



Accelerating recovery: Curtiss-Wright Round Rock & Wimborne thwarts ransomware and restores critical systems in minutes with Veeam

CURTISS- WRIGHT

Organization

Curtiss-Wright Round Rock & Wimborne are centers of excellence in nuclear safety instrumentation and control. With decades of heritage in neutron monitoring, radiation detection, and precision sensing, they provide mission-critical technologies that protect both civil and defense nuclear operations worldwide. They are part of Curtiss-Wright Corporation, a Global 2000 company that employs nearly 9,000 professionals worldwide.

Solution

[Veeam Data Platform Premium](#)

Industry

Energy and Utilities

Region

Europe

“ We have set a recovery time objective of two hours for mission-critical systems, but during our quarterly DR tests with Veeam, we’ve spun up replicas of our production systems in as little as eight minutes. ”

Paul Sylvester

Head of IT, Curtiss-Wright Round Rock & Wimborne

Challenge

Nuclear and aerospace projects are often highly time-sensitive, which means Curtiss-Wright Round Rock & Wimborne’s mission-critical systems must always be available for its business users. When its legacy disaster recovery (DR) solution began to experience frequent backup failures, the company looked for a new approach that could enable it to restore key digital services quickly and reliably.

Results

- Restores mission-critical systems in as little as eight minutes
- Eliminates reliability issues associated with daily and weekly backups
- Saves one full-time employee equivalent of work on backup-related tasks

Business Challenges

With operations in the UK and U.S., Curtiss-Wright Round Rock & Wimborne designs high-tech monitoring systems for some of the harshest environments on Earth, including the intense heat at the heart of nuclear reactors.

Paul Sylvester, Head of IT at Curtiss-Wright Round Rock & Wimborne, said: "We are one of only a handful of companies in the world with the expertise and the technology to deliver purpose-built solutions for the nuclear and aerospace industries. Even brief project delays can be extremely costly for our clients, so keeping our mission-critical systems online is a top priority."

Curtiss-Wright Round Rock & Wimborne aims to ensure high availability for key systems, such as AutoCAD (used by its designers and engineers) and its ERP platform (used by back-office teams such as human resources and finance). However,

aging IT infrastructure and a legacy tape-based backup system made it increasingly difficult for the company to ensure a high level of data protection.

"In the past, backup failures were a common occurrence, and we often had to re-run the process during production hours, which caused disruption for our users," said Sylvester. "At weekends, we had to have a member of staff on site to ensure our full weekly backup had completed successfully. Over time, our IT estate had expanded to the point where we were struggling to back up all our servers. We knew the previous system was no longer fit for purpose, so we looked for a new approach."

Working closely with business leaders, the technical services team at Curtiss-Wright Round Rock & Wimborne captured the service-level requirements for a new data protection solution. Their key target was to recover key systems, such as AutoCAD and the ERP solution, within two hours.

"We decided to completely refresh our IT environment, including a brand-new server, storage, and networking infrastructure," said Sylvester. "In parallel, we also looked for a modern, enterprise-class data protection solution."

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The Veeam Solution

After reviewing solutions from several leading data protection providers, Curtiss-Wright Round Rock & Wimborne selected Veeam to safeguard its mission-critical services. The new solution protects 70 TB of data across 72 VMware virtual machines (VMs), with real-time replication for critical data.

“As part of a wider IT refresh, we deployed a new high-capacity server and storage platform in our primary server room, with a DR platform in our second server room and an HPE StoreOnce appliance in a third server room,” said Sylvester. “As we were moving to a fully virtualized environment, it made perfect sense to choose Veeam. Regulatory compliance is also crucial, and with Veeam, it was very straightforward to achieve our Cyber Essentials Plus certification.”

Using Veeam, Curtiss-Wright Round Rock & Wimborne replicates its mission-critical production

data to its secondary platform every two hours. Every 24 hours, Veeam automatically backs up to the HPE StoreOnce appliance at the tertiary site, where it is deduplicated and compressed. Rather than storing data on tape, Curtiss-Wright Round Rock & Wimborne migrates data from the tertiary site to a secure cloud environment for long-term retention.

“Veeam is extremely easy to deploy and configure,” said Sylvester. “Working with Veeam, we ensured that we incorporated data protection best practices into the new solution from the start. Initially, our objective was to use Veeam to store 30 days of backups at our tertiary site. Over time, we increased that to six months of data for some of our key systems. This gives us more possible restore points in the event of a ransomware attack.”

Since implementing Veeam, Curtiss-Wright Round Rock & Wimborne has solved its data protection challenges. The company can now back up its entire environment in just 12 hours at the end of each week and issues with backup failures are now a thing of the past.

“Veeam is a true set-and-forget solution. In my 30 years of IT experience, it’s one of the only products I’ve used that works exactly as advertised,” said Sylvester. “Because we no longer need to assign people to babysit our backup jobs, we’ve freed up the equivalent of one full-time employee on our service desk. As a result, we can pick up support tickets 75% faster and our business users are delighted.”

With support from Veeam, Curtiss-Wright Round Rock & Wimborne continues to enhance its approach to data protection. The company has configured immutable backups to guard against cyberattacks and now performs regular DR tests.

“We have set a RTO of two hours for mission-critical systems, but during our quarterly DR tests with Veeam, we’ve spun up replicas of our

production systems in as little as eight minutes,” said Sylvester. “On a few occasions, we’ve needed to switch over to our production system replicas for operational reasons. Every time, Veeam has worked flawlessly.”

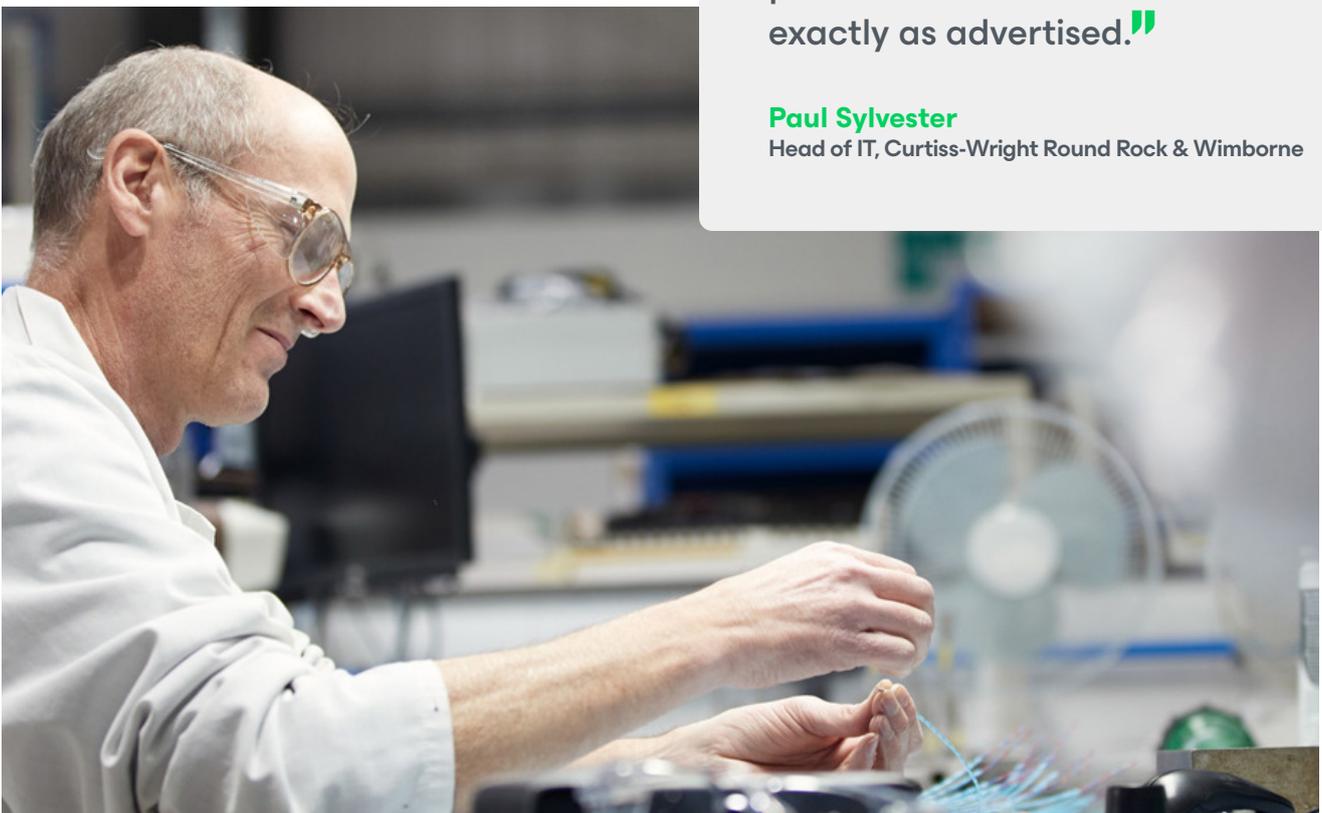
Curtiss-Wright Round Rock & Wimborne also leverages the advanced capabilities of Veeam Data Platform’s Premium edition to maximize data protection, intelligent monitoring, and enterprise-grade recovery features to ensure operational resilience.

“With the Veeam Recon Scanner capability, we can detect suspicious behaviors early, providing crucial insight and context for our IT team to act quickly. This swift response helps prevent attackers from escalating their efforts, thereby strengthening our organization’s security posture,” said Sylvester.

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The Results

Restores mission-critical systems in as little as eight minutes

“With our previous tape-based DR system, it could theoretically have taken days to recover from an outage,” said Sylvester. “With Veeam, we now have a RTO and RPO of just two hours, and in real-world tests, we’ve restored some of our systems in minutes.”

Eliminates reliability issues associated with daily and weekly backups

“In the past, we had to babysit our backups constantly because failures were so common,” said Sylvester. “Today, Veeam automatically retries failed backups three times in the event of a failure and then raises a ticket with our service desk for further investigation if needed. We’ve not had a single Veeam-related backup failure since we deployed our new DR environment.”

Saves one full-time employee equivalent of work on backup-related tasks

Using the time saved on monitoring and restarting failed backups, Curtiss-Wright Round Rock & Wimborne can now free its service desk team to spend more time on front-line support. “We’ve cut our response times for service tickets from eight hours to just two hours; 75% faster,” said Sylvester.

About Veeam Software

Veeam®, the #1 global market leader in data resilience, believes every business should be able to bounce forward after a disruption with the confidence and control of all their data whenever and wherever they need it.

Veeam calls this radical resilience, and we’re obsessed with creating innovative ways to help our customers achieve it. Veeam solutions are purpose-built for powering data resilience by providing data backup, data recovery, data portability, data security, and data intelligence. With Veeam, IT and security leaders rest easy knowing that their apps and data are protected and always available across their cloud, virtual, physical, SaaS, and Kubernetes environments.

Headquartered in Seattle with offices in more than 30 countries, Veeam protects over 550,000 customers worldwide, including 67% of the Global 2000, that trust Veeam to keep their businesses running. Radical resilience starts with Veeam. Learn more at www.veeam.com or follow Veeam on LinkedIn [@veeam-software](https://www.linkedin.com/company/veeam) and X [@veeam](https://twitter.com/veeam).

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