TrueNAS

FIRSTLINK Technology, Inc.

CASE STUDY

TRUENAS® - BEHIND THE SCENES AT THE PGA TOUR

Denver, Colorado
www.firstlink.com
High-tech

FirstLink Requirements

- Flexible storage in a portable form factor that can be quickly deployed
- Easily sync with backend to protect against data loss
- System needs to meet a limited budget

Benefits

- TrueNAS Mini XL+ offers powerful file sharing with auto-caching in a small form factor
- Onsite data can be archived to Firstlink's TrueNAS to protect against data loss
- Completely redundant storage in a convenient form factor at a reasonable price via the TrueNAS Mini XL+

> "I'm just very happy with the architecture, flexibility, price point, and overall performance of the product."

> - Jeff Luinstra, CEO Firstlink Technology

THE STORAGE CHALLENGE

Firstlink Technology is an IT service company specializing in creating web-based services for clients with diverse needs. Able to handle everything from search engine optimization (SEO) to website development and cloud hosting, the company offers online application development and infrastructure recommendations to their diverse clientele. Firstlink can also host its customers' websites and online services in its own cloud-based infrastructure.

As a hosting company, data uptime and storage availability are essential for normal business operation. Several years ago the company began working with the ZFS file system and building out their own storage using commodity hardware. Through customer references, they learned that they could get the same scalable, secure ZFS file system in a pre-tested, proven TrueNAS system that was feature-rich and simple to use. The company has since purchased two TrueNAS systems with hundreds of terabytes of storage capacity.
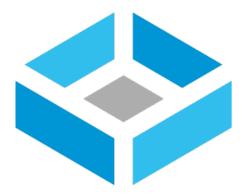
FIRSTLINK TECHNOLOGY

Firstlink was tasked with building out an inexpensive content management system for the Sanford International Golf Tournament PGA Tour. The system needed to easily share, protect, and sync media from the event without breaking the bank. Already familiar with TrueNAS and the world-class level of support and flexibility that comes with it, CEO Jeff Luinstra reached out to the TrueNAS Team to get help setting up a solution that met their customer's needs and seamlessly synchronized with his existing TrueNAS infrastructure to guarantee against data, loss, or corruption.

The golf tournament used two workstations and a series of Chromebooks to capture and edit media, and then organize it for broadcast and archiving. Firstlink chose to use a TrueNAS Mini XL+ system that supported the SMB and NFS protocols to store and share data between the various clients accessing the system. Firstlink created a custom script to automatically backup photos and videos to the TrueNAS Mini XL+. The backup data was then replicated to Firstlink's TrueNAS infrastructure, creating a robust data redundancy system across multiple locations at a fraction of the cost of a 100% cloud-based storage solution.

The Sanford International Golf Tournament plans to continue to use the TrueNAS Mini XL+ and the replication architecture mapped out by Firstlink for the next five years. Due to its portability, the system can be deployed along with the other laptops and equipment when needed, allowing every team member to browse and sort content based on their needs.

Mr. Luinstra is getting good mileage out of both his TrueNAS and the TrueNAS Mini XL+ systems used at the golf tournament. He is considering the purchase of a few more systems to act as office file sharing and backups around his own office. The flexible architecture, performance, ability to easily sync with higher-tier TrueNAS models, and entry-level price points make the TrueNAS Mini product line a perfect small-office NAS that can do it all.

ABOUT TRUENAS

With over one million deployments and backed by the legendary ZFS file system, TrueNAS systems offer stability and reliability you can count on. TrueNAS can be used in a variety of use cases, including Backup, Multimedia, Healthcare, Government, Education, Cloud, Virtualization, Hyperconvergence, and more. Using Open Source economics, TrueNAS systems provide the best value in enterprise storage and offer the lowest total cost of ownership compared to similar solutions. TrueNAS builds on the reputation of the underlying FreeNAS OS as the world's most trusted Open Source storage solution. Get to know the new TrueNAS Family at TrueNAS.com and find out why TrueNAS is the clear choice to scale with you as your business grows.

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