

Storage Lifecycle Management Solutions for Education

Drive Backup 9.0 Server™ provides University Graduate School with Disaster Recovery Plan



World Class. Face to Face.

As their tagline indicates, Washington State University (WSU), a nationally recognized research university, founded in 1892, touts itself as a "world class" organization. Supporting over 24,000 students globally, WSU has campuses throughout the state in Pullman, Spokane, Tri-Cities, Vancouver, Puget Sound as well as multiple learning centers in other cities, with distance learning programs for students in other states and outside the U.S.

When searching for a backup and recovery software package for their Graduate School computer network, WSU also sought after a "world class" solution that would meet their exacting requirements -- a critical decision that would protect their Windows-based servers (physical and virtual) and all of their workstations. Network users rely on these servers for file storage, print functions, database access and network backups.

WSU Computer Systems Administrator, Jon Heywood, recognized the importance of implementing a disaster recovery plan that utilized industry "best practices" techniques and tools. Heywood believed there shouldn't be any reason to experience long and unnecessary network downtime and a key to ensuring maximum server availability was a solid drive imaging solution for his servers.

In order to make the best decision, Heywood evaluated multiple, well known, drive imaging and backup products for this critical project including Acronis True Image and Paragon's Drive Backup 9.0 Server.

- Washington State University is a nationally recognized university with 24,000 students.
- WSU's Graduate School uses Paragon Drive Backup Server to protect their key servers, including: file servers, print servers, database servers, and business operations servers.
- "The speed of recovery was hands down faster than other products I've tried," Jon Heywood, Computer Systems Administrator.

After comprehensive testing that included speed tests within multiple RAID configurations, WSU selected Paragon Drive Backup 9.0 Server for their needs. Heywood stated, "the speed of recovery was hands down faster than other products I've tried." Installing Paragon's Drive Backup Server has let WSU's IT team rest easier knowing that a backup and disaster recovery plan for WSU's Graduate School computer network servers is reliably in place.

WSU continues to test the advanced functionality of Drive Backup Server, including mock restorations of server backup images to dissimilar "bare metal" hardware. Called Adaptive Restore™, this functionality gives Heywood and his team a guaranteed savings of time if a physical server crashes and he has to replace it with different hardware due to cost or unavailability of an exact replacement. The image of his original system is quickly recovered with full driver support for the new hardware with minimal pre-configuration headaches.



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BUSINESS PROBLEM

Unplanned network downtime causes serious interruptions in daily operations, lost productivity and potential loss of students and revenue. WSU didn't have a "world class" drive imaging solution for disaster recovery, to minimize unplanned downtime.

SOLUTION

Disk-to-disk backup and recovery software makes sector-level copies of entire server systems, protecting the operating system, settings, and all system and data files. WSU implemented Paragon's Drive Backup Server to protect their network servers and round out a disaster recovery plan.

INDUSTRY FACTS

58% of the smallest companies and 64% of midsize companies can withstand 4 hours or less of downtime before an interruption results in revenue loss or has a significant impact on business. Only 27% of small companies and 29% of midsize companies have confidence that their current data protection process adequately protects data.