



Hollywood Advertising Agency, The Cimarron Group, Protects Enterprise Data with Atempo Time Navigator™



Problem

The Cimarron Group needed to protect more than 40 Terabytes of business critical data stored on the company's mixed Apple Xsan and Windows platforms.

Goal

A sophisticated backup and restore solution for all audiovisual media.

Results

Time Navigator provides the infrastructure to protect mission critical data in a heterogeneous environment.

With Time Navigator, Cimarron was not only able to backup their Apple Xsan environment within the backup window but also simplify their data protection strategy by standardizing all backups on one product.

"Atempo's Time Navigator was the only backup and restore product capable of meeting all of our data protection objectives while providing 'out-of-the-box' Xsan support."

Mark Miranda

IT Director

The Cimarron Group

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Organization

The Cimarron Group is one of Hollywood's largest and most successful entertainment marketing agencies. The firm generates massive video, print and multimedia data files during the production of their advertising and promotional campaigns. Cimarron's high profile clients include the major Hollywood studios, prime TV networks and live entertainment producers.

The Challenge

Cimarron needed to upgrade one of its core business functions, the ongoing backups of 40 Terabytes of data. Ideally, the new data storage system would include tape backup, full backups on weekends (48-hour window), and incremental backups every weeknight (6-hour window), with minimal impact to production workflow. Another vital function required the new data storage system to archive data on tapes located on-site for immediate retrieval, and duplicates for off-site disaster recovery.

Given the wide variety of content that Cimarron creates it was imperative to find a proven storage, protection and backup solution.

The Solution

Cimarron evaluated several solutions from different vendors, but Atempo Time Navigator was the only solution that delivered the unlimited scalability and Apple Xsan support critical to Cimarron. Atempo's technology allowed Cimarron to upgrade their existing data storage and backup infrastructure while providing unique abilities to work across complex, multi-platform and multi-application environments.

Time Navigator offers a suite of products that make it easier than ever for Cimarron to find and manage its business-critical data. "Atempo Time Navigator was the only backup and restore product capable of meeting our

data protection objectives while providing 'out-of-the-box' Xsan support," said Mark Miranda, Cimarron Group's IT director. "The comprehensiveness of Atempo's data protection system compelled us to replace our existing backup infrastructure with Time Navigator to protect Mac OS X file servers, Windows file servers, Exchange servers and SQL servers."

Characteristics of Cimarron Group's Environment:

- 9 Xserve RAIDs
- Dedicated Xserve G5 for backup
- Windows file servers
- Mac OS X file servers
- SQL servers
- Apple Xsan
- 40+ Terabytes

Results

With Cimarron's enterprise data consolidated on Atempo Time Navigator, the agency manages all of its data from a single server. Time Navigator's centralized interface manages everything and protects data across heterogeneous environments and multiple storage architectures including DAS, NAS, SAN and IP storage. In addition, Time Navigator's remote administration capabilities enable full backup and recovery from any location.

Leveraging Time Navigator's synthetic backup technology allows Cimarron to significantly shrink backup windows; true, full backups are re-created offline using incremental backups. Cimarron manages data protection between all storage layers from primary disk to archive media according to the data's lifecycle value. Miranda added, "By consolidating all of our data on the Time Navigator backup and restore system we can now control the entire data protection process from a single server. This capability alone has delivered significant ROI in the form of less complexity and reduced administration costs."