



RUTGERS CASE STUDY



Industry: Education

Customer: Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey

Established in 1766, Rutgers, is one of the leading national research universities. It is an outstanding, comprehensive public institution of higher education. The university consists of 70,000 students and 23,400 full- and part-time faculty and staff. People here along with learning, work and serve the public at Rutgers locations across New Jersey and around the world.

The university provides for the instructional needs of the citizens of New Jersey with its undergraduate, graduate and continuing education programs. They conduct cutting-edge research that contributes to the medical, environmental, social, and cultural well-being of the state. This way they aid the economy and the state's businesses and industries; and performs public services too.

About Zmanda

Zmanda is a worldwide leader in open source backup and recovery software.

It works as an all-in-one solution for backup and disaster recovery that protects files, servers, and entire data centers. This leading-edge backup solution is designed for companies that have an extremely low tolerance for data loss, downtime, or risk mitigation.

It protects millions of servers, has a presence in more than 37 countries, and provides award-winning solutions to IT professionals. Some of the key features of Zmanda include: no proprietary formats, no vendor lock-ins, and it restores data even after a license expires.

The standard features include: encryption and compression, vaulting, AI backup scheduler, and 24x7 support. It's also the most cost-effective product, as the charges are not based on the amount of data processed.

Worldwide Leader in Open Source Backup and Recovery Software.

Contact us: 888-496-2632 (U.S.) | 408-732-3208 (INTL)
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Problem Statement:

How the University saved tens of thousands of dollars using Zmanda Backup Solutions

Saving money for server backups is a high priority; at least that was the case for Rutgers University when they started to explore server backup options.

Rutgers has a huge digital repository full of audio & video media files which are stored and shared globally on Isilon storage. The size of these storage spans greater than 50-60 Terabytes. In order to store this data safely, they were using Storage and Archive Manager File System (SAMFS) backup that was provided to them by Sun Systems. However, when the Sun Systems software began to crash often, they began to explore other options. They also became more inclined to move toward using Linux & SUSE Operating Systems. Isilon storage did not have its own proprietary backup software, thus they looked for independent backup software.

The RCA was a combination of hardware & software failure.

Customer Infrastructure and Backup Solution:

Rutgers current infrastructure comprises of a mix of physical and virtual machines. These machines run on SUSE Linux and SUSE enterprise. It is a mixture of SUSE 11, 4, & 12 operating systems. In addition, they also run Isilon storage, which is NFS mounted to their physical servers.

The capacity of Isilon storage is about **60 terabytes**.

Spectra Logic and Zmanda Solutions:

Rutgers has also depended on Spectra Logic's tape library model T50E since 2011. It is an LTO 5 tape library with two drives and is further backed to the LTO tapes. Further there are a couple of exclusive backup sets that are saved to virtual tape, an HP storage device, but most of the data goes on to LTO 5 tapes.

Why Zmanda as a Solution?



Being a traditional backup system, Zmanda provided benefits to the customer similar to EMC Networker and Net backup. However, the price of the other two was excessively high for the customer to afford. When compared Zmanda was much more cost-effective.

The IT Team at Rutgers said,

"We chose Zmanda, as it seemed like a perfect solution for us. We could backup both the OS & storage."

How Client Benefited with an Improved Solution using Zmanda

The customer engineered Zmanda to do the storage backup in a traditional style. They used Zmanda backup to do a full back up every month.

They implemented Amanda Enterprise and for a time also had the MYSQL plugin.



"Zmanda was the perfect solution for us. It was priced right and Zmanda support was excellent"

- IT System Admin

Result:

Zmanda provided a more stable and comprehensive backup solution with no crashes reported since their product usage started way back in the year of 2010. Rutgers was able to move from tradition dump storage to more reliant software based on full and incremental backup solutions. Zmanda also provided the customer with multiple storage solutions where the data could be stored on traditional on-premise and cloud storage solution. The most standout feature of Zmanda for Rutgers University was that it provided them with immediate cost savings with an accurate backup solution and increased storage efficiency.