Catalogic® Provides Faster, More Efficient Data Protection for Peak Vista Health

Catalogic DPX™ protects 7.5 TB of business and clinical data with two-minute granular restores

INDUSTRY
- *Healthcare*

CHALLENGE
- *Centralize data protection for multiple terabytes of clinical and administrative data*
- *Migrate from slow, fragile tape architecture to modern disk-based system with snapshots and off-site storage*
- *Support new NetApp storage infrastructure*

SOLUTION
- *A unified backup infrastructure based on Catalogic DPX*
- *Faster processing to fit in backup windows and improve reliability*

BUSINESS BENEFITS
- *Fast: Back up 7.5 TB of data in as little as 90 minutes*
- *Efficient: Create instant snapshots across physical and virtual servers with file restores in as little as two minutes*
- *Simple: Eliminates cumbersome tape rotations and simplifies data retention required by industry mandates*

Ending the Frustrations of Tape Backup

By providing quality healthcare to underserved communities facing access barriers in the US, Peak Vista Health Centers has blossomed from its founding in 1971 into one of the West's most successful health systems. Today, Peak Vista's 19 facilities provide tens of thousands of Coloradans with outpatient medical, dental, and behavioral healthcare. More than 80 percent of patients either have no insurance or rely on Medicaid, underscoring how important financial and operational efficiency is to the company.

Like most health systems today, Peak Vista has faced a growing challenge in the volume of the data it must manage, retain, and protect. Clinical imaging systems generate large files. Databases are more often optimized for processing efficiency, not storage. And regulatory frameworks are requiring healthcare organizations to retain more data for longer periods of time. Add these up, and the problems only grow. For Peak Vista, tape-centric data protection processes had gradually devolved into a time-consuming administrative headache.

"We were only using tape for our weekly backups," said Eric Warne, systems administrator II for Peak Vista, "but we were struggling with all of the headaches you'd expect from tape. First we'd reached the point where our backups were extending beyond the window and into Monday morning – if we needed a restore on Monday morning, we had to wait a long time. Even a simple restore might take four or five hours. If, for instance, we lost a primary Exchange server, it could take days to get it back up. And the logistics of managing and cycling all of those tapes – moving them to a fireproof safe or shipping them off to Iron Mountain for off-site storage – was becoming increasingly infeasible."

> *We're able to back up our data every night in about 30 minutes. Our weeklies take about 90 minutes – not 48 hours or more... Catalogic DPX is much faster and more flexible than our previous solution.*
>
> — *Eric Warne*
> *System Administrator II*
> *Peak Vista Community Health Centers*

Looking for a Smarter Data Protection

With volumes reaching 5 TB, Peak Vista recognized it needed a smarter way to protect that data – one that would improve efficiency, cut costs, and increase reliability. In conjunction with a larger commitment to NetApp® storage across its IT infrastructure, Peak Vista looked carefully at Catalogic DPX data protection software. The combined solution with Catalogic DPX and NetApp's high-performance disk storage delivers zero-impact backup, data de-duplication, instant restores, data replication, and support for disk, tape, and physical and virtual servers. It's flexible enough to work in mixed primary storage environments while consolidating backup processing to a single user interface.

The Pursuit of Greater Efficiency

Peak Vista decided to revamp its data storage and protection and started with an evaluation of Catalogic DPX. "We liked this disk-based, snapshot approach because we could deploy more off-site storage and have a disaster recovery site at another facility," explained Warne. "We could store 30 days of change data onto disk, and bring that data back up – at a very granular level – in literally a minute or two. Compare that with the old way: looking at the tape catalog, walking over to another building, finding the tape, walking back, mounting the tape, finding the file. That took hours."

Within one month of the installation, Peak Vista was backing up 100 percent of its data to a DR site across town from the company's primary data center. "We also do weekly backups for three months and once a month we do a snapshot to tape and send that off to Iron Mountain – it's all very easy."

> "We're now backing up full systems so that we have the ability to perform bare-metal restores... As we continually migrate our infrastructure from physical to virtual servers, Catalogic DPX is giving us greater latitude and flexibility.
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> — Eric Warne
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Faster Backups, Bigger Volumes, Stronger Protection

With Catalogic DPX, Peak Vista has achieved dramatic improvements in the speed of its backups. "We're never running into Monday with our weekly backups," said Warne. "We're able to backup our data every night in about 30 minutes. Our weeklies take about 90 minutes – not 48 hours or more. And we can provide restores in about two minutes. We even present an interface to the user that lets him navigate a tree structure of the backed up files and independently find what he needs. Catalogic DPX is much faster and more flexible than our previous solution."

What's more, even in those significantly shorter backup windows, the company is protecting 50 percent more data than before – a full 7.5 TB. "We're now backing up full systems so that we have the ability to perform bare-metal restores. Previously, we hadn't backed up the operating systems. As we continually migrate our infrastructure from physical to virtual servers, Catalogic DPX is giving us greater latitude and flexibility."

CATALOGIC SOFTWARE

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