

# CAMPUS VEOLIA

Two VNXe series storage systems allow Veolia to benefit from a modernized, centralized, and cost-efficient backup strategy with a simplified administration



## ESSENTIALS

### Challenges

- To better manage backup at different sites
- Implement a solution compatible with VMware environments

### Solutions

- EMC VNXe unified storage
- EMC Remote Protection Suite
- VMware vSphere™

### Results

- Reduced backup windows
- Reliable backups
- Replacement of obsolete storage systems
- Integration with virtual machines
- Simple administration through a user-friendly interface—no expert resource needed

The Campus Veolia network includes 21 campuses and training centers, located in France and worldwide. In 2010, about 1,760,000 training hours were delivered to employees, young professionals, and apprentices. Now well established in 12 countries worldwide, the Campus Veolia network delivers vocational training courses in four business areas: water, transport, energy, and environmental services. In France, this network includes six geographical sites, all managed from the campus in Jouy-le-Moutier. For the network IT managers, governance hardly applies beyond those French sites since all management tasks are centralized in Jouy-le-Moutier, where the company's technical experts are located.

## THE CHALLENGE

“We didn't have a consistent IT department at each of the individual sites. This raised backup problems,” says Laurent Bourhis, who is in charge of Infrastructure and Security at Campus Veolia.

Backup was done the old way, using magnetic tapes, and had become unmanageable and unreliable. At first, the IT team tried to centralize the processes with ad hoc scripts.

“It wasn't very professional,” remarks Bourhis. “Besides, we had to reduce the time spent on backup operations. We needed something simpler and more accessible.”

To get there, the team decided to revamp, centralize, and automate its storage architecture, while keeping costs down. At the same time, the CIO had already forged ahead with a server virtualization project using VMware® technology.

## THE SOLUTION

Solving the backup challenge required a cost-effective and user-friendly solution that would seamlessly integrate with VMware virtual machines. “And who else but EMC, owner of VMware, to better answer this constraint,” notes Bourhis.

By only one day, this project could have been completely different. But Campus Veolia chose the EMC® VNXe® unified storage platform, fresh out of the box, at the very last minute. Systemic, the selected integration provider, was waiting for the imminent release of the new EMC platform, which happened on the very last day—just as Veolia was considering HP and Net App.

CUSTOMER PROFILE

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## SEAMLESS VMWARE INTEGRATION AND EVERYDAY EASE OF USE

The VNXe platform did much better at meeting Campus Veolia's specifications on several aspects, and finally won the call for tenders.

"We were amazed by VNXe—its small form factor, its ease of use and powerful features—all while enabling us to stay within our budget," says Samuel Fedorawiez, who is responsible for the Campus Veolia Environment's IT department. "We had to go through the presentation several times, hardly believing what we were seeing. We not only benefit from high-end platform features and thin provisioning, but also from equipment that is adapted to our structure."

"The VNXe platform provides a cost-efficient, centralized storage infrastructure that manages our backups, without the need for specific skills. We were impressed by its integration with VMware vSphere virtual machines."

**Laurent Bourhis**  
Infrastructure and Security, Campus Veolia

The VNXe platform not only meets Campus Veolia's requirement for seamless VMware integration, but also brings administrative simplicity and scalability. "We started with a VNXe3100 with 1.5 TB storage capacity—even though today we only need 700 GB—because we have already forecasted our future storage needs over the next five years," adds Bourhis.

This VNXe3100 system stores desktop data, whereas the second system, a VNXe3300, is used for redundancy purposes to ensure business continuity. The latter is a shared array that stores replicas from the desktop data system, as well as all the virtual machine backups.

## ZERO ADMINISTRATION OR EXPERTISE REQUIRED

Campus Veolia is thrilled with its choice of EMC VNXe. "We wanted an interface with zero administration that would require no specific expertise, and that's exactly what we got. We don't have to intervene, and we have none of the data access problems we had before. Since the VNXe was deployed, we have been pleasantly surprised with each new feature we use," confirms Bourhis.

Indeed, today the team is quite confident with its IT. The solutions have a proactive approach, whereby IT specialists are quickly notified if a technical glitch arises. The company has also benefited from performance improvement. "We are spending about 30 percent less time protecting our data," concludes Bourhis.

Encouraged by this successful experience—which partly served as a pilot project—Campus Veolia now plans to continue the deployment of these platforms on more sites in the near future. The company will likely replace its legacy backup software as well.

### CONTACT US

To learn more about how EMC products, services, and solutions can help solve your business and IT challenges, contact your local EMC representative or authorized reseller, or visit [www.EMC.com](http://www.EMC.com).

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