CASE STUDY

NNSA

ACTIVE-ACTIVE FILE COLLABORATION AT THE NATIONAL NUCLEAR SECURITY ADMINISTRATION

PROJECT PROFILE

PEER SOFTWARE SOLUTION
» PeerLink®

CUSTOMER'S PLATFORM
» NetApp FAS 2000 Series
» Windows Server

LOCATIONS
» NNSA Headquarters
» Field Offices

INDUSTRY
U.S. Federal Government, Nuclear Security and Regulation

CHALLENGES
High performance file sharing and collaboration environment with up-to-date file replicas maintained locally

KEY BENEFITS THROUGH PEER SOFTWARE
Faster performance and current, up-to-date local file replicas.

THE CHALLENGE

With a mission focused on enhancing national security through the military application of nuclear science, the National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA) was established by Congress in 2000 as a semi-autonomous agency within the U.S. Department of Energy.

NNSA has a broad range of responsibilities that include maintaining the safety, security, and effectiveness of the U.S. nuclear weapons stockpile without conducting nuclear tests; reducing the proliferation of nuclear weapons and materials; providing the U.S. Navy with safe and effective nuclear propulsion; and providing capabilities for responding to nuclear counter-terrorism and other related incidents.

Including three national laboratories, the ability to securely share information among the organization's scientists, engineers, security experts and program managers is paramount to enabling NNSA to meet the objectives of its four mission areas. However, when it came to the ability to access and update shared project files including Word, Excel, presentations and graphics files, users were reporting that email, FTP, shared folders and other available techniques to support this activity were not

optimal. They needed file sharing infrastructure that would provide local users with fast access without degrading the performance of their Wide Area Network (WAN) when large files were being updated and replicated from site-to-site.

Looking ahead, they also wanted a solution that utilized version management to ensure file integrity, as multiple users could be updating and saving the same files while at different locations.

Since NetApp supplied high performance storage systems that NNSA recently implemented, the NNSA team naturally reached out to them to see if they had an available solution. After some initial research, the consulting NetApp engineer recommended PeerLink, a file sharing and collaboration solution from Peer Software.

Based on DFSR+® technology, PeerLink provides distributed file service capabilities such as real-time sync for maintaining file replicas at multiple locations, and utilizes byte-level replication to minimize the performance impact on WAN connections. PeerLink also incorporates distributed file locking to maintain file integrity, and was fully compatible with the NetApp storage systems implemented by NNSA.
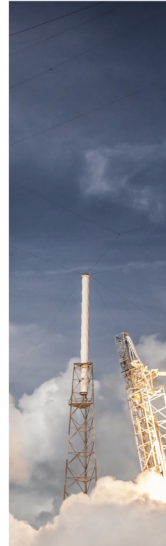
PEER™

RESULTS

After some additional research and consulting with the support team at Peer, the NNSA team decided to download and install a fully functional trial version of PeerLink.

They quickly setup a collaboration environment between the multiple data centers, and then introduced it to the users at NNSA who would now be able to utilize shared file replicas that were closest to them geographically.

Since implementation, the NNSA team reported that PeerLink has met their needs while receiving an almost immediate positive response from their user base which appreciates the faster performance and confidence that their local file replicas are current.

BENEFITS

FAST FILE ACCESS
Improve Productivity for distributed teams by enabling fast local access to shared project files.

CROSS PLATFORM INTEGRATION
Replicate Data between the Storage Systems which best meet specific application / business requirements.

CENTRALIZED BACKUP
Reduce your backup cost by centralizing your Backup with Real-Time Replication (CDP) from the Edge to your Data Center.

HIGH AVAILABILITY
Enable high availability and load balancing of end user and department data with real-time delta-level replication.

ABOUT US
Since 1993, Peer Software has developed data management solutions that address unique challenges related to data synchronization, backup, and file collaboration in multi-site (WAN) environments.

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