TWM Solicitors Combines Data Mobility, Migration, and Protection Seamlessly with Zerto

Challenges

- Achieve 24/7 application availability to access case-related documents to meet client deadlines
- Mitigate the risk from ransomware attacks
- Comply with legal data protection mandates
- Maximize productivity for limited IT resources given a complex IT environment

Solution

- Deploy Zerto’s continuous data protection to eliminate downtime and mitigate the risk of data loss and disruption from ransomware
- Move applications and add capacity on demand with Zerto’s hybrid-cloud flexibility
- Reduce strain on IT resources and streamline DR planning and testing

Zerto Results

- Reduced recovery point objectives (RPO) from weeks down to minutes
- Clearly defined DR plans and reduction in DR testing time from days to just 30 minutes
- Provided the ability to recover from any event in a few clicks, with DR testing that showed proof of data protection compliance and reallocation of critical IT resources

Zerto is Like a Swiss Army Knife for TWM Solicitors

At TWM Solicitors, the IT department needs to ensure applications are up and running 24/7. Lawyers are working around the clock and need to access case-related documents to meet the needs and deadlines of their clients. If they cannot access their data, the results could be catastrophic. Additionally, in today’s world, the organization needs a solution that can deliver effective and resilient remote working capabilities.
Using their previous solution in the event of a disaster, it would take TWM Solicitors weeks to rebuild their environment, including exchange servers and critical document management systems. TWM Solicitors need for fast, easy, and reliable disaster recovery (DR) led them to partner with Zerto, a Hewlett Packard Enterprise company, to protect their data and servers.

Before Zerto, TWM Solicitors faced the risk of ransomware attacks and had no clear disaster recovery processes to ensure they could recreate their complex environment in the event of any disruptions. Zerto’s continuous data protection provided TWM Solicitors with simple, fast recovery with recovery point objectives (RPO) of seconds and recovery time objectives (RTO) of minutes.

Zerto simplifies the way that TWM Solicitors tests their IT systems for disaster recovery without disrupting the business and allows them to confidently show compliance with data protection mandates.

According to Alan Barrett, Head of IT, “Before Zerto, I may have to disrupt the business for a couple of days just to run a full DR test. Now, with Zerto, I just run through the test in a couple of clicks, go into the reserve site, make sure that the servers have spun up and all the services are running as expected, and complete the test cycle. It takes me maybe 30 minutes.”

With limited IT staff, TWM Solicitors needed a solution that was simple to deploy and use and one that required minimal maintenance. With Zerto, the TWM Solicitors IT team has been able to reallocate time to more productive tasks. Additionally, they are now able to recover from any event in a few clicks, which saves their IT team time.

“Prior to having Zerto, I would’ve had to literally run a backup, restore, backup, restore. It probably would’ve taken me two to three days restoring and configuring. Prior to that, I probably would’ve had to spend up to a week to be fully operational again,” said Alan Barrett, head of IT at TWM Solicitors.

TWM Solicitors moved to a hybrid cloud DR model with Zerto to support their shift from primarily on-premises–based operations to increasingly remote-based. In addition to the faster, more granular recovery, the hybrid cloud approach allows them the flexibility to move applications and add capacity on demand to optimise for remote working.

Today, Zerto is deployed across the entire organization’s computing infrastructure in several different departments, handling a wide variety of workloads.

Since first implementing Zerto, TWM has also been utilizing its long-term retention and instantaneous file restore features. As Alan Barrett explains, “I’m now also looking to the future to use Zerto as a second data storage point but ultimately to also facilitate the migration of some of my workloads up to the cloud. In practical terms, Zerto is evolving along with the way that my network has evolved and the way that we’re delivering compute has evolved.”

The firm is also making use of Zerto’s near-synchronous replication functionality. “This is very handy for instantaneous file restores and will be particularly useful over the next few years as we build more flexibility into how we run our network. Having gone from an on-prem environment to very much a hybrid and now on-cloud, having the ability to move data recovery points around and some of them being local is very powerful for me.”
A Recovery Revolution

From a performance perspective, Zerto gives the organization confidence that they can restore data quickly and easily. “Ultimately, the benefit for the firm is having everything covered in terms of protection. For me, it has been a huge game-changer to have that confidence around data recoverability,” Barrett said.

Looking specifically at the firm’s RPO performance, they have seen a major improvement. As Barrett explains, “Originally, we would have had an RPO of weeks, but now it’s down to minutes. Together with our RTO capabilities, we’re well below an hour now in terms of being able to restore the entire system.”

“Assessing the value and impact of Zerto on a scale of one to ten, I’m a ten. It’s made a huge amount of difference to my peace of mind in terms of being responsible for this network and ensuring we can recover quickly and accurately. So, it has been a massive, massive ten.”

Zerto was able to help TWM Solicitors meet their demands for continuous data protection and better disaster recovery. Zerto can help you combine ransomware resilience, disaster recovery, and cloud mobility into one solution.

Learn more about Zerto. View the TWM Solicitors video or download the Disaster Recovery 101 Guide.