

Spendrups Brews Up Simplicity and Ease of Data Management with Cohesity

SPENDRUPS ¹⁸⁷

INDUSTRY

Brewing

USE CASE

Backup and Recovery, Disaster Recovery, Long-Term Retention and Archival

COHESITY PRODUCTS

DataPlatform, DataProtect, Helios

SOLUTION PARTNERS

Microsoft Azure, VMware

CHANNEL PARTNER

NetNordic

OVERVIEW

Spendrups Bryggeri is a family-owned and independent brewery and beverage group in Sweden. Along with standard enterprise business workloads, the company uses different applications to manage beer production, materials supply chain, automated storage facility, and distribution across numerous sites. It also has a futuristic production line, with automated trucks moving around the brewery, controlled by an app.

CHALLENGES

Spendrups' IT team operates mainly on-premises and wanted to keep its backups in-house, supporting over 1,000 employees. Its technical solution team oversees file and SQL servers, backups, and application management across VMware, and Microsoft Office 365 on Azure. The team runs a small backup data centre along with its two main on-premises data centres: including the main production site in Grängesberg.

During its data management solution market evaluation it found that many providers were only interested in selling systems that backed up to the cloud. With regular requirements to install fast updates to VMware, the team was looking for a solution with a close connection to VMware and experience with the latest technologies.

IT began planning for a new backup solution when its ageing storage stack was due for a five-year refresh. It was unimpressed by its incumbent supplier. Backups and restores were slow with direct restores taking up to three hours for virtual machines (VMs). A VM failure requiring a restore meant waiting one or two hours. The legacy system was becoming unmanageable. The team required a backup system with greater functionality, scalability, usability, and simplicity; all the capabilities the existing system lacked. It was time for a single data management system that was easy to manage and made backups reliable, no matter the workload.

"With many staff working remotely, everything to do with IT has been a real challenge, except the Cohesity solution. It just works effortlessly. It even automatically contacts support and creates case tickets for any issues. There's nothing I will be losing sleep over where Cohesity is concerned."

- JONAS FURTIG HJERPPE, IT OPERATIONS TECHNICIAN, SPENDRUPS BREWERY

SOLUTION

Spendrups wanted a solution with simple management, non-disruptive upgrades, and data visibility that also aided its data security. An immutable file system, anti-ransomware capabilities, and threat detection were critical. However, ease of use, control of the data, and flexibility with how its data was stored were paramount. The company worked closely with NetNordic to evaluate solutions.

The team embarked on a Proof of Concept (PoC), installing Cohesity virtually into the environment to test backups across 20 VMs. IT assessed data compression, restore time and file search, with particular consideration for Office 365 backups.

The Spendrups team was particularly impressed with Cohesity's index speed for file searching. The ease of backup and restore would make it possible to restore one file based on what it's called and where it's located. Search proved to be lightning fast, allowing for more efficient discovery. Searching files that had moved or where the name had changed was previously a very slow and tedious process.

After deciding on Cohesity, the brewery's plan was to gently phase out its old backup system by running Cohesity-powered backups in parallel for a month. This would ensure any migration issues were handled smoothly with no detriment to existing data protection levels. In reality, the migration was done within two weeks, such was the ease of install and adaption by the local team.

"The most stunning thing is it takes just five minutes to be up and running with Cohesity backups, and the compression performance is something I really like," said Jonas Furtig Hjerpe, IT Operations Technician at Spendrups Brewery.

RESULTS

The first full backup was of the entire IT environment. At almost 80TB, it took just under two days to complete. According to the internal team, Cohesity's data compression capabilities really stood out. Whereas previously the 80TB backup consumed all available disk space within a 30-day period, with Cohesity DataPlatform and DataProtect managing the process, just 40TB of actual disk space is used.

Everything is backed up by tagging VMs to different backup policies, such as one every six hours or once a day. The bulk of VMs are backed up daily and for some SQL servers, the log backup in central restore is point of time, which means a backup is only taken where needed.

The speed, performance, and reliability of the Cohesity solution scores very highly with Spendrups. There was no data loss or backup outage even when the brewery experienced a node failure.

"Cohesity delivers an enterprise-class solution for backup and recovery, as well as flexible solutions for disaster recovery to meet our internal requirements," said Hjerpe. "We like how forward-thinking the technology is, how simple it is to use, and we're excited to be part of that journey."

Over the past few months as the team have had to work remotely, there have been issues with some areas of IT when teams try to do more with less while running critical functions remotely from home. The Spendrups IT team, using the Cohesity Helios remote management solution, is able to do restores like sitting in an office. IT also have the ability to receive pop-up messages - including on their mobile phones - when Helios believes there is an anomaly that is suspected ransomware or a failed backup job, regardless of where their staff is located.

"Recently, with many staff working remotely, everything to do with IT has been a real challenge, except the Cohesity solution. It just works effortlessly. It even automatically contacts support and creates case tickets for Cohesity to help with any issues. There's nothing I will be losing sleep over where Cohesity is concerned," Hjerpe said.

Spendrups realised many benefits from the Cohesity solution, including:

- Faster, reliable, policy-based backups on-premises and in the cloud—up and running in five minutes
- Over 50x reduction in disk space consumption due to global variable-length deduplication and file compression
- Reduced RTO and RPO that outperform their SLAs
- Unprecedented search capabilities enable eDiscovery, and greater visibility into data within seconds

ABOUT MDL AUTOMATION

Spendrups Bryggeri is a family-owned and independent brewery and beverage group in Sweden. It produces, imports, distributes and sells quality beverages to the Swedish restaurants, Systembolaget, and the grocery trade. Its beverage portfolio consists of beer, wine, spirits, bottled water, cider, and soft drinks. The company was founded in 1897 and is headquartered in Vårby, Sweden.