U.S. District Court, Eastern District of New York Relies on ExaGrid to Protect and Serve Their Data

United States District Court
Eastern District of New York

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>
> **Mark Sanders**
> **Network Engineer**

Key Benefits:

- Meets Federal 30-day retention requirement
- Tape versus ExaGrid 'no comparison'
- Bandwidth throttling limits daytime bandwidth usage
- Replication between two sites ensures data availability, provides reliable DR

Customer Overview

The mission of the United States District Court for the Eastern District of New York is to support, defend and preserve the Constitution of the United States by providing an impartial forum for the just resolution of disputes. Their goal is to protect individual rights and freedoms, preserve judicial independence and promote public trust in the Judiciary of the United States of America.

ExaGrid Eliminates Tape and Provides Secure DR Solution

The U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of New York had been struggling with how to best back up and store its critical and fast-growing data for some time. The Court had been backing up to tape, but nightly backups had been taking too long to complete and backup management required too much effort, leaving little time for restores or maintenance. In addition, the Court was required to meet Federal compliance of a 30-day retention period.

The Court implemented an ExaGrid two-site system located in Brooklyn and Long Island. For DR, they use ExaGrid to replicate shares between both sites to ensure data is always available. The Court also uses Veeam Backup & Replication as its backup application in conjunction with ExaGrid to do instant recoveries of their virtual servers.

"When I started here, we were using ExaGrid already, and we just recently upgraded to the EX21000E," said Mark Sanders, network engineer at the U.S. District Court, Eastern District of NY. "The transition to migrate all the data was seamless and very smooth. ExaGrid took back our old devices for a credit, so that brought our price down. I thought that was a great way of doing business."

"For me it's about peace of mind, just knowing that your data is there in case of any unforeseen issues or disasters. Data is backed up every night, and it's been very easy for me as I don't have to administer the system on a daily basis," said Sanders.

ExaGrid combines last backup compression along with data deduplication, which stores changes from backup to backup instead of storing full file copies. This unique approach reduces the disk space required, delivering unparalleled cost savings and performance. ExaGrid delivers extremely fast backup performance because data is written directly to disk, and data deduplication is performed post-process after the data is stored to reduce data. When a second site is used, the cost savings are even greater because ExaGrid's zone-level data deduplication technology moves only changes, requiring minimal WAN bandwidth.

Straightforward Management

Moving from tape to a disk-based backup storage appliance has simplified things greatly for the Court.

"To be honest, I've only used tape previously, so this transition has been fantastic. There's really no comparison. I especially like the fact that I can throttle data during the day so it doesn't consume all our bandwidth, which is great! In addition, ExaGrid's deduplication optimizes our backups, always," said Sanders.

"I don't have to do much with the system. Our backups have been fast and reliable, and ExaGrid sends us a daily email that summarizes what's going on, which is helpful. I am always in the know."

Easy to Set Up, Easy to Maintain

Sanders said that backups now complete much faster, and the company's backup team has been able to reduce the amount of time spent on maintenance and administration.

The ExaGrid system was designed to be a turnkey solution that is easy to install, maintain, and administer. ExaGrid's industry-

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leading technical support center is staffed by in-house engineers who are knowledgeable about ExaGrid products and industry best practices. Each ExaGrid customer is assigned a support engineer who proactively checks on the health of the system and responds quickly to customer inquiries. The system is fully supported and was designed and manufactured for maximum uptime with redundant, hot-swappable components.

"We don't have too many issues. If a drive goes down, ExaGrid quickly sends us a new one. The support team is attentive and even runs our upgrades for us. We really don't do too much with the backups – everything runs on schedule. The system is very reliable," said Sanders.

ExaGrid and Veeam

The combination of ExaGrid's and Veeam's industry-leading virtual server data protection solutions allows customers to utilize Veeam Backup & Replication in VMware, vSphere, and Microsoft Hyper-V virtual environments on ExaGrid's disk-based backup system. This combination provides fast backups and efficient data storage as well as replication to an offsite location for disaster recovery.

The ExaGrid system fully leverages Veeam Backup & Replication's built-in backup-to-disk capabilities and ExaGrid's zone-level data deduplication for additional data reduction (and cost reduction) over standard disk solutions. Customers can use Veeam Backup & Replication's built-in source-side deduplication in concert with ExaGrid's disk-based backup system with zone-level deduplication to further shrink backups.

GRID Architecture Provides Superior Scalability

ExaGrid's scalable GRID architecture enables the Court to continue to expand the system as its backup data requirements grow.

ExaGrid uses a GRID-based configuration, so when the system needs to expand, additional appliances are attached to the GRID, bringing with them not only additional disk but also processing power, memory, and bandwidth. This type of configuration allows the system to maintain all the aspects of performance as the amount of data grows. In addition, as new ExaGrid appliances are added to the GRID, the ExaGrid automatically load balances available capacity, maintaining a virtual pool of storage that is shared across the GRID.

About ExaGrid

ExaGrid provides backup storage with a unique landing zone and scale-out architecture. The landing zone provides for the fastest backups, restores and instant VM recoveries. The scale-out architecture includes full appliances in a scalable GRID and provides for a fixed-length backup window as data grows, eliminating expensive forklift upgrades. Learn more at **www.exagrid.com**.