



About MEMA

Mississippi Emergency Management Agency's (MEMA) purpose is to ensure that Mississippi is prepared for emergencies and to assist with recovery and impact mitigation post-emergency. MEMA is comprised of nine districts throughout the state that are managed by three locations and are comprised of about 350 email users. As an Emergency Management Department, MEMA is responsible for disseminating and maintaining crucial public information, such as agency and emergency contact numbers, preventative plans and emergency evacuation plans.

MEMA Resuscitates its Data and Email Storage Strategy with Barracuda Networks

Costly Email Retrieval

MEMA's mission involves fulfilling the state's "inherent obligation to protect its citizens and provide them with time-sensitive emergency information to protect their lives and properties, and to ensure their safety and security" during an emergency. In order to fulfill this mission, MEMA must have a highly functional network with reliable access to data and emails. Its previous storage solutions did not allow the ease of access that the agency needed, especially in the event of a disaster or emergency when time and headcount are resources that cannot be wasted trying to locate an email or loading and restoring data from tape.

MEMA had encountered problems with Backup Exec for Exchange, the solution that they had been using for email archiving, such as difficult set up and navigation, slow email retrievals and unnecessary maintenance. MEMA needed a turnkey solution that would provide a fast, safe and secure way of retrieving emails.

“Updating software, ensuring you have the correct license; most agencies do not have the manpower or time to maintain that level of upkeep. I recommend Barracuda Networks products to other state agencies; I am thoroughly impressed.”

- Steven Newell
MEMA IT Engineer

“We needed a solution that would allow us to search through our email archives according to a specific keyword or email subject,” said Steven Newell, MEMA IT engineer. “Our previous solution was unreliable. It took 20-30 minutes and a specially trained employee to retrieve an individual email message.”

Streamlined Email Archives

After investigating a number of available solutions Newell selected the Barracuda Message Archiver 350 for its value, ease of installation and low maintenance.

“The Barracuda Message Archiver 350 has made operations much faster,” said Newell. “We now have the ability to restore any email message in two minutes. The Barracuda Message Archiver’s ability to perform granular searches for specific dates, subjects, senders and receivers is so reliable that we find ourselves using it more often than the search capabilities already built into Microsoft Exchange.”

The Never Ending Backup

Once the agency had a solution in place for effective email archiving and management, Newell and his team were able to turn their focus on data storage and backup. The agency had been relying on an Overland Tape Library and Autoloader for its data backup needs but was not pleased with the overall performance of the solution.

“We cannot rely on a solution that takes three days to complete a full backup,” said Newell. “In addition we found that the Overland Tape Library and Autoloader was tedious to deploy and use.”



Barracuda Message Archiver 350 Fast Facts:

- Easy to use Web user interface
- Designed for enterprises & large organizations
- Archives & indexes email for up to 4,000 users with no per user licensing fees
- Complies with government regulations for e-discovery
- Receives automatic updates from Barracuda Central
- Deployment in less than 60 minutes



Barracuda Backup Service Fast Facts:

- Automatic local and offsite data backup
- Fast local restore
- Data de-duplication
- Affordable monthly offsite storage subscription

About the Barracuda Message Archiver

The Barracuda Message Archiver is a complete and affordable email archiving solution, designed to effectively index and preserve all emails, achieve legal and regulatory compliance needs, and make more efficient use of storage technology inside the IT organization. Leveraging standard policies and seamless access to messages, email content is fully indexed and backed up to enable administrators, auditors and end users quick retrieval of any email message stored in an organization's email archive. Delivered by Barracuda Central, Energize Updates provide automatic updates to its extensive library of virus and policy definitions for enhanced monitoring of compliance and corporate guidelines, document file format updates needed to decode content within email attachments and security updates for the underlying platform to remain free of potential security vulnerabilities.

About the Barracuda Backup Service

The Barracuda Backup Service is an affordable, integrated local and offsite data backup and disaster recovery solution. The Barracuda Backup Service combines an onsite appliance with a monthly subscription that replicates data to two offsite locations. Combining local and offsite storage provides the best of both worlds - onsite backups for the fastest restore times and secure, offsite storage for disaster recovery. The Barracuda Backup Subscription plans provide diverse offsite storage at affordable monthly fees and scale to meet increasing data requirements. The Barracuda Backup Server is a powerful appliance installed onsite to provide full local backup of current and historical data, high backup performance and fast network-based local restores. The Barracuda Backup Server also deduplicates data at the origin to minimize the unnecessary storage of the same file, while providing efficient and secure offsite transfer using compression and encryption.

Reliable Backups

Based on its success with the Barracuda Message Archiver, Newell decided to evaluate the Barracuda Backup Service. Right out of the box, Newell and his team were impressed with how easy the solution was to set up and use.

"I loved how intuitive the Barracuda Backup Service was to install," said Newell. "It took me about 20 minutes to install, and the same amount of time to set it up and add it to the server.

"We no longer face the nightmare of having to recover data from tape," Newell, continued adding that the backup process has gone from three days to a few hours.

"Prior to switching to the Barracuda Backup Service, a full backup took 48 to 96 hours and I would just hope it was working," said Newell. "Now, it takes four to five hours, I can see the data backing up, and it has a significantly lower impact on our server and network, which is especially important during a disaster."

In addition, the Barracuda Backup Service addresses former shortfalls from the previous solution by including a number of other features such as data deduplication, detailed reporting and statistics and a much higher storage capacity than tape. Also, the Barracuda Backup Service pricing model was much more affordable and did not involve continuous license management and renewals.

"The Barracuda Backup Service pricing was very straightforward," said Newell. "We no longer have to worry about maintaining multiple licenses which was the source of a lot of frustration and headache for us with the Overland Tape Library and Autoloader."

Conclusion

Ultimately, Newell is pleased with the Barracuda Message Archiver 350 and the Barracuda Backup Service.

"Anytime there is an emergency, everyone comes to MEMA; they look to us as an example of how they can operate at a local level," Newell said. "Updating software, ensuring you have the correct license; most agencies do not have the manpower or time to maintain that level of upkeep. I recommend Barracuda Networks products to other state agencies; I am thoroughly impressed."

About Barracuda Networks Inc.

Barracuda Networks Inc. combines premises-based gateways and software, cloud services, and sophisticated remote support to deliver comprehensive security, networking and storage solutions. The company's expansive product portfolio includes offerings for protection against email, Web and IM threats as well as products that improve application delivery and network access, message archiving, backup and data protection. Coca-Cola, FedEx, Harvard University, IBM, L'Oreal, and Europcar are among the more than 130,000 organizations protecting their IT infrastructures with Barracuda Networks' range of affordable, easy-to-deploy and manage solutions. Barracuda Networks is privately held with its international headquarters in Campbell, Calif. For more information, please visit www.barracudanetworks.com.