CASE STUDY

Northeast Wisconsin Technical College Prevents Data Loss While Simplifying Data Management with Wasabi Surveillance Cloud

Overview

Northeast Wisconsin Technical College (NWTC) is a two-year learning institution that serves nearly 23,000 students across its main campus in Green Bay and 10 satellite locations across the state. To enhance physical security, the college employs hundreds of surveillance cameras that record around the clock. The footage from each camera is retained for 30 days—or 60 days in areas with high traffic or financial transactions.

However, the college's current storage system resulted in repeated loss of video footage. Jeremy Leirmo, the college's Senior Systems Engineer, knew it was time for a change.

Legacy system needed future proofing and a better safeguard against data loss

The primary issue with NWTC's surveillance data storage system was its inability to keep up with the college's expanding needs. Although the system was cost-effective and initially only required a single controller, it was clear that this setup was not a long-term solution. As Jeremy noted, "The safety and security team was aware that our investment in storage was minimal, and we faced a risk of data loss if problems arose."

Northeast Wisconsin Technical College was already a Wasabi customer, using object storage to back up S3 data to a replication site. However, it wasn't until Jeremy learned about Wasabi Surveillance Cloud that he considered applying Wasabi to their surveillance challenges. With features and capabilities designed to handle future growth, Jeremy believed that Wasabi Surveillance Cloud could be the ideal backup solution for NWTC's surveillance data needs.

INDUSTRY

Higher Education

USE CASE(S)

Video Surveillance

CHALLENGE

Replace inexpensive but troublesome surveillance storage systems to prevent data loss; move video data to cloud to reduce data center footprint

SOLUTION

Wasabi Surveillance Cloud

RESULTS

- Prevent data loss, with ability to quickly and easily recover footage if on-premises loss or corruption does occur
- Easy integration with Genetec Video Management System
- Optimized on-premises footprint while simplifying data management
- Future-proof, scalable storage for surveillance video

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Simple Data Storage with Smooth Installation and Low Cost

Jeremy and team began using Wasabi Surveillance Cloud as an extension of their on-premises storage. Its price was low enough that Jeremy did not need to look for additional options, and after a successful 90-day trial period, the team implemented the solution.

In addition to avoiding data loss and future-proofing the storage system, Jeremy was also trying to reduce the college's on-premises storage footprint and knew that moving certain workloads and data to the cloud would help significantly. He said the new Wasabi solution "was a perfect opportunity for us. Instead of running on-premises storage systems just for surveillance, we can put video in the cloud and keep it there."

Jeremy appreciated how effortlessly Wasabi Surveillance Cloud integrated with the college's Genetec security system. The product's overall simplicity was a significant advantage, as Wasabi Surveillance Cloud operates seamlessly alongside existing Video Management Software, automatically tiering storage from local devices to the Wasabi cloud. "The installation was super easy," he noted. "Even someone with minimal technical experience would have no trouble setting it up and configuring it."

Leveraging Hybrid-Cloud simplifies data management without changes to existing operations

Today, Jeremy has twelve times the data stored in Wasabi Surveillance Cloud compared to their on-premises storage. "Wasabi allows me to create drives directly on vSphere right off of Nutanix, so I'm not chewing up all my Nutanix storage to house [the surveillance footage]," he said.

Should data get lost or corrupted, the raw footage is stored in Wasabi for quick recovery. Jeremy said he uses Wasabi Surveillance Cloud as a backup solution for surveillance video. "If I have any disaster on a server, I can have the server rebuilt. I connect it to Wasabi and pull all the data back down without an issue and without any fees," he said.

Not having to worry about hidden fees was just part of the financial benefits for Jeremy. Although their old system was cost-effective, total cost added up over time, "We had to maintain and patch our on-premises storage. We had to provide electricity and data center space for it." Now, Jeremy can simply send surveillance data to the cloud and move on. "I don't have to worry about my storage anymore," he said. "Wasabi just runs. That's exactly what you hope for in a product."

ABOUT WASABI

Wasabi provides simple and affordable hot cloud storage for businesses all over the world. It enables organizations to store and instantly access an unlimited amount of data with no complex tiers or egress or API fees, delivering predictable costs that save money and industry leading security and performance businesses can count on. Trusted by customers worldwide, Wasabi has been recognized as one of technology's fastest-growing and most visionary companies. Created by Carbonite co-founders and cloud storage pioneers David Friend and Jeff Flowers, Wasabi is a privately held company based in Boston. Wasabi is a Proud Partner of the Boston Red Sox, and the Official Cloud Storage Partner of Liverpool Football Club and the Boston Bruins.

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