

Renault F1 Team

Taking the Fast Track to Data Security, Availability, and Systems Management with Symantec



For the last five races of the 2008 F1 Season, no team scored more points than the Renault F1 Team. And for good reason. Technology drives the teamwork and innovation that inspires the team to success. By standardizing on a comprehensive portfolio of Symantec data security, availability and systems management solutions, the team is ensuring the availability and security of the design applications, test data, and race telemetry. Choosing Symantec has proven to be a cost-effective decision as well. An independent survey of the team's technology infrastructure concluded that Symantec was helping the Renault F1 Team achieve savings of \$2.5 million in the first year.

Drivers' and Constructors' World Championship Two Years in a Row

Motorsport is unique. Whereas most businesses are measured on their revenue or stock performance, the success of a racing team is judged by what happens on one of 17 strips of tarmac somewhere in the world on a Sunday between March and November. Was all the time, effort, and teamwork put into race preparation and testing worthwhile? Was the car set up correctly to win? Only those two hours of F1 racing which millions of people tune into every week will tell.

All of which means there's no margin for error; everything must work towards the common goal of supporting those two hours of racing. As part of this, a world-class team like the Renault F1 Team needs all the data associated with winning races at its fingertips—quickly and reliably. To make sure the team can operate effectively, it needs to secure and manage its information, while simultaneously protecting against more risks at more points—wherever information is used or stored. After all, imagine the implications of an infected laptop jeopardizing the telemetry data on race day or the consequences of data from the team's cutting-edge Computational Fluid Dynamics (CFD) computerized wind tunnel center not being available because a server is down or the cost impact of unnecessary data management practices.

It falls to the shoulders of Graeme Hackland and his team to make sure none of this happens. Graeme is the IT manager for the Renault F1 Team and has responsibility for ensuring they have the appropriate data security, storage, and systems management solutions in place to help secure podium positions, time and time again. The Renault F1 Team operates two dedicated technical centers: in Enstone, UK (chassis technical center) and Viry-Châtillon in France (engine technical center). Collectively the team relies on 550 professionals to bring success in F1 racing. Data is a cornerstone of the team's operations: whether its data in the CFD wind tunnel center, the real-time data gathered from the cars as they race, or the design technology used to assess the performance of each component on the cars.

“Symantec is undoubtedly one of our most trusted technology partners, fortifying the team with high availability, supreme performance and reliable security.”

Graeme Hackland
IT Manager
Renault F1 Team

ORGANIZATION PROFILE

The Renault F1 Team was born in 2002 with a single purpose: winning the FIA Formula One World Championship with a 100% Renault car. Drawing on a heritage of motorsport innovation that stretches back to Renault's first Formula 1 race in 1977, and includes six world constructors' championships during the 1990s when Renault supplied V10 engines to front-running F1 competitors, the team steadily grew in competitiveness thanks to a blend of performance, reliability, and technology reinforced by the engineering expertise of the Renault Group. The team reached the pinnacle of performance during the 2005 and 2006 seasons, winning the drivers' and constructors' championships in both seasons in an historic double-double achievement. With an exciting driver line-up and innovative technical package, the team approaches the new season determined to build on the promise shown last year and ready to fight at the front of the field once more.

INDUSTRY

Automotive

SOLUTION

Archiving
Business Continuity
Data Protection
Disaster Recovery
Messaging Security
Storage Management

F1 double World Championship winning team saves \$2.5 million in tangible, measured cost savings with Symantec.

“The Symantec Foundation Risk Assessment has made a real difference to the way we look at IT risk... The standard, phased approach Symantec adopted ensured that the assessment was delivered with consistent high quality and with standardized reporting outputs.”

Graeme Hackland
IT Manager
Renault F1 Team

The Team's Backbone for Data Security, Availability, and Systems Management

Symantec has been synonymous with the Renault F1 Team for more than 10 years, providing the backbone for data security, availability, and systems management throughout the team. What began as a comparatively straightforward deployment of Veritas NetBackup™ software from Symantec to provide backup and recovery has subsequently risen to become a comprehensive, enterprise-wide deployment of Symantec technologies and services. “Whether it’s design, telemetry, or manufacturing, we need to ensure high availability, data security, and implicit management of our sophisticated IT network infrastructure,” says Graeme Hackland. “With the very short space of time between races, outages, security alerts, and other unplanned downtime are simply not permissible. Against this backdrop, Symantec is undoubtedly one of our most trusted technology partners, fortifying the team with high availability, supreme performance, and reliable security.”

The illustrious inventory of deployed Symantec technologies and services are too long to list here (see ‘Symantec Products’ box-out). Instead, these proof-points provide an indication of the depth of value the Renault F1 Team derived from Symantec. From a disaster recovery and business continuity perspective, for example, NetBackup™ 6.5 provides data protection in the state-of-the-art data center in Enstone across the UNIX, Microsoft Windows, and Linux environments, the data in the Oracle databases, and the email and files in Microsoft Exchange. NetBackup saves the team \$180,000 each year in reduced data center costs arising from library downsizing, reduced building space arising from fewer fireproof safes, reduced tape library support, reduced media costs from 260 tapes per year to 60, and improved recovery time from data loss to data restore for IT administration. And of course, NetBackup delivers data protection in the unlikely event of a disaster and single button backup and restore.

SOLUTION AT A GLANCE

Business Drivers

- Maintain competitive advantage and reduce IT costs
- Protect and help ensure 24x7 access to business-critical data
- Manage rapid growth in data

Technology Challenges

- Archive expanding volume of email
- Improve backup reliability
- Identify IT risks

Solution

Comprehensive data security, storage, and systems management solution

Symantec Products

Symantec™ Control Compliance Suite
Symantec™ Critical System Protection
Symantec Deepsight™ Alert Services
Symantec™ Endpoint Protection 11.0
Symantec Enterprise Vault™
Symantec Inform™
Symantec Brightmail™ Gateway
Veritas™ Cluster Server
Veritas™ Configuration Manager
Veritas NetBackup™ 6.5
Veritas NetBackup™ Desktop Laptop Option

Technology Environment

- State-of-the-art \$3 million data center
- Servers: Six UNIX®, 80 Microsoft® Windows®
- Operating Systems: UNIX, Microsoft Windows, Red Hat® Linux
- Endpoints: More than 600 desktop and laptop workstations
- Storage: NetApp®

Symantec Services

- Symantec Business Critical Services
- Symantec Foundation Risk Assessment Service
- Symantec Consulting
- Symantec Education