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DVL HELPS HACC BUILD AN AFFORDABLE DISASTER RECOVERY DATA CENTER

ABOUT HACC, CENTRAL PA'S COMMUNITY COLLEGE



HACC, Central Pennsylvania's Community College, is the first and largest of Pennsylvania's 14 community colleges. HACC offers approximately 100 career and transfer associate degree, certificate and diploma programs to approximately 19,000 students. Also, the College serves students at its Gettysburg, Harrisburg, Lancaster, Lebanon and York campuses; through virtual learning; and via workforce development and continuing education training.

For more information on how HACC is uniquely YOURS, visit hacc.edu. Also, follow us on Twitter (@HACC_info), follow us on Instagram (@HACC_edu), like us on Facebook (Facebook.com/HACC64) and use #HACCNews.

SUMMARY

HACC wanted to upgrade its IT infrastructure to incorporate Disaster Recovery as part of a strategy going into the 2020s. After careful analysis of Cloud and Colocation options, it was decided to utilize KINBER, a research and education network, which was conveniently located adjacent to the Harrisburg and Lancaster campuses. The final decision was to build a room for Disaster Recovery on the Lancaster Campus.

CHALLENGE:

An architect was consulted and a budget price of \$250,000 was presented. Included in this budget was the cost to construct an entirely new room, which increased costs. This price greatly exceeded HACC's budget and the College had to consider more economical alternatives.

SOLUTION:

HACC engaged DVL Group to help solve the problem with Vertiv products and solutions. HACC previously had a good experience working with DVL and liked working with a Data Center Engineer they knew and trusted. DVL suggested that instead of converting existing office space into a data center, HACC could take advantage of its basement storage area, which would eliminate the need to take down the office walls and move an IT closet and Minisplit.

A unique data center solution was proposed. A self-contained data center including a five-ton A/C unit, UPS system, PDUs, racks, fire suppression, called the Liebert® SmartRow™.

RESULTS

Today, HACC's Liebert® SmartRow™ is 50 percent loaded with the ability for modular expansion and adding redundancy if needed in the future. The only ongoing cost for HACC is full maintenance and service from DVL and the electric utility. There are four host VMWare 6 Cluster with 12 virtual hosts and growing. HACC also has a secondary disk storage for backups and network switches.



FEEDBACK

HACC's partnership with DVL has prepared HACC to be ready for any disaster that may come along and the College welcomes visitors to tour the facility. Contact DVL's Geraldine Brennan at gbrennan@dvl.net to schedule a visit.



David Shaffer, HACC Manager of Network and Data Center Operations and Geraldine Brennan, DVL Solutions Manager



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