



Cultivating lifelong learners through educational excellence

Located in picturesque Northern Dauphin County, Pennsylvania, the Upper Dauphin Area (UDA) School District is comprised of three learning centers: an elementary school, middle school, and high school. At the UDA School District, caring and dedicated faculty and staff partner with parents and community to provide a comprehensive educational program aimed at empowering all students, every day, so that their successes, growth, and unlimited potential are at the forefront of every district decision.



Upper Dauphin Area School District Relies on Barracuda Networks for Innovative Data Backup Strategy

Regional School District reduces costs and meets all requirements for disaster recovery with the Barracuda Backup Service.

Trouble with tape backups

The UDA School District offers state of the art facilities for its 1200 students, and 170 teachers and staff members. The District must have a sound data backup strategy in place to protect its valuable information assets in the event of a system failure or natural disaster, while meeting the data retrieval needs of individual users on a daily basis. The IT team, consisting of two individuals, manages and maintains the entire network infrastructure and sharply felt the strain from the limitations of their tape backup system.

“Our tape backup system continually presented problems for us,” said Bryan Campbell, technology director. “It took too much overhead to make it work, plus I wasn’t fully meeting all my requirements for having multiple copies offsite.”

With 21 servers and 600 workstations to support, Campbell was endlessly involved in handling server application and backup software conflicts, investing in new tapes and drives, not to mention the cost of maintaining the backup software and time to actually conduct the backups – which failed on a regular basis.

Barracuda Backup Service – the one viable solution

To remedy the situation, Campbell began looking at alternative strategies. The UDA School District belongs to the Capital Area Intermediate Unit (CAIU), an education consortium that focuses on optimizing the services and development of its 24 school district members. Since Campbell is a senior technology planner, the CAIU sought his evaluation. When he previewed the Barracuda Backup Service, he was immediately impressed.

“Barracuda Networks does everything seamlessly with very little effort on our part.”

-Bryan Campbell,
Technology Director

“What we’re really concerned about is the data,” said Campbell. “We wanted the least painful way to back up the data, meet requirements for redundant backup copies in multiple locations, provide a log that shows the backup has been completed - or if it hasn’t completed, where there are errors - and the ability to manage all that across platforms, from one interface. Barracuda Networks does everything seamlessly with very little effort from us.”

Local appliance allows for fast, easy restores

One thing that immediately stood out for Campbell is the fact that the Barracuda Backup Service provides an onsite appliance in addition to a monthly subscription that automatically and securely replicates data to two redundant data centers in separate geographical locations.

“Barracuda is the only one that actually leaves an appliance at your location,” Campbell said. “So if I want to use an FTP client like FileZilla to browse a device, I can go into the console, look at backups in a file structure, and be able to bring back versions independently. Even if my Internet connection is down I can still get to specific data quickly and easily.”



Barracuda Backup Service

Fast Facts:

- Automatic local and offsite data backup
- Fast local restore
- Data de-duplication
- Affordable monthly offsite storage subscription

About the Barracuda Backup Service

The Barracuda Backup Service is an affordable, integrated local and offsite data backup and disaster recovery solution. The Barracuda Backup Service combines an onsite appliance with a monthly subscription that replicates data to two offsite locations. Combining local and offsite storage provides the best of both worlds - onsite backups for the fastest restore times and secure, offsite storage for disaster recovery. The Barracuda Backup Subscription plans provide diverse offsite storage at affordable monthly fees and scale to meet increasing data requirements. The Barracuda Backup Server is a powerful appliance installed onsite to provide full local backup of current and historical data, high backup performance and fast network-based local restores. The Barracuda Backup Server also de-duplicates data at the origin to minimize the unnecessary storage of the same file, while providing efficient and secure offsite transfer using compression and encryption.

Reliability reaches a new standard

Prior to deploying the Barracuda Backup Service, Campbell was saddled with continual issues related to their tape backup system. Every time he upgraded a server, there was a compatibility issue with the backup software or the tape drive itself.

"I could almost count on having a problem once every two weeks," he said. "We ran our backups at night, and I would get calls from the office at 6 a.m. saying users couldn't log in. That meant I didn't get a good backup that night, and no one could access any resources until I drove in and restarted the server. An hour of downtime for our teachers and staff translates to 170 work hours lost, just from one incident – that's 4,420 hours in lost productivity per year, which is unacceptable."

Now, with Barracuda Backup Service in place, data backups are completed in a fraction of the time it took previously, and reliability has reached a new standard for the District.

"I've not had an instance where Barracuda has ever caused any one of my servers to lock up, or throw an error, or need to be restarted," said Campbell. "I've never had the servers run so smooth."

Scalable service, flexible retention policy options meet changing needs

Barracuda Backup Subscription plans provide diverse offsite storage options at affordable monthly fees and scale to meet increasing data requirements. The amount of data that the Barracuda Backup Service can store, both locally and offsite, is limitless.

"I think of Barracuda as 'Cloud backup computing' or 'software as a backup service,'" said Campbell. "I don't have a large investment in equipment, and don't need to worry about all the compatibility, maintenance and warranty issues associated with our tape backup system. That's a thing of the past. With Barracuda Backup Service, if I find I need to back up a lot more data, all I have to do is increase my service level."

Innovative de-duplication produces cost and storage savings

The Barracuda Backup Service utilizes advanced de-duplication technology to analyze each file at the bit level and then transfer and store just the new bit sequences over time. This minimizes the unnecessary storage of the same file, while providing efficient and secure offsite transfer using compression and encryption.

"Barracuda Backup Service allows me to be precise when retrieving versions of files, and also saves on storage space. With what I'm doing now with Barracuda Networks, it would take 100-plus tapes in my two vaults," continued Campbell. "At \$100 a pop, that's \$10,000 right there that we don't have to spend. It's easy to use and gets the backups done - and that's important. But it's also meeting all my requirements for keeping backups in multiple locations, and maintaining multiple versions of files."

About Barracuda Networks Inc.

Barracuda Networks Inc. built its reputation as the worldwide leader in content security appliances by offering easy to use and affordable products that protect organizations from email, Web and IM threats. Barracuda Networks has leveraged its success in the security market to offer networking products that improve application delivery and network access as well as world-class solutions for message archiving, backup and data protection. Coca-Cola, FedEx, Harvard University, IBM, L'Oreal, and Europcar, are amongst the 70,000 organizations protecting their networks with Barracuda Networks' solutions. Barracuda Networks' success is due to its ability to deliver easy to use, comprehensive solutions that solve the most serious issues facing customer networks without unnecessary add-ons, maintenance, lengthy installations or per user license fees. Barracuda Networks is privately held with its headquarters in Campbell, Calif. Barracuda Networks has offices in 10 international locations and distributors in more than 80 countries worldwide. For more information, please visit www.barracudanetworks.com