



## Fox Sports Australia Conquers Heterogeneous Data Protection with Atempo Time Navigator™



### Problem

As Fox Sports' IT department expanded into the production side of the business, they needed a data protection solution that could easily integrate and scale with the company's rapid data growth and demanding backup and recovery needs.

### Goal

A sophisticated backup and restore solution that supports all of their databases and various operating systems.

### Results

Time Navigator has significantly reduced the time it takes Fox Sports to perform tape backups, and Fox Sports has considerably cut down on the costs of offsite tape storage thanks to Time Navigator's ability to consolidate the company's massive amount of heterogeneous data.

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### Organization

Fox Sports Australia offers the most relevant, comprehensive, live and exclusive coverage of sports on Australian television. They feature an average of over nine hours of live sports every day and over 13,000 hours each year. Fox Sports brings Australia its favorite sports including NRL, Rugby Union, tennis, cricket, golf, basketball, soccer, baseball, athletics, swimming and motor sports.

### The Challenge

Fox Sports had a "traditional" back office, running applications such as SQL and Exchange, plus print and file sharing in a Windows environment. They were using Symantec Backup Exec, with each server hosting its own tape drive. Fox Sports went through a period of rapid expansion and started exploring other systems. Their IT department was also expanding into the production side of the business, with the company moving to a server based, non-linear workflow, based on an archiving solution provided by Ardendo and SGI. As a result, the department's data protection policies had to evolve to take this new, heterogeneous infrastructure into consideration.

### Characteristics of Fox Sports' Environment:

- 40 servers
- Linux Operating System
- SGI IRIX Operating System
- SGI XFS File System
- SGI based SAN
- DB2 Database

### The Solution

As the search for an alternative backup system became imperative, Fox Sports started exploring alternative solutions. "Atempo had the advantage of natively supporting SGI's DMF, and the company was willing to write

code to operate with our existing tape robot silo," said Paul Slowey, technology manager at Fox Sports. "We chose Atempo Time Navigator because it supports all of the databases—Oracle, SQL, Sybase and DB2—that we use and the various operating systems."

### Results

With Atempo Time Navigator, Fox Sports backs up approximately 500 GB of data every day, including DMF database pointers. These pointers point to about 1.5 TB of additional storage per day (on tape). "This means that we can have a 30 GB file on tape, with a 0 kb pointer to this file in the DMF database (which is on disk), and Time Navigator only backs up the pointer to the tape copy. Other products try to pull the entire file back off tape, then back it up, which is not desirable, and causes time-outs," said Slowey.

Fox Sports manages all of its data from a single server. Time Navigator's centralized interface manages everything and protects data across the heterogeneous environments and multiple storage architectures including DAS, NAS, SAN and IP storage. In addition, Time Navigator's remote administration capabilities enable full backup and recovery from any location.

"We run a complex, heterogeneous data-center and it's imperative that our backup system is a team player. Our IT department found Time Navigator easy to use and the Atempo technical staff helpful, knowledgeable and friendly."

Paul Slowey  
Technology Manager  
Fox Sports