



Savoie-Mont Blanc University is a public institution that teaches a wide range of subjects, from foreign languages to IT, and from law to business management to social and natural sciences. The university has four separate campuses, 1,200 employees and lecturers, and 13,000 students. In addition to teaching, there are 19 research laboratories, four of which are graded as excellent. Its IT department is part of Grenoble Academy's joint IT service for the university.

- **Country:** France
- **Industry:** Education
- **Students:** 13,000
- **Solution:** Time Navigator

SAVOIE-MONT BLANC UNIVERSITY

An Atempo Customer Reference Story

“ New projects may be created during the year by the science laboratories and teaching departments. These projects are, by their nature, not included in the budget of the IT department, which may not know in advance how many servers will be needed, and the data capacity involved. Since it is necessary to provide secure backup services for all this, an effective, flexible solution was vital. Time Navigator was the solution capable of dealing with this difficult issue. ”

Bruno Guibert

Director of Information Systems, Savoie-Mont Blanc University

The Director of Information Systems (DIS) has a team of 19 people to run the IT needs of 13,000 students and 450 lecturers, across four geographically separate sites and for 19 science laboratories. The IT team has to manage a multi-site infrastructure that is rapidly expanding, and also ensure constant, reliable operation of all servers and applications for students, lecturers and admin staff.

THE CHALLENGE

PROVIDE FLEXIBLE IT SERVICES FOR USERS

When Bruno Guibert joined Savoie-Mont Blanc University, there was already a backup solution in place, but it was not performing satisfactorily due to technical shortcomings, including non-compatibility with some NAS storages. In addition, there were difficulties expanding the backup solution when a science laboratory had a new project that needed new IT infrastructure with additional data security. Technicians could not install the components needed for backup. They had to obtain licenses first, through a long budget and product-ordering process. Costs rose constantly, becoming unbearable for the university budget. As a consequence, some projects were running months behind schedule, since it was impossible to start work without a fully functional backup solution in place. Moving the data centers from physical servers to virtual servers was becoming complicated.

THE SOLUTION

TIME NAVIGATOR

A call for tender was launched to replace the unsatisfactory backup software. Time Navigator was chosen for its comprehensive technical package as well as its ease of deployment and simplified software key management under the Campus license. To roll out the solution, the IT team had the help of a partner.

The team has been able to augment the number of secured systems, and the retention time of the backups has been increased from three to four weeks. With its easy administration, it can manage physical Windows, Linux and Solaris servers on the one hand, and all the virtual servers running under VMware, on three physical servers with storages on SAN, on the other. Administrators can be more efficient using this simple, unified solution than when they had to manage two different solutions.

The backup is replicated between the two sites of Annecy and Bourget-du-Lac, giving greater data security even in the event of a disaster. The total volume of backed up data stored on each site is over 110 TB. With the Time Navigator deduplication mechanism, this volume has been reduced to just 14 TB, which provides real savings on the storage investments.



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CHALLENGES

- Control the budget and avoid being charged by volume
- Ensure broad, functional coverage
- Support physical and virtual servers
- Share the solution among all departments of the university

SOLUTION

- Time Navigator installed on two sites with deduplication and cross-replication
- A Campus license with access to all Time Navigator modules for all the university and laboratory servers.

RESULTS

- Full, functional coverage on all servers and all storages
- High deduplication ratio of 8 to 1
- Easy for the technical team to install and manage
- Predictable budget

SAVOIE-MONT BLANC UNIVERSITY

An Atempo Customer Reference Story

The Director of Information Systems represents Savoie-Mont Blanc University in the joint IT Service (SIMSU) of the Grenoble Academy which groups all the universities of the region. SIMSU is the meeting point for the Academy's IT directors and provides an opportunity to share experience and set up a joint infrastructure that benefits all the universities in the Academy. This is the case, the Alfresco Enterprise Content Management software, and the Zimbra mail service with its 60,000 mailboxes, were all hosted by SIMSU for the entire Academy. The USMB has seen to the provision of backup with the reliable, well-managed solution: Time Navigator.

THE RESULT

A COMPLETE, ROBUST AND FLEXIBLE BACKUP SERVICE

Time Navigator's efficiency is demonstrated every day through such simple tasks as restoring mailboxes or files, as well as for more serious incidents. For instance, several servers and workstations were hacked by the CBT-locker Ransomware which encrypted all the files, preventing access to them. Without giving into the blackmail, the IT team was able to restore the servers and workstations in record time.

New university projects can start up quickly because their data can be backed up at once by the IT team, with unlimited access to all the Time Navigator software components.

« With Time Navigator we can now secure all the university's data. Time devoted to backup admin has been optimized, and above all, we are able to adapt better to the needs of academic users who create new projects, » explains Bruno Guibert.

“Backup is an extremely important topic to me. It is one of the basic features of an information system.”

Bruno Guibert
Director of Information Systems,
Savoie-Mont Blanc University



Since 1992, Atempo provides business continuity solutions to secure and preserve essential business data for thousands of companies around the world. Our integrated suite of solutions include our market leading data backup and disaster recovery offerings (Time Navigator and Live Navigator) and our innovative archiving solution (Atempo-Digital Archive) which features intuitive retrieval interfaces and supports a broad scope of platforms. Based on high performance data movers our solutions are extremely scalable. The Atempo products are, therefore, suitable for the data protection needs of midsized to petabyte scale businesses and large distributed enterprises.

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