



Getting a bird's eye view of data

365IT delivers centralised, automated backup solution

The Customer

The RSPB saves threatened birds and wildlife across the UK and overseas. Climate change, agricultural intensification and expansion of urban areas are some of the threats to birds. With an army of 18,000 volunteers and 1,300 staff, the RSPB protects the bird population to allow us all to enjoy a world that is rich in nature.

The Challenge

The RSPB has 200 nature reserves, most of them based in very remote locations, with varying levels of broadband and dial-up connectivity. Each reserve holds commercial data and vital research data generated by projects being undertaken onsite. Protecting this data was a challenge.

The existing tape backup could not provide the level of assurance that RSPB needed and as many of the staff at the nature reserves are volunteers, it was difficult to enforce procedures and processes for consistent data backup.

For volunteers, staff and the IT Department, tape backup was tedious, difficult and unreliable. RSPB's IT Department needed to find a way to backup data efficiently, securely and effectively.

“ The solution has addressed all our concerns and issues about data backup and management
Ray Alami, Project Manager

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The 365IT Solution

365IT recommended and delivered a centralised, automated backup solution for RSPB. The solution was designed to accommodate the limited connectivity at some of the reserves, while also ensuring that the backup process didn't impact the performance of the existing WAN.

Initially, a three month pilot phase was implemented, giving RSPB the opportunity to assess the simplicity and effectiveness of the solution. During the pilot, 365IT and RSPB were able to prove that the solution could work without impacting WAN performance, that all data could be easily recovered in the event of a failure and that 365IT could deliver exceptional support and services to RSPB.

Following the success of the pilot, the solution was then rolled out to more reserves across the UK.

The Benefits

- Provides reliable and consistent backup of data
- Removes the uncertainty that surrounds tape backup
- Eliminates the risk of human error
- Protects vital research data
- Simplifies data management and recovery