



Trident
Technology Solutions



Hewlett Packard
Enterprise

CASE STUDY

THE KNOX

SCHOOL

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THE KNOX SCHOOL



Delivering outstanding teaching and learning environment requires technology solutions that reduce management complexity for school leaders. One school that recognised these requirements is The Knox School - an independent, co-educational, non-denominational day school in the eastern Melbourne suburb of Wantirna South, Victoria.

Located on eight beautiful hectares just 500 metres from the EastLink Burwood Highway interchange, The Knox School is committed to fostering adaptive skills and values that equip students to embrace change as opportunity.

As part of this commitment, The Knox School needs to create a secure and reliable technology environment for delivering next generation learning applications while keeping data and students secure. With the rollout of a new Learning Management System on the horizon, The Knox School was also managing the data from Microsoft 365 applications as well as a number of on-premises hosted software and applications.

LOWERING RISK & COMPLEXITY

The Knox School's Director of Business Operations, Ian Foster knew the school was facing new resiliency challenges, with their on-site disaster recovery (DR) solution in need of an upgrade. Identified within their ongoing infrastructure roadmap as a priority, The Knox School was looking for a future-focused solution that would offer peace of mind without adding unneeded complexity to their daily IT schedule.

While many schools and businesses look to repurpose existing infrastructure for their DR requirements, Trident provided a full cost benefit analysis of a traditional infrastructure solution, using new and old equipment, versus a hyperconverged solution with DR built in.

Hewlett Packard Enterprise's industry-leading hyper converged infrastructure (HCI) solution, HPE SimpliVity was the clear winner in regard to ease of management and lowering TCO. As a long serving technology partner to The Knox School,

Trident advised the school that this may be an ideal opportunity to adopt SimpliVity. The HPE SimpliVity RapidDR solution simplifies and accelerates DR through automation while also:

- extending the inherent data efficiencies of HPE SimpliVity
- slashing recovery point objectives (RPOs) and recovery time objectives (RTOs) from days or hours to minutes.



“After considering SimpliVity, we realised we could simultaneously solve our disaster recovery requirements, while also getting a more cost-effective infrastructure solution that offered the flexibility to relocate SimpliVity nodes to an offsite data centre in the future if required”

Ian Foster



AN ENDURING PARTNERSHIP

Since 2013, Trident has been a preferred supplier of hardware and devices to The Knox School. In addition, Trident has also been providing a range of managed services to the school – giving Trident's team an in-depth understanding of the school's current and future infrastructure needs. Additionally, Trident had invited Ian Foster as their guest to an HPE event in Singapore in 2018 in which the SimpliVity solution was a feature presentation.

Trident's understanding of The Knox School's technology environment also enabled them to deliver a seamless implementation process that minimised disruption for the school. Through a quick and simple turnkey installation, data was migrated without any downtime, and the solution now enables anyone from The Knox School's technology team to administer and manage SimpliVity.

“From our perspective, Trident are always reliable and efficient with every piece of technology they deliver, and this scenario was no different. From the proposal through to the team working on-site, the entire process ran smoothly and on-time”

Ian Foster

THE SOLUTION

The school's production environment is now hosted on two SimpliVity 380 nodes with a node for backup and instant recovery. Additionally, production data is backed up to a third SimpliVity disaster recovery node which is installed in the disaster recovery closet onsite. Short term backup is now configured on the SimpliVity DR node, while long term backup and archive will continue to occur using the existing Veeam system.

With the disaster recovery challenge solved, The Knox School can have peace of mind from the improved resiliency this solution offers. Additionally, Ian and his team have been enjoying the reduced complexity from the SimpliVity solution, as it enables them to focus their efforts on strategic outcomes for improving their learning environment.

“The SimpliVity solution from Trident has provided more comfort across the entire school. If we have an issue, it's resolved a lot quicker, and we have a higher level of confidence in the efficiency of our infrastructure”

Ian Foster

SMART INFRASTRUCTURE SOLUTIONS - SMART IMPLEMENTATION

Here at Trident, we specialise in reducing the complexity of infrastructure solutions for our clients. As an experienced HPE partner, we're able to marry our expertise to HPE's solutions to ensure each implementation deliver the maximum performance, efficiency, and security.

Through HPE SimpliVity, we can help you leverage AI-enabled intelligence for eliminating management complexity, while also significantly lowering the TCO of your infrastructure environment. Our team can work with you to understand where this HCI solution can deliver the greatest value for your organisation.



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