

Capital City Bank Transforms Backup Eliminating 80% of Management Time



CUSTOMER

Capital City Bank

INDUSTRY

Banking / Financial

SOLUTION

Cobalt Iron Private
Cloud Solution

Two Cobalt Iron
Accelerators

BENEFITS

80% reduction of
management time

Three backup products
replaced by a single
solution

75% reduction in annual
courier costs

20% complete solution
cost savings

SMART.
SECURE.
AUTOMATED.

cobalt IRON®

Customer

Capital City Bank was established in 1892 as Neese Brothers Bank in Richland, Kansas. Today, the bank has 11 full-service locations throughout Topeka, Lawrence, and Overland Park, Kansas. Capital City Bank has focused on serving individuals and small to mid-sized businesses, placing emphasis on customer service and keeping pace with advances in technology to improve the customer's banking experience. Giving back to the community is a key part of the Capital City Bank mission; not only through loans and other banking services, but also in donations to charitable, educational, and a variety of non-profit organizations. Capital City Bank is owned by a one-bank holding company, Capital City Bancshares, Inc. Capital City Bank owns one subsidiary, Capital City Investments, Inc., a real estate company.

Challenge

Capital City Bank's VP and IT Manager, Travis Cooper, initiated the search for a better backup and recovery solution the day of an annual IT review when his boss asked, "What do you lose sleep over?" Without hesitation, Cooper responded, "Backup." The existing backup solution was inefficient, time-consuming and left too many potential points of failure. "If we had a real disaster, I was not confident that I could guarantee that we could restore and recover everything," recalls Cooper.

Like many organizations, Capital City Bank's legacy backup solution was a collection of products and technologies that had been added over time to address specific application and platform needs. These included Veritas Backup Exec to tape, Unitrends DPU disk-to-disk, and embedded Windows Server backup to a NAS device.

Daily procedures included pulling drives and tapes to be sent by courier to another branch where they were stored in the vault. Cooper had to rely on tellers to swap the tapes. Tapes were transferred by couriers who were not always careful, which lead to device damage. It was a very time-consuming process. These products also required a license for every protected server, necessitating the management of numerous license renewals at different times throughout the year. "We had so many different solutions I maintained a spreadsheet to keep track of it all,"

COBALT IRON CASE STUDY: CAPITAL CITY BANK

"I get the full benefits of an enterprise solution without the need to invest in all of the skills and knowledge required to manage it. Cobalt Iron does that for me."

Travis Cooper
VP and IT Manager

recalled Cooper. Compounded by on-going software updates, problem resolution, and storage limitations, the process was simply too inefficient to meet future data recovery needs for the bank.

Capital City Bank needed a data protection solution that would be efficient. Cooper's limited IT staff is spread thin with responsibility for all technologies required to operate the 11 branches. They were seeking a solution that could be easily managed by their staff or perhaps outsourced. The solution would have to meet privacy and regulatory requirements as well as deliver confidence that they could restore all of their data if and when they needed it.

Solution

After reviewing a number of options, Capital City Bank selected a Cobalt Iron private cloud solution with two Cobalt Iron Accelerators. Data is backed up each night to the primary data center in Topeka, then replicated to the secondary location, providing additional protection from a disruption or natural disaster. The two active sites are able to replicate without tape. This reduces management demands on IT staff and provides a "hot" DR site for seamless backup and failover capabilities. With Cobalt Iron, Cooper was able to deploy a single comprehensive data protection solution to protect all of Capital City Bank's platforms and applications.

Impact

As a result of deploying the Cobalt Iron solution, the IT staff has eliminated approximately 80% of the time they previously spent managing backup. Cobalt Iron transformed Capital City Bank's backup and recovery operations from a time-consuming, cumbersome task into a highly efficient data protection solution. Additionally, the co-location of data within the bank's private cloud meets compliance and protection standards while accelerating the backup and recovery processes. Replication of data eliminated the need to transfer tapes and disks between various locations, which has saved considerable time and cost. Recovery times have been accelerated due to the streamlined process for accessing data. Consolidating to a single comprehensive solution also helped Capital City Bank reduce costs. Cooper estimated that the bank spent about 20% less on the enterprise-wide Cobalt Iron solution than he would have paid to replace the existing inefficient, multi-product solution. Capital City Bank is now able to add data protection to systems any time they need without the need to create a purchase order or track license renewals. The "monthly per-terabyte" pricing model has greatly simplified the licensing process and enabled Cooper to extend data protection to critical workstations as well.

COBALT IRON CASE STUDY: CAPITAL CITY BANK

"I definitely do not lose any sleep over back-ups any more."

Travis Cooper
VP and IT Manager

Not long after deploying Cobalt Iron, Cooper lost a Microsoft server while applying patches. Uninstalling the patch did not solve the problems. A full restore from backup was required. Cobalt Iron proved its worth with the entire process taking less than four hours from start to finish. This would not have been possible on the old systems.

"The reports, alerts, and insight into the state of data protection delivered by the Cobalt Iron solution has increased overall confidence in our backup solution," stated Cooper. "Detailed information delivered about backups is much more robust than generic success or failure. With Cobalt Iron, Capital City Bank knows what is working or not working and why." The easy user interface, and on-going maintenance takes a lot off of Cooper's team, allowing them to address other IT projects. Cobalt Iron is there to make sure the servers are healthy, taking care of updates, patches and upgrades, eliminating the need to worry about these activities. "An internal auditor recommended that we get rid of our Cobalt Iron solution because of all of the maintenance and management required," recalls Cooper. "I had to explain that we don't have to do any of that management. The Symantec solution that was recommended would have been more expensive and would have increased the amount of time and management required by my team."

"We have eliminated about 80% of the time we previously spent managing our backup solution since deploying Cobalt Iron" said Travis Cooper, VP and IT Manager for Capital City Bank. "The service eliminates a lot of worry by making sure the servers are healthy, dealing with failures, ensuring recoverability, and taking care of updates and patches. I definitely do not lose any sleep over backups any more."

888-584-4766 • www.cobaltiron.com

cobalt IRON®

© 2019 Cobalt Iron, Inc. All rights reserved. Cobalt Iron, the Cobalt Iron logo, the Cobalt Iron agent logo, Compass, the Compass logo, "Data Protection Everywhere. Smart. Secure. Automated.", and Take Control of Your Data are trademarks of Cobalt Iron. All other trademarks or registered trademarks are the property of their respective owners. 090919