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John Carlton  
Sr. Systems Administrator



## Pflugerville Independent School District

### Situation

Pflugerville ISD was faced with moving their operation from an old, antiquated SAN and server hardware environment, to a new SAN and Virtual Server installation. At the time, their current backup system was based on tape libraries, which had become inconsistent and unreliable. The tape libraries were out of warranty and starting to require maintenance. The amount of data needed to be backed up had grown and there wasn't sufficient time to complete the backup jobs during their normal backup windows. The system, although "state of the art" when it was purchased eleven years ago, was now slow, cumbersome and unreliable.

### CHALLENGE

It was imperative that the organization had a reliable backup system before they started transitioning to the new virtual/SAN environment. Pulling out the old tape library hardware was one of the first steps in that process in order to provide rack space for the new SAN and server hardware. "We needed a backup system that wouldn't take up a lot of physical room and would support our environment which was Novell NetWare, Cluster Volumes, and eDirectory," stated John Carlton, Sr. Systems Administrator.

### SOLUTION

While attending a Novell training event, in which SEP Software Corp. was a major sponsor, Mr. Carlton became familiar with SEP sesam and upon returning to work, began testing the software.

"After testing SEP sesam with the trial software made available, we confirmed that it did, in fact, support Novell NetWare Cluster Volumes and eDirectory Rights," Carlton said. "Our team made the decision to purchase a piece of standard server hardware that could be reused or expanded down the road. SEP software was able to immediately begin the transition process of switching the old hardware to the new SAN and server environment."

SEP Software Corp. is the premier technology leader providing standardized and high performance backup and disaster recovery solutions for professional IT environments of all sizes. Its flagship product, SEP sesam, delivers seamless solutions to corporations' backup requirements.

SEP sesam ensures that data security for both virtual and physical environments can be easily and cost-effectively achieved. SEP sesam is the ultimate expression of German engineering and attention to detail. Design and programming originate from our German offices in Weyarn, near Munich, where overall performance and reliability are our utmost concern.

## SOLUTION

The Pflugerville ISD Systems Department installed and built the SUSE Linux server which has 20 TB of onboard storage and occupies 2 rack units of space. SEP engineers worked with Pflugerville staff and remotely loaded SEP sesam onto a server and implemented the desired configuration within a few hours. "After using SEP sesam for several months, we have to say that we are very pleased with the product's expanded functionality, its ease of use and working with the company as a whole. In addition, SEP's support staff has been a pleasure to work with throughout the installation and continues to be very responsive whenever we have questions," stated Carlton.

"Thanks to the SEP sesam solution we have reliable backups immediately and now, restoring our critical data is fast, easy and accurate. It has allowed us to move ahead with the transition to the new SAN and virtual environment with confidence that we are protected as we move our data."

## RESULTS

"Implementing SEP sesam has eased our workload and provided additional backup capability and capacity we didn't have with other solutions. In addition, the time we spend working on backup related issues has been dramatically reduced."

"Our backup window is now sufficient to handle all the backup jobs necessary to protect the data. We start close to 30 full backup jobs of over 5 TB of data every Friday at 5 p.m., all of which usually finish by Saturday evening. It fully supports Windows, Linux, and NetWare servers as well as Novell Cluster Volumes. Over the past year we have become confident in the system and no longer monitor our backup process after hours to see that it is working. When we come in on Monday mornings, the process has routinely run smoothly and successfully."

"We have already recommended SEP sesam to several of our colleagues in the area," Carlton added.

## ABOUT PFLUGERVILLE ISD

Pflugerville Independent School District, founded in 1902, is a rapidly-growing district located in Northeast Travis County, Texas. The District encompasses approximately ninety-five square miles and includes all or part of six municipalities including Pflugerville, Austin, Coupland, Hutto, Manor and Round Rock

## ABOUT SEP SOFTWARE CORP.

SEP has been delivering the widest range of backup products for enterprise level customers since 1996. With thousands of installations worldwide, SEP has developed the fastest and most reliable data backup solution available today. SEP sesam is ideal for businesses of all sizes and has proven its value for thousands of organizations across the globe. From banking to retail to education to healthcare and more, SEP sesam delivers unsurpassed performance. US and Canadian Governments, as well as many other governments around the world and thousands of customers spanning six continents, rely on SEP sesam to attain their data protection strategies.