

Rural hospital cures backup pains and enhances data protection with HP disk-to-tape innovation



“For the main backup, the HP StorageWorks D2D2T solution reduced a 12-hour job down to six hours. I also like the capacity, 800 GB, which doubled what I had.”

– Joey Hansen, Network Administrator, Myrtue Medical Center

Industry: Healthcare

Solution: HP StorageWorks D2D2T data-protection solution

Objective:

Enhance data protection and recovery speeds, while simplifying management and reducing time for backup

Approach:

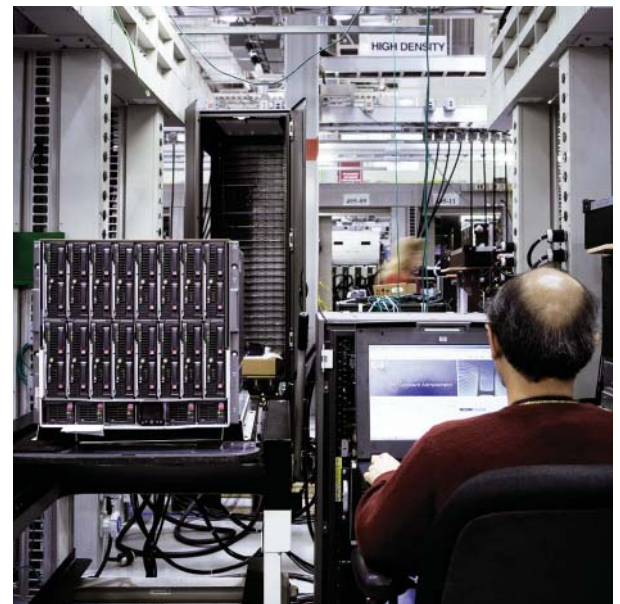
Implement HP StorageWorks D2D2T solution – an HP StorageWorks D2D130 Backup System with integral LTO-3 Ultrium tape drive

Business technology improvements:

- Provides secure backup for critical medical records
- Delivers fast data restores
- Reduces backup window by at least 50 percent and simplifies management
- Boosted storage capacity by 100 percent
- Increased operational availability

Business outcomes:

- Protected critical medical data and patient files against a catastrophic event
- Reduced operational complexity
- Decreased backup costs
- Supported better healthcare delivery through improved network performance
- Established data-protection strategy to accommodate future growth



Rural hospital improves health of community medical centers

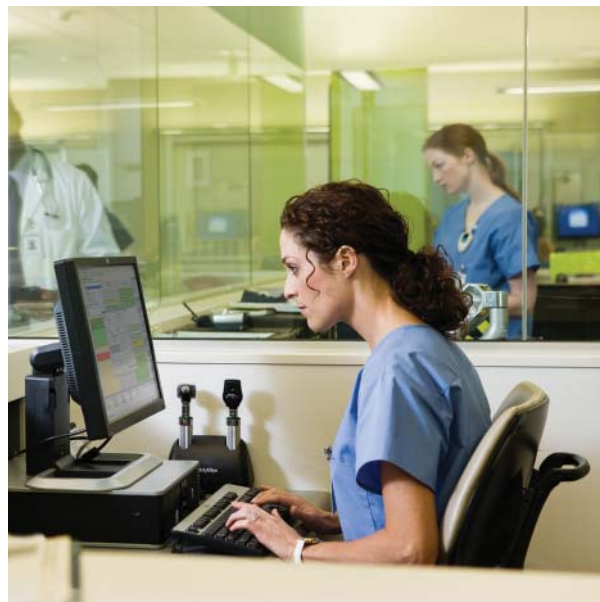
Exceeding expectations is standard practice for Myrtue Medical Center in Harlan, Iowa. As a rural medical facility in the western part of the state, its success in providing the highest quality healthcare led to its designation as a critical access hospital. This enabled Myrtue to strengthen its patient-care performance with state-of-the-art equipment and service, and draw on medical expertise from physicians and radiologists in Omaha, Nebraska, the nearest metropolis.

“Integrating the HP D2D2T solution was actually pretty easy for us. It works right across the network and we just kept the Veritas program we’ve been using for years. It was a very simple transition that’s already saving us a lot of time and money.”

– Kristine Jacobsen, IT Director,
Myrtue Medical Center

Though small, the twenty-five-bed hospital provides a full spectrum of medical services. These include a modern and well-equipped surgery suite, family birthing center, physical and occupational therapies, sports medicine, radiology, laboratory, respiratory therapy and outpatient clinic services. In November 2005, Myrtue Medical Center assumed ownership of the surrounding Shelby, Elk Horn and Avoca community medical centers, making them rural health clinics with a revitalized patient-care focus. Simultaneously, Myrtue incorporated their business and medical technology operations into the Harlan hospital data center.

“The network is pretty basic with about 200 users, mostly medical and support staff,” says Myrtue’s Network Administrator Joey Hansen. The network supports three mission-critical functions: the health management system (HMS), to track all patient medical information; radiology, which frequently sends x-ray images to specialists in Omaha; and the business office. The increased volumes and types of medical records, radiology and CAT scan images, videos and business interchange posed a critical backup and data-protection challenge. Choices were limited in scope, dependability and affordability



Real relief for backup ailments

Myrtue had long relied on internal Addonics 400 GB Saturn Ex drives and cartridges for backup, using Veritas software, but the process took at least twelve hours, and capacity was limited. “We were verging on going over the size limits of the USB devices for some of the video and medical images, so I sometimes had to cut files out of the backup job,” says Hansen. Hansen did weekly backups which he carried offsite to a remote clinic. As frequent newspaper accounts of compromised data make clear, manual transport of data increases risk of loss or theft.

Myrtue had multiple servers needing data protection, each requiring separate backup routines followed by transfer to cartridges for off-site security – a labor-intensive, multi-tiered approach that failed to answer the hospital’s need for simple, fast, secure backup. Myrtue sought a better solution “We have had a need for a real backup solution that gives us a way to quickly backup data in a short time window and also provides a means to take data off site for disaster recovery,” says Myrtue’s IT Director Kristine Jacobsen.

“The HP StorageWorks D2D2T solution cut in half our backup time, and I can run a full backup every day along with the weekly backup. Simply zipping a copy over to the D2D works extremely well.”

– Joey Hansen, Network Administrator,
Myrtue Medical Center



Working closely with Heartland Technology Solutions, an HP gold partner, Hansen learned that the HP StorageWorks D2D2T data protection solution was in beta test. Adding tape capabilities to the D2D offering, it simplifies disk-to-disk-to-tape backup and provides consolidated data protection for up to six servers, and relieved Myrtue Medical backup worries. The HP D2D2T solution combines the speed and reliability of disk-to-disk backup with the offsite and security features of tape, providing two layers of data protection with a simplicity of management and ease of use.

Speedy data recovery and a good prognosis

Myrtue is midway in transitioning its business infrastructure to an HP StorageWorks C7000 blade enclosure system with seven virtual server blades running Microsoft® Windows® Server 2008 with Hyper-V virtualization. In this environment implementation of the HP D2D2T backup system was a snap. “Integrating the HP D2D2T solution was actually pretty easy for us. It works right across the network and we just kept the Veritas program we’ve been using for years. It was a very simple transition that’s already saving us a lot of time and money,” says Jacobsen.

HP StorageWorks D2D2T solution provides one location to backup all the Myrtue data. It simplifies the process, and increases security through controlled access to the device. Hansen, who works with it daily, also appreciates the time saved by the data-protection solution. “It cut in half our backup time and I can run a full backup every day along with the weekly backup,” he says. “Simply zipping a copy over to the D2D works extremely well.”

Jacobsen, too, is pleased with the beta test outcome. The fast backup combined with simplified management and the option to copy directly to HP tape media answers Myrtue hospital’s need for real data protection. “The HP StorageWorks D2D2T is a perfect solution for us,” she concludes.

About Myrtue Medical Center

Myrtue Medical Center (www.myrtuemedical.org) is a licensed critical access hospital with a modern and well-equipped surgery suite and family birthing center. Based in Harlan, Iowa, the integrated health care center incorporated operation of four regional facilities to coordinate and improve services at the rural clinics. Myrtue’s medical staff includes board-certified medical providers and practitioners with specialties in family practice, internal medicine, pediatrics, geriatrics, women’s health issues and surgery.

Customer solution at a glance

HP StorageWorks D2D2T data-protection solution

Primary applications:

- Storage management
- Database backup

Primary hardware:

- HP StorageWorks D2D130 Backup System with integrated HP LTO-3 Ultrium 920 tape drive and HP tape media
- 7 HP Blade system BL20 servers
- HP BladeSystem C7000 enclosure

Primary software:

- Microsoft Windows Server 2003 and 2008
- Microsoft Exchange 2007
- Microsoft Windows XP (workstation)
- Microsoft Hyper-V virtual server solution
- Veritas NetBackup

HP Services:

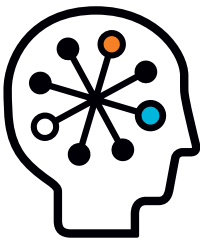
- Product warranty service

Why HP?

- Trusted relationship with HP
- Cost-effective solution

About Heartland Technology Solutions

Heartland Technology Solutions (www.heartlandtechnologies.com) based in Harlan, Iowa, is a rapidly growing solutions provider and reseller serving small- to mid-market clients across five contiguous states from eight locations. Core solutions are customer driven and include agricultural solutions, network infrastructure, IP telephony, IP surveillance and managed services.



Technology for better business outcomes

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