

CASE STUDY



Foodmakers, Inc. protects critical financial data with Double-Take®

Foodmakers, Inc., the number four purveyor of fast food in the United States, has over 1,400 sales locations throughout North America. Better known as Jack-in-the-Box, the company has recently completed a massive upgrade to its data protection and data collection operations--with NSI® Software's Double-Take® leading the way.

"We have nine regional sites, along with our 1,400 sales sites," said Jim Antoshak, Network Engineer for Foodmakers, Inc. "We need that data replicated on a 24 by 7 basis. All the time."

Mr. Antoshak set up Double-Take for NetWare to handle these continuous replications over 128k fractional T1 to the company's headquarters in San Diego. "It [Double-Take] was very straightforward to set up and to select data to copy." This feature alone-- the ability to select from any server or volume of a server precisely which data--and only that data--to replicate, was key to implementing the continuous replication plan for Foodmakers, Inc.

Replicating all the field data to corporate would be prohibitively expensive and unnecessary. "We have files and applications that are crucial. Those are the ones we want replicated here at headquarters." Other data types and applications are protected by tape backup and other means.

Foodmakers, Inc. replicates not only key financial data from its sites, but also selected

user and application data. This real-time backup copy can be used to restore failed servers and provide centralized off-site data protection in case of a disaster.

The target server located at the company headquarters is a Compaq Proliant 1600 with 8GB of RAID 5 storage currently dedicated to store replicated data. Regional servers vary in disk capacity; most running on Compaq 2500s.

In replicating that much data, from so many different sources, Mr. Antoshak knows the actual data copy to a central location is only half the battle. "We need to know-- really know-- that the data made it to the central repository," he continued. "The report capabilities in Double-Take, along with the verify feature, fits that need we have." Double-Take can create verification reports on a regular schedule or ad-hoc to validate that replicated data accurately reflects the original. The total number of files and bytes compared along with any differences are clearly logged. Double-Take can be configured to automatically correct any discrepancies it may find. "All I have to do is check the reports to keep tabs on the entire operation."

With Double-Take replicating data, this nationwide chain knows where its important data is at all times. And is assured they have safe copies to fall-back on if needed.

Company: Foodmakers, Inc.
Location(s) protected: 9 regional sites
Network Operating System: NetWare 4.1, Windows NT 4.0
Servers: Compaq Proliant 1600 and 2500 servers, RAID 5
NSI Software Product: Double-Take for NetWare

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-- Jim Antoshak

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