



Case Study: Stage2Data successfully assisted ConnexOntario to migrate from tape backups to the Cloud and implement a fully tested DR plan

Since Stage2Data came on board as Disaster Recovery as a Service (DRaaS) partner at ConnexOntario in 2013, their System Administration team have better peace of mind and managing their backups and Disaster Recovery (DR) is hassle free. Zerto, one of Stage2Data's key technology partners and DR offering was utilised to create and implement a proper DR solution. They also played a pivotal role in assisting with migrating from tape backups to the Cloud - a fully flexible solution which is both cost effective and much easier to manage. Stage2Data has proven to be more than just a third party backup service provider, but a trusted partner who are willing to share expert advice and direction.

BACKGROUND

ConnexOntario provides free and confidential health services information for people experiencing problems with alcohol and drugs, mental illness or gambling. With data at the very core of the organisation, backing up critical systems and data has always been critically important.

Using leading edge technology, ConnexOntario provides hope, early help and a human voice 24-hours per day to all individuals seeking information on various health aid.

The company vision is to deliver the most helpful, visible, agile and comprehensive system information for the people of Ontario, serving as the flagship organization in helping people and organizations connect to the health and human services they need.

THE CHALLENGE

After using tape backups for many years, Stuart Crawford, Senior Systems Administrator at ConnexOntario realised it was time to move to the cloud. After intensive research for the most suitable technology he discovered that Zerto would meet their organization's DRaaS requirements. In turn Stage2Data was highly recommended as Zerto's preferred Canadian DRaaS service provider.

THE SOLUTION

According to Crawford, the onboarding with Stage2Data was smooth and since dealing with their inhouse experts,

Stephen Pyott, VP of Sales and Jon Darling, Senior National Account Manager a long-lasting partnership was formed.

One thing that stood out for ConnexOntario was how Stage2Data carefully listened to the customer requirements and responded with a plan and solution that would address these pains without being pressured, oversold or mislead.

SUCCESSFULLY IMPLEMENTED AND TESTED DR PLAN WITH MINMAL FAIL OVER TIME

Crawford said he was very pleased with Stage2Data's excellent service during a recent DR failover test.



“We contacted Stage2Data to assist with a routine failover test of our Disaster Recovery solution and they immediately responded. One of their technical support engineers logged in remotely and by the click of a few buttons using Zerto’s interface, he launched a fully operational replication site in Stage2Data’s remote data center. After verifying that all data and processes were running as expected in the remote location, we switched back over to our primary site. This process took only a few minutes to complete but gave me and my team confidence and peace of mind. It is great to know we are completely covered in case of an unwanted disaster or even data loss.”

We are very happy with this partnership and are looking forward to many more great years with Stage2Data

THE FUTURE

Since Stage2Data came on board as ConnexOntario’s backup and Disaster Recovery partner, they have almost fully migrated to the cloud. Now, having 15 Virtual Machines backing up approximately 4TB of data remotely, they still have one tape server used for archiving. They are planning on moving to an onsite backup appliance. An attractive option which they might consider is Stage2Data’s latest Cube appliance which is powered Rubrik, a leading international data management vendor.

“We are very happy with this partnership and are looking forward to many more great years with Stage2Data,” Crawford concludes.

ABOUT STAGE2DATA

One of Canada’s fastest growing and most trusted cloud solution providers. Since 1998 Stage2Data have been a trusted data management company providing 100% Canadian data solutions. It has been proven by thousands of North American companies that we manage data securely and IT costs effectively.