



*Case Study*

# Top London 6<sup>th</sup> Form College Upgrades Backup and Recovery Systems to CommVault® Simpana

## Deliverables

- Fixed Price, de-risked CommVault® Simpana implementation
- 2 day installation with remote training
- Deduplication resulting in just 1/5th of backup space being used
- Lower staff overhead
- Annual cost savings on renewal contracts
- Delivered on time and on budget
- Nightly Backups reduced from 10hrs to 2hrs

**Industry:** Education

**Annual Budget 2014:** £9 million

**Employees:** 200

**Students:** 1500

**Data Size:** 8–10TB

**Environment:** VMware, SQL Exchange, Oracle, Nimble

**Solution:** CommVault® Simpana

**Replaced:** Backup Exec

Saint Francis Xavier (SFX) is a £9 million government funded 6th Form College based in Balham, South London. SFX are top of the DFE league table for inner and South London Colleges (DFE January 2014) and offer over 50 courses including; Level 3: AS and A levels, BTEC Diplomas and Extended Diplomas. Over 85% of students go to university each year with around 15% to the 1994 and Russell Group Universities. Saint Francis Xavier has a team of four IT staff with one onsite server room.

**Nightly Backups  
reduced from  
10hrs to 2hrs**

## The Customer

As a government funded London sixth form college, Saint Francis Xavier (SFX) has experienced significant funding cuts over the last few years. This has led to a strategic review on spend in all areas and a need to cut costs where possible. The IT Team also had serious concerns with their existing Symantec Backup Exec Software as they experienced a number of backup failures which resulted in corrupted data and many hours lost in recovery and restores.

## The Challenge

Thufael Islam, IT Director for SFX conducted a strategic review of the internal IT infrastructure which highlighted the need to improve their systems and applications, improve their backup and disaster recovery, RTO and uptime. SFX has one server room with thirty five virtual machines and nine physical servers which run DNS, Experian and SQL databases. Their student and staff records are stored in Oracle databases and require constant access. The total data size was approximately 10TB.

## The Solution

Whilst conducting an online search for backup solutions, Thufael came across CD-DataHouse Ltd and made an enquiry regarding CommVault® Simpana. During discussions with CD-DataHouse, Thufael was made aware of CommVault's new Solution Sets, in particular Simpana for VM Backup, Recovery and Cloud Management. CommVault's new 'Solution Set Pricing', introduced in August 2014, resulted in a lower overall cost for software and three years of annual support and maintenance. A figure that did fit within SFX's tight budget.

**Complete solution  
delivered within tight  
budget restrictions**

CD-DataHouse architected and designed the solution and provided a fixed price, de-risked implementation. The implementation occurred over two days and remote training and support was delivered to the SFX IT team post implementation.

## The Outcome

The new solution now delivers significant benefits to SFX including:

- 100% confidence in backup and recovery
- Backups reduced from 10hrs to 2hrs
- Significant improvement in data encryption
- Increased tape efficiency
- Additional functionality to backup virtual images rather than files themselves
- Annual savings on renewal fees with the new CommVault® solution set

Two months on post implementation, SFX are enjoying working with their enterprise based backup solution in their daily activities. It exceeds all their expectations, delivers as they expect it to and has greatly improved their confidence in the backup and retrieval of their data.



## CD-DataHouse Limited

2 The Braccans, London Road, Bracknell, Berkshire, RG12 2XH

T: 01753 463475 | E: info@cd-datahouse.co.uk | www.cd-datahouse.co.uk

CD-DataHouse is an innovative storage systems and data protection integrator with a specific focus on backup, disaster recovery and data archiving. We pride ourselves on being a consultative led business, providing services in storage design, installation and project delivery to a wide range of clients.