Data retention for compliance

Challenges:

- Company needs to safely store long term copies of financials, trade records, documents and other data for regulatory compliance purposes
- Managing backup data offsite on tape is complicated as it impacts recovery time objectives and can be cumbersome to restore everything from individual files to entire systems due to the time it takes to receive the tapes, then the slow process of reading and recovering from tape
- Different solutions for server backup and vault archiving make it difficult to manage document retention for compliance effectively

Solution:

- Acronis® Backup & Recovery™ 11 Advanced Server
- Acronis® Backup & Recovery™ 11 Online

Key Benefits:

- Acronis Backup & Recovery 11 is a unified solution for all backup and recovery needs of small and medium size companies
- Acronis Backup & Recovery 11 Online provides a dependable and inexpensive off-site repository for backup data
- Acronis Backup & Recovery 11 backup catalog provides a data-centric view across multiple backup archives, which can then be searched using specific user-defined attributes, such as file name, date, version, etc
- Acronis Backup & Recovery 11 permissions for vaults provide a separate Access Control List (ACL) for every vault, ensuring that the required chain of custody requirements are met for compliance requirements

Implementation:

The firm used Acronis Backup & Recovery 11’s Catalog and Search capabilities to make it easy to find files that need to be stored. The client- or target-side deduplication option available in Acronis Backup & Recovery 11 significantly reduces the amount of storage required for backups. The Staging capabilities enable moving old backups to disk, tape or cloud. Acronis Online Storage provides a dependable and inexpensive off-site repository for backup data.
Results:

Acronis Backup & Recovery 11’s cataloging and data deduplication features are used to better index the archive information and to eliminate data redundancy. The firm was also able to use the information contained in the index as part of their compliance report content. With chain of custody ACL protection included in Acronis Backup & Recovery 11, the firm was able to ensure that sensitive documents and information weren’t accessed by unauthorized individuals.

Acronis Backup & Recovery 11’s new multi-destination backup capability was used to streamline the backup process, especially to tape, reducing the complexity and hands-on involvement required by the IT staff in the backup process. The firm implemented a standard D2D2T backup policy, where initial backups were done to disk either to a secondary, onsite storage repository, or to Cloud storage using Acronis Backup & Recovery11 Online. The disk-based backups were automatically sequenced to long term tape storage after the initial backups were complete.

The firm’s internal compliance regulations required them to preserve the transaction information in a near-line, active archive for two years and in a long term archive for 6 years.

The firm decided to keep a copy of all records in their long term archive for the full 6 year period and to keep a duplicate copy of the information that required “easy access” in the near-online disk storage for the required 2 year period. The firm’s IT staff implemented a backup policy that determined when the two year “easy access” retention window expired and would remove the expired information from the near-online archive using retention rules. With this, the firm was able to ensure that information that no longer required near-online retention was only retained on tape in the long term archive.

With these backup policies the firm was able to satisfactorily meet their internal checklist document retention requirements.