of backup storage in a single Data Domain VE instance, it's easy for us to scale up. That gives us plenty of room for growth and agility to quickly ramp up to meet increasing business demand."

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