

Intersil Chooses Syscom Technologies to Deliver Wide Area Data Services Solutions



"We reduced the hard cost of IT equipment in the branch offices, improved employee productivity, and avoided the purchases of additional WAN bandwidth,"

Ed Kendrick,
Director of Systems Operations

Industry

- Semiconductor Manufacturing

Challenges

- Data replication
- Data backup
- Application file sharing

Solution

- Riverbed WAN Optimization

Benefits

- IT server consolidation
- DR replication
- Backup consolidation
- Application acceleration
- Cost reduction

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To help Intersil meet their challenges of high tech design and manufacturing, Syscom Technologies designed a solution to improve response times for file sharing critical business applications while reducing band width cost and increasing DR functionality.

Syscom Technologies, a leader in delivering solutions around WAN optimization was selected by Intersil to recommend and deliver a solution to solve problems for remote access business application file sharing, Disaster Recovery replication, and tape backup.

Intersil is a global leader in the design and manufacture of high performance analog Semiconductors. But even a company at the cutting edge of its field can be stymied by the limitations of physics.

The problem started with more than 1,400 employees spread out over 27 locations in the United States, Europe and the Pacific Rim, Intersil's application and replication traffic was exploding. Ed Kendrick, director of systems operations at Intersil, says that the company was experiencing growing pains that were impacting employee productivity on a daily basis. "We perform a significant amount of file sharing, and some of our large financial spreadsheets would take 5 minutes to 10 minutes to open," Kendrick says. "We also maintain a disaster recovery center at our headquarters in Milpitas, CA, and we transfer a tremendous volume of data across that pipe from Florida."

Kendrick wanted to overcome three pain points: First, he wanted to significantly improve response time for file sharing and access to centralized business applications from remote locations. Second, he wanted to support an IT consolidation strategy so that local sales offices could be supported with centralized servers and backup systems, thus simplifying IT operations and increasing control. And third, he wanted to more efficiently use the existing WAN bandwidth to support the large volume of data replication necessary to support the company's disaster recovery requirements.

The solution was to engage Syscom Technologies with an assessment of the current problems and recommend a solution to fit Intersil's needs. Kendrick says they launched a project with the goal of delivering LAN-like speeds using wide-area data services (WDS). "I gave our team 3 months to evaluate the technology to see if there was an effective solution and 3 months to implement the technology," he says. The positive outcome of this initiative has made Intersil one of the All-Stars of Application Acceleration. Kendrick says simplicity was a watchword for the WAN acceleration project "We were quite surprised by how simple and straightforward the Steelhead was to deploy." Intersil hit a home run with the Syscom Technologies WAN solution utilizing Riverbed's WDS appliances, and attests to numerous improvements including:

Satisfied users: Employees in branch offices used to have to wait 5 minutes to 10 minutes when accessing a large file over the WAN. With Steelhead optimizing the WAN, the first, or "cold" access now takes 30 seconds, and subsequent instances of opening up the file take just a few seconds.

Enhanced DR Capabilities: Intersil experienced a 75 percent optimization for disaster recovery traffic. "We were replicating 6.5 terabytes a month, which we have reduced to 1.5 terabytes," Kendrick says. Because 80 percent to 85 percent of the total traffic across Intersil's WAN is for FTP/disaster recovery, this is a significant achievement.

Reduction in IT hard cost: Kendrick notes that Intersil will reap at least a 3-to-1 payback over the next 5 years on the Riverbed deployment. "We reduced the hard costs of IT equipment in the branch offices, improved employee productivity, and avoided the purchase of additional WAN bandwidth," he says.

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About Syscom Technologies

Syscom Technologies was established in 1980 to deliver next-generation information management solutions for Optimizing Backup, Email, Network WAN, Storage, Server, and Disaster Recovery. The areas of focus are:

Storage Optimization - Simplifying Storage Management

- Reduce management cost
- Simplify data replication for disaster recovery
- Increase application performance and recoverability

IT Infrastructure Optimization - Virtualization

- Simplify disaster recovery
- Server and storage consolidation
- High availability for critical applications
- Reduce acquisitions cost

Backup Optimization - Reducing Backup Times and Improving Data Recovery

- Tape media cost is reduced by 60%
- Offsite storage & transportation cost reduced by 48%
- Backup and recovery times reduced by 71% to 98%

Network Optimization - Reducing Wide Area Network (WAN) Traffic

- Immediately eliminate redundant data traffic from the WAN
- Drastically improve end-user application experience
- Optimize application performance and eliminate backups, file servers, and additional data center build outs

Archive Optimization - Managing Your e-Mail Growth

- A "limit-less" mailbox environment for your end users
- Recover an entire Exchange message store in a 2-click process
- Email archival and e-discovery for regulatory and legal requirements
- Agent-less architecture - zero footprint on Exchange environment

Procurement and Logistics Sourcing - Simplifying Vendor Management

- Reducing IT spend up to 10 %
- Managing supplier relationships

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