

CUSTOMER CASE STUDY

BAPTIST HEALTH SYSTEM OVERVIEW

Birmingham, AL-based, healthcare provider.

BACKUP APPLICATION

IBM Tivoli[®] Storage Manager

KEY BENEFITS

- TSM disk pool was reduced by 65 percent
- Cut TSM off-site Tape Copy process by more than 90 percent
- Restore times cut from hours to minutes



“The SEPATON S2100 cut BHS’ off-site copy process by more than 90 percent, reduced our disk pool by more than 65 percent, and significantly streamlined our TSM management complexity. Our restores went from hours to minutes and earned us high praise from our user community.”

John West
Chief Technology Officer
Baptist Health System

Baptist Health System Streamlines TSM Backups with SEPATON Data Protection Platform

Baptist Health System wanted to improve its data protection with faster, easier off-site tape copies, faster data restores, and more stringent recovery time objectives. They implemented a SEPATON S2100[®]-ES2 data protection platform and cut their Tape Copy time by more than 90 percent, reduced their disk pool by 65 percent, and significantly streamlined their TSM management complexity.

For more than 86 years, Baptist Health System (BHS) has been dedicated to providing quality, faith-based health care to patients and their families. With physicians and health care providers in a wide variety of specialties, they provide comprehensive, progressive care and health services.

THE ENVIRONMENT

To manage its patient care and business operations for more than 6,000 users, BHS relies on sophisticated IT systems. Some of these systems are business-critical: PeopleSoft /DB2, Cerner/Oracle RMAN, electronic medical records management, Exchange email, and SQL. The servers running these system generate 60 percent of their total backup volume. BHS backs up more than 4 TB of data from hundreds of servers daily and retains up to 165 TB of data. They manage their data protection with IBM Tivoli Storage Manager (TSM) backup software.

THE CHALLENGE

BHS originally used tape libraries to backup their data. However, when these libraries could not provide the performance or disaster protection

they needed implemented a SEPATON S2100-ES2 data protection platform to ensure they could meet their service level agreements (SLAs) and recovery time objectives (RTO).

THE SOLUTION

BHS has been relying on SEPATON for its data protection strategy for several years. According to John West, CTO for Baptist Health System, “For our growing volumes, SEPATON performance and scalability continues to remain ahead of competitive offerings. The SEPATON S2100 cut BHS’ off-site copy process by more than 90 percent, reduced our disk pool by more than 65 percent, and significantly streamlined our TSM management complexity. Our restores went from hours to minutes and earned us high praise from our user community.”

BHS updated their systems to SEPATON S2100-ES2 Series 2900 with HDS arrays and DeltaStor[®] deduplication software with 48 TB usable capacity and one SEPATON Replication Engine (SRE[®]) node to control data growth exceeding 30 percent annually. The SEPATON platform is configured with

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“Deduplication ratios vary based on data types but it’s fair to say our space savings with DeltaStor have been dramatic. We anticipate that the added density will save us thousands of dollars annually as we now have the capacity to pull all data off our existing physical LTO4 drives and backup entirely to one easy-to-manage SEPATON data protection platform.”

Chip Bell
Networking Engineer
Baptist Health System

one virtual tape library and 64 virtual LTO drives. The virtual drives can be accessed by TSM to perform more concurrent jobs at higher speeds to complete TSM workloads faster.

MASSIVE SINGLE SYSTEM CAPACITY

“With the high density drives in the SEPATON S2100-ES2 Series 2900 combined with DeltaStor deduplication, we have enough capacity to support our data growth for approximately three more years,” explained Chip Bell, network engineer for Baptist Health System. “Deduplication ratios vary based on data types but it’s fair to say our space savings with DeltaStor have been dramatic. We anticipate that the added

density will save us thousands of dollars annually as we now have the capacity to pull all data off our existing physical LTO4 drives and backup entirely to one easy-to-manage SEPATON data protection appliance.”

“The SEPATON appliance combined with world-class, high availability HDS storage gives us a high degree of confidence in SEPATON as our data protection partner,” said West. “The next phase of our plan is to purchase a second SEPATON appliance for an offsite location to replicate the primary data center for DR, eliminating physical tape entirely.”

REDUCED OPERATIONAL COMPLEXITY

BHS has achieved tighter control over its backup window with the additional capacity in its new system. If TSM Housekeeping processes, such as Primary Disk Pool Backups, Migrations, Reclamations, are taking too long to complete, BHS can manually shrink the time allotted for the backup window to give these administrative tasks more time to finish. The SEPATON appliance completes daily TSM processes including the Primary Pool backup to Off-Site Copy, and Reclamations faster, more reliably, and often more frequently. “SEPATON’s management console gives me a clear picture of the deduplication process and resulting ratios, and allows me to adjust dedupe algorithms by data type for even tighter control,” said Bell.