

## > Hunters safeguards 150TB of architectural data with Arcserve UDP



### CLIENT PROFILE

**Industry:** Architects and building consultancy  
**Company:** Hunters  
**Employees:** 100

hunters

#### BUSINESS

Hunters is an architecture and building consultancy firm based in London. With more than 60 years' experience it delivers dynamic and reliable services to public and private sector clients.

#### CHALLENGE

To safeguard staff productivity the company needed a robust backup solution to protect the significant volume of data involved in building design and construction.

#### SOLUTION

Arcserve UDP protects 150 terabytes of data across two sites. Regular backups are replicated between the sites, with deduplication minimising storage requirements.

#### BENEFIT

With a fast and reliable backup solution in place, the time spent managing backups has reduced by a third. It also provides greater peace of mind and will help the company achieve ISO27001 compliance.



## BUSINESS

### Delivering high-quality buildings and creative architectural solutions

Headquartered in London, Hunters is a multi-disciplinary architecture and building consultancy practice serving both public and private sector clients.

The firm celebrated its 60th anniversary in 2015, and continues to expand steadily in line with market demand. Its 100-strong team is split across two core sites, and is committed to providing high-quality buildings and creative and cost-effective solutions for its customers.

## CHALLENGE

### Safeguarding user access to business-critical resources

For a company of its size, Hunters has a significant volume of data underpinning its daily activities. As Simon Hurlstone, IT Manager at Hunters, confirms, "Architects rely on files many times bigger than the average office worker. Our BIM models, CAD drawings, images and renders take up a lot of storage space and need to be safeguarded."

As is typical in any office environment, Hunters professionals may need to refer back to an earlier version of a file that may have been overwritten or deleted, which means they need simple and cost-effective recovery and retrieval processes.

"Our previous recovery product was an off-the-shelf cloud-based solution," comments Hurlstone. "But the costs of backing up such a large volume of data were spiraling out of control. There were also concerns on the speed of recovery if the worst should ever happen"

The firm then switched to an in-house solution, but had issues around reliability and a lack of flexibility with the tool. Following a major IT infrastructure virtualisation project that added greater complexity to the company's data protection requirements, the company decided to look at alternative solutions available on the market.



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## SOLUTION

### **Robust and cost-effective backup**

Hunters selected Arcserve Unified Data Protection (UDP) and implemented the solution across both its main sites in 2012.

“Working with the Arcserve pre-sales team was a breath of fresh air. They demonstrated the product capabilities without an aggressive sales pitch and it was soon clear that the solution was the best fit for our needs,” comments Hurlstone.

In addition to its functionality, Arcserve UDP’s ease of use gave the solution the edge. As Hurlstone explains, “Arcserve UDP is both robust and user friendly, which meant my team would be able to manage the tool without too much difficulty and without having to rely on external support resources.”

Arcserve UDP now underpins Hunters’ data protection strategy. The solution protects 150 terabytes of data across Hunters’ hybrid IT infrastructure, which includes 40 virtual and physical servers running a broad variety of application services.

Incremental backups are taken every two to three hours throughout the day, with full monthly snapshots stored for at least 90 days. Backups are replicated between Hunters’ two sites to offer an additional disaster recovery layer of protection, with Arcserve UDP’s inbuilt deduplication capabilities minimising storage requirements.

Arcserve UDP automatically generates backup reports. “Thanks to the solution’s reports, we can see at a glance that we’re meeting business expectations. Last month 97 per cent of our backups were successful, and we were able to address the failed three per cent quickly to mitigate business risk,” adds Hurlstone.

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150TB of data protected

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## BENEFIT

### Fast and reliable data recovery

With Arcserve UDP, Hunters' IT team has cut the time spent managing and maintaining backups by a third. "As it's so easy to use, we've been able to free up IT staff to focus on more strategic activities," affirms Hurlstone. "The ability to retrieve data quickly, for example accidentally deleted files, also provides our users with greater reassurance."

With the company currently working towards ISO27001 accreditation, Arcserve UDP will also help it meet data protection requirements without additional investment.

Using Arcserve UDP has enabled Hunters to:

- Safeguard business continuity
- Free up resources
- Make cost savings.

"Arcserve UDP is affordable and flexible," concludes Hurlstone. "We now have a strategy for disaster recovery that provides the IT team and users with complete peace of mind."