

Ledcor Improves SharePoint Performance and Sees 50% Cost Savings by Offloading BLOBs Using Metalogix StoragePoint

Large North American construction company uses StoragePoint to ensure optimum protection of user files as large as 250MB to be stored within SharePoint.



THE COMPANY

Founded in 1947, the Ledcor Group of Companies is a leading North American, privately-held, employee-owned collection of construction companies specializing in building, civil, industrial and telecommunications projects. In addition to a diversified portfolio of projects, Ledcor is an award-winning contractor as well as recipient of numerous safety honors. Ledcor brings an established history of construction excellence to every project it is involved in. The company has been recognized as one of Canada's Top 100 Employers and today employs approximately 5,000 people throughout North America.

THE CHALLENGE

As an expansive construction organization, Ledcor employees generate a very high volume of content. From large contracts and project plans to photographs and construction drawings, the company's data files are also very large. To optimize content sharing across multiple offices and regions, Ledcor relies on Microsoft SharePoint. But as their content continued to grow, SharePoint began to suffer. Performance issues were an increasing burden and to prevent additional issues users could no longer store their large files in SharePoint. Instead, they saved their large documents on their personal hard drives where they could not be backed up or easily located. In other cases, large files were being stored on an external ftp site, where they were not stored in a secure way.

"We needed to enable our users to store large files in SharePoint, but we were not prepared to do that because we were struggling with performance issues," said Gordon Bone, manager of applied technology, Ledcor. "With all of our BLOBs (binary large objects) going into the SQL database, our users were limited to files that were no larger than 15MB. This meant that they had to put those large files somewhere else, risking effective data protection and recovery by using storage locations that are outside our typical protection process and policies."

THE SOLUTION

Ledcor first discovered Metalogix StoragePoint at a trade show and they were impressed with how simple it looked and effortlessly it performed. By using StoragePoint, Ledcor realized that it would be able to offload its large BLOB content to lower cost storage and free up much-needed space in the content database. Even more importantly, Ledcor would be able to release the constraints it had on storing large files on its SharePoint server, eliminating risky storage practices.



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Gordon Bone, Manager of Applied Technology,
Ledcor

HEADQUARTERS

Vancouver, British Columbia

ENVIRONMENT

- SharePoint 2007
- 300GB of storage under management
- Metalogix StoragePoint

“StoragePoint has kept costs at 50% of where they would have been; 20% for the SharePoint farm and 70% in infrastructure savings. Plus, our users are much happier with the performance and storage capabilities now. It’s been a very effective solution for us.”

Gordon Bone, Manager of Applied Technology,
Ledcor

ABOUT LEDCOR

Founded in 1947, the Ledcor Group of Companies is a leading, North American, privately-held, employee-owned collection of construction companies, specializing in building, civil, industrial and telecommunication projects. In addition to a diversified portfolio of projects, Ledcor is an award-winning contractor as well as recipient of numerous safety honours. Ledcor brings an established history of construction excellence.

ABOUT METALOGIX

Metalogix is the trusted provider of content lifecycle management solutions for Microsoft SharePoint, Exchange and Cloud platforms. We deliver high-performance solutions to scale and cost-effectively manage, migrate, store, archive and protect enterprise content infrastructure. Metalogix is a privately held company backed by Insight Venture Partners and Bessemer Venture Partners.

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By using StoragePoint, Ledcor gained an ability to store unstructured BLOBs outside the SQL Server content database on virtually any type of storage including SAN, NAS and cloud platforms. By reducing the burden on SQL Server, Ledcor was able to create a more scalable and better performing SharePoint environment while reducing overall storage costs by moving content to less expensive storage tiers. Because StoragePoint seamlessly integrates with SharePoint, it provides a remote BLOB storage solution that is intuitive, easy-to-configure and completely transparent to end users.

THE RESULTS

Since implementing StoragePoint two years ago, Ledcor allows files as large as 250MB to be stored in SharePoint, or 15 times larger than their previous limit. With more than 300GB under SharePoint management, the construction company is pleased that it can now use SharePoint as the standard technology for project collaboration, with all data easy to protect and find. In addition, Ledcor continues to benefit from ongoing cost savings from the StoragePoint solution and its end users are more happy and productive.

“We currently have two nodes of disc space, but without StoragePoint we would probably have to double that at \$30K a pop,” said Bone. “StoragePoint has kept storage costs at 50% of where they would have been; 20% for the SharePoint farm and 70% in infrastructure savings. Plus, our users are much happier with the performance and storage capabilities now. It’s been a very effective solution for us.”

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