

## Beta Offshore

### Beta Offshore Protects Gusher of Files with 100 Percent Recovery Success Using Veritas Backup Exec™

Beta Offshore operates three oil rigs off the coast of Southern California and has more than a million files and dozens of virtual machines to protect. It has used Veritas Backup Exec for eight years. Results include 100 percent recovery success to date, 1.4 million files protected with four recoveries per month, and 3x faster Microsoft Exchange backups compared to Backup Exec 2010.



#### ORGANIZATION PROFILE

**Site:** [www.betaoffshore.com](http://www.betaoffshore.com)

**Industry:** Power and Energy

**Headquarters:** Long Beach, California

**Employees:** 250

#### KEY CHALLENGES

Beta Offshore has more than a million files and dozens of virtual machines to protect, and needed a backup and recovery solution that would minimize risk and be easy to operate.

#### SOLUTION

The organization uses Veritas Backup Exec because of a long track record of reliability and ease-of-use.

#### BENEFITS

- 1.4 million files protected with 100% recovery success to date
- About 4 recoveries per month
- 98% backup success rate

#### A stretch

Steven Jaffe has an unusual commute. Once a week, he steps onto a boat and rides 45 minutes out to sea, 11 miles southwest from the California port of Long Beach, to three oil drilling platforms run by Beta Offshore. They've been in operation since the 1980's. "There's no dock," Jaffe says. "The boat backs into a tire, and then you grab a rope hanging from a rafter above and swing from the back of the boat onto the landing platform."

Once on the rig, workers put in seven straight days of 12-hour shifts to ensure that oil keeps flowing through a pipeline along the ocean floor to a tank back at Long Beach. The work is hard, but in the off-hours, Jaffe says, the fishing for Rockfish and Sand Bass is good, and sharks and whales sometimes make an appearance.

One of Jaffe's tasks as IT systems manager is to reduce risk for the operation's business data. There is a healthy gusher of small files to protect: about 1.4 million totaling 2.6 terabytes. The data is replicated by radio signal and Microsoft Distributed File System (DFS) technology from the server offshore to a company server in Long Beach. There, data has been run off to tape for years using Veritas Backup Exec™ software.

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**Steven Jaffe**

Systems Manager  
Beta Offshore

**Put to the test: 100 percent recoveries**

Jaffe and Homer Teran, Beta Offshore’s systems administrator, both feel extremely comfortable with Backup Exec. “We’ve seen a 100 percent recovery success rate from Backup Exec, which we depend on for about four recoveries a month—mostly files and messages that employees have inadvertently deleted,” says Jaffe. The backup success rate is 98 percent.

“Backup Exec’s intuitive interface is easy to use,” says Teran. “Compared to Tivoli Storage Manager, which I’ve used before, Backup Exec is easier to configure and completes tasks faster. And Backup Exec Granular Recovery Technology makes it easy to do recoveries on the fly, especially for individual files and folders.” Teran estimates that total backup administration time is about one to two hours per week.

“Down the road, we might back up to the cloud and tape simultaneously,” Jaffe says. Backup Exec integrates with Amazon Web Services (AWS) Storage Gateway VTL enabling existing and new backup jobs to be seamlessly directed to cloud storage. “But right now we can restore much faster from tape than from the cloud,” Jaffe continues. “I have four tape drives that I can get cranking doing restores simultaneously.”

Once a month, Jaffe and team run a copy of the Backup Exec server off to tape so that they can run a complete disaster recovery operation from a remote location if necessary. Backup Exec can restore servers to dissimilar hardware and do physical-to-virtual (P2V) and virtual-to-physical (V2P) conversions, giving the company a number of restoration options.

“I have a belief,” Jaffe says, “that you can never be too rich, or have too many backups.”

## TECHNOLOGY ENVIRONMENT

- **Applications:** Microsoft Exchange Server 2010, File-sharing
- **Database:** Microsoft SQL Server 2008 R2
- **Server environment:** Dell PowerEdge servers with Microsoft Windows Server 2008 R2 and 2012 R2, hosting 30 virtual servers running VMware vSphere 5.5, with plans to migrate to vSphere 6
- **Storage:** Dell EqualLogic
- **Tape:** Dell PowerVault TL2000

## SOLUTIONS

- Veritas Backup Exec software

## SERVICES

- Veritas Basic Maintenance Services

### For more information:

Please contact your local Veritas Sales Representative or Business Partner, or visit: [www.backupexec.com](http://www.backupexec.com)

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