



RALPH ENGELSTAD ARENA

**Successful Backup and Recovery is
no Special Event at
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Sports Facility Sector Success Story | The Ralph Engelstad Arena

Solution Highlights

Industry | Sports Facility

Protected Platforms

- Physical Windows and Linux Servers
- Virtualized servers with about 20 VMs

Solution

- Recovery 813 Backup Appliance
- Replication of VMs to cloud

Benefits

- PCI DSS Credit Card Security compliance
- Ability to protect bursts of data creation
- Ease of use
- Peace of mind



I really don't worry about backups anymore. They just work and if I do see a failure in the daily report I have a pretty easy time figuring it out with the info provided. It's great peace of mind knowing that I have good, stable backups.

David Blair
IT Manager
The Ralph Engelstad Arena



Customer Profile

At 400,000 square foot Ralph Engelstad Arena is nothing but first class. There are 48 full luxury suites, two mini suites, over 13,000 general seats and two enormous club rooms featuring the longest freestanding bars in North Dakota. The training facility features a 10,000 sq. ft. weight room and underwater treadmill, fourteen locker rooms, the Olympic-sized hockey rink, and with the addition of the Betty Engelstad Sioux Center for basketball and volleyball programs, you have a world-class facility. The arena hosts weddings, concerts (Kenny Chesney and Carrie Underwood to name a few), large reunions, trade shows, receptions but most importantly it is the home of the University of North Dakota's indoor sports teams.

The Challenge

Flexibility is the key. David Blair has been the IT Manager at the arena for about 6 years and manages all the computing operations including ticketing, concessions, retail, and day to day employee usage. He is solely responsible for network, desktops, and servers for about 50 full time employees and roughly 700 event staff. David needed a backup solution that was flexible enough to handle the bursts of business activity of the arena.

The Solution

Prior to Unitrends, the Arena had two different Symantec Backup Exec programs that dumped to disk storage. David reported that it was a pain to manage and prone to failures. So he started looking for a simplified system that just worked. He found out about Unitrends by researching on Spiceworks and "read nothing but glowing reviews". After purchase he found that "the system was very easy to setup and get going."

The Results

Now David doesn't worry about backups any more. He reports that he had to restore a couple of failed servers with it. "The unvirtualized Time and Attendance server failed on a Sunday and the backups and full/incremental got us very close to a full restore." He has also had to recover emails for people on several occasions. David has also begun to work with Unitrend's cloud-based Disaster Recovery as a Service (DRaaS). "We replicate a couple of VMs out there. We haven't had to use it at all, but it's nice knowing there's another layer of protection. And if I need it, the help desk is always there to get me up and going ASAP."