

SK Group



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Jin-won Go, Manager and Windows NT Server Team Leader, SK C&C SE

Company Profile

- Leading Korean conglomerate with 40 member companies <http://www.sk.com>
- Based in Seoul, South Korea
- Vertically integrated from textiles into energy & chemicals, finance, logistics, and telecommunications
- SK Telecom alone has more than 18 million subscribers

Business Needs

- Dependable, single integrated backup across entire company
- Reliable technical support
- Fast adaptability for the change of MS operating system and DBMS

Environment

- Intel-based Windows NT/2000 Servers
- Compaq, LG IBM, HP Servers
- StorageTek, ATL, Scalar Tape Libraries
- SAN Environment

Products Used

- VERITAS NetBackup DataCenter
- VERITAS Backup Exec

Business Benefits

- Integrated management of VERITAS NetBackup & Backup Exec
- Provided easy to use, fully automated backup process
- Consistent backups in Windows 2000/2003 server environment

The Situation

SK Group, one of South Korea's top five industrial conglomerates, is the third largest conglomerate in South Korea, with 40 member companies, a presence on six continents, and more than 25,000 employees. Founded in 1953 as Sunkyong Textiles Limited, a small textile manufacturer, SK is now a major force in energy & chemicals, telecommunications, logistics, and finance. With the opening of its new U.S. headquarters, SK Group is truly a global corporation. Each day its IT infrastructure meets the growing demands of its diverse companies enabling SK Group to offer value-added services such as financing, distribution, and technology transfer.

One of the 40 member companies, SK C&C has grown rapidly since its inception in the early 1990s and has positioned itself as Korea's top-ranked IT outsourcing company. It has doubled in sales each year by offering advanced IT solutions that take advantage of emerging technologies. To extend itself into an IT outsourcing leader, SK C&C has allied itself with other leading world-class IT companies in order to help its customers excel in their competitive markets. SK C&C offers integrated solutions to provide an optimal computing environment, which includes consulting, system planning, design, development, maintenance, and training. To accomplish this, SK C&C has established alliances with such companies as Cisco Systems, SunGard, Oracle Korea, Marconi, 3Com, and IBM.

SK Group recently completed construction of the largest data center in Daejeon, South Korea in order to expand SK C&C's IT outsourcing capabilities. Soon after the expansion, it quickly became apparent to management that they must take a fresh look at their backup solutions in order to maintain the high degree of capabilities needed to guarantee protection of the valuable data created across multiple entities. Existing backup solutions included VERITAS NetBackup for UNIX, as well as another vendor's backup product for Windows NT and Windows 2000.

In the beginning of 2000, SK unsuccessfully attempted to implement a single integrated backup by attaching each backup library to more than 1,000 Windows NT servers. It was clear that an integrated backup solution that could support connecting possibly hundreds of servers to a single large library would provide more effective manageability. To accomplish this, SK was looking for not only a powerful and flexible backup solution, but the best technical support possible.

The Solution

To determine the feasibility of its goal, SK conducted a benchmark test of backup offerings from several vendors, including VERITAS. Throughout the benchmark

test, SK Group believed that one of the key factors to determine which vendor to partner with was the level of technical support. In the past, the major reason SK would often decide to jettison a solution was due to a lack of sufficient vendor support.

Jin-won Go, Manager of the SK C&C integration project, says there was no hesitation in choosing VERITAS Backup Exec as the best choice. "To protect data integrity, it is extremely important that we can integrate the Windows NT and Windows 2000 operating systems into our new backup library," says Go. "Choosing VERITAS backup solutions offers a number of advantages, from our perspective. VERITAS NetBackup for UNIX presents the possibility of future integration between UNIX and Windows NT. VERITAS Backup Exec gives us this capability, without which SK would not thrive."

The Success

VERITAS Backup Exec was chosen over the competition based on a three-criteria benchmark test: 1) the backup solution must be flexible enough to support systems scattered throughout the nation; 2) even though SK believed that it can be difficult to guarantee data integrity, it insisted that a backup solution include the performance and reliability to recover data in any situation; 3) the solution had to have the flexibility to remain compatible with the latest versions of Microsoft and DBMS products. VERITAS Backup Exec scored far above the competition in availability, flexibility, and compatibility with Microsoft Windows NT Windows 2000.

In addition to SK C&C, 11 other member companies were involved with the initial implementation: SK Global, SK Construction, SK Life, SK Shipping, Walkerhill, SK Co., Ltd., SK Chemical, SK Evertec, HUVIS, SKC, and SK Telecom, at a cost of more than 100-million won or just over \$84,000 US at the time of this writing.

"This is just the first step," say Go. "We have performed the backup by connecting up to 40 servers to the library. Theoretically, we can connect to an unlimited number of servers. It has worked so well that we are now considering transferring the entire system linking all SK companies into the Daejeon data center. The integration of our backup system through VERITAS Backup Exec is only the first step toward further projects."

Wan-ju Kim, Deputy Department Manager of VERITAS Software Korea says, "The integration between VERITAS Net Backup and VERITAS Backup Exec allows us to monitor the entire process by integrating them through the GDM." Kim explains that through the replacement and integration of the backup system for Windows NT and Windows 2000, SK Group has laid the framework for systematically protecting data for its 12 member companies. "Moreover, it has laid the groundwork for integrating heterogeneous backup systems and replicating data on a real-time basis."

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