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>
> Paul Rudin
> Network Administrator

# Grand Bank & Trust of Florida

# Situation

Grand Bank & Trust of Florida was experiencing problems with their current backup solution. Company policy required a full backup of eight remote locations to tape, which increased overhead. The complexity of running the backup for the remote locations pushed Grand Bank to seek a new solution; one that could backup their legacy applications as well as run on Novell's newest OES2.

**CHALLENGE**

The backup design had become overly complex and cumbersome.  It was decided to look for a new solution that would decrease the time for backup as well as the amount of effort the staff was required to expend to operate and maintain backups.

**ENVIRONMENT**

"We have a primary data center that runs 90% of our infrastructure virtualized in a VMware farm. All of our remote sites have at least one server and all of our sites are fully virtualized, even sites with single instance servers. We are backing up all of our data from our file / print servers, as well as our resource directory, eDir. We are also backing up our messaging systems, SQL databases, imaging systems, and various other systems. We were looking to upgrade and our current vendor, Symantec, did not offer us a compelling solution at an advantageous price point for our migration to SLES OES," explains, Bank Officer and Network Administrator, Paul Rudin.

**SOLUTION**

"We had spoken with colleagues in our field as well as engineers from Novell and we were unable to find a product that would be an improvement, an easy switch, as well as an economically viable solution to our old Backup Exec software. Then we came upon SEP sesam and it seemed to not only fit all the requirements, but it also had additional functionality that we had given up hope of finding."

**SEP**
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# SEP Software Corp.

SEP Software Corp. is the premier technology leader providing standardized and high performance backup and disaster recovery solutions for professional IT environments of all sizes. Its flagship product, SEP sesam, delivers seamless solutions to corporations' backup requirements.

SEP sesam ensures that data security for both virtual and physical environments can be easily and cost-effectively achieved. SEP sesam is the ultimate expression of German engineering and attention to detail. Design and programming originate from our German offices in Weyarn, near Munich, where overall performance and reliability are our utmost concern.

### CONT'D.

"We made the decision in early summer to implement the switch. We were stunned at how easy the installation was performed as well as the setup of our desired backup strategy," Rudin continued. "My colleague, Bill Haines, actually called our representative at SEP Software, Lanai Bayne, and asked him if there was something wrong. "Usually adding agents with our old product and performing the first backup took hours. With SEP sesam, it was just minutes. We are now a great fan of the software and the team at SEP. I have also been relaying our experience to my colleagues in the industry that are looking for a new backup solution."

### RESULTS

"SEP sesam has exceeded our expectations by easing the workload and providing a quality backup solution. The new solution has enabled us to provide an extra level of security in our backup design scheme. The time we spend working on backup related issues has shrunk by about 90%," Rudin attests.

"Our backups run quickly and are performed more frequently. We have planned to add additional backups to disk and then later migrate that data to tape, especially in our remote locations. We rotate our tapes out of our remote sites daily so if we have to restore something from the previous day, we have to wait for our courier to deliver the tape to the main data center. Then we have to restore at the main DC and then transfer the files. If we do disk backup and then migrate to tape, we will always have a local copy of the backup at the site and can quickly restore that data. Our previous solution did not offer this functionality," added Rudin. "Another plus for SEP sesam."

### SUPPORT & INSTALLATION

"Support is top notch. SEP offers the best support of any vendor we deal with, really. The SEP engineers have been helpful and responsive whenever we have an issue or a question. Installation has been very straightforward and configuration has been exactly what we were expecting. I am also extremely pleased with the richness of functionality and the ease of use, although I would like to see an improvement in the amount of documentation," Rudin states.

### FUTURE PLANS

"Next, we will be refreshing our storage solution and SEP sesam will be an integral part of that upgrade. We will also be adding a disaster recovery component to our backup landscape utilizing SEP sesam and its closely integrated solutions for both Microsoft and OES2 Linux as well as VMware and Citrix Virtual Servers," says Rudin.