Since moving to Dell EMC, we’ve reduced our backup data from 8 petabytes to 79 terabytes. That’s a fantastic compression ratio of 103 times. We estimate we’ve saved thousands of dollars on storage, power consumption and maintenance.”

Jason Kinnear
Infrastructure Engineer, Koch Foods
It was the final straw. A data center outage at Koch Foods exposed the risks of an unreliable backup solution when it took 36 hours to restore automated operations and cost the company tens of million dollars. During the outage, employees hand-wrote bills of lading and manually counted items. Losses mounted as idle trucks with onboard refrigerated units wasted fuel, and the company missed shipment deadlines.

After the outage, IT evaluated alternative backup solutions and replaced its previous NetApp SnapManager and Veritas Backup Exec environment with Dell EMC Data Protection Software and Dell EMC Data Domain.

Today, Koch Foods uses Dell EMC Data Protection Software to back up data to Dell EMC Data Domain backup storage appliances at four data centers across the U.S. Backups are also replicated to Data Domain systems at a fifth data center.

The environment protected by the Dell EMC enterprise backup and recovery solution includes Microsoft Exchange, Microsoft SQL Server, Citrix Xen App, file servers and other applications. The infrastructure is 99 percent virtualized with VMware vSphere and VMware ESX and includes 200 virtual machines (VMs).

Reduced storage, less maintenance time lower costs

With its industry-leading deduplication, Dell EMC’s Data Protection solution has drastically lowered the amount of data being backed up and helped reduce costs and improve infrastructure performance.

Kinnear states, “Since moving to Dell EMC, we’ve reduced our backup data from 8 petabytes to 79 terabytes. That’s a fantastic compression ratio of 103 times. We estimate we’ve saved thousands of dollars on storage, power consumption and maintenance.”

Backups and restores complete with ease

Previously, backups often did not complete successfully and even could cause disks to crash. Since moving to Dell EMC Protection, the backup success rate increased from 70 percent to 98.4 percent. IT now restores applications, images, VMs, files and databases without fail every time.

In addition, Kinnear reduced his weekly backup administration time from 50–60 hours to one hour. “I used to spend all my time creating and babysitting backup jobs and applying Band-Aids,” he explains. “And I was still getting emergency calls when I wasn’t at work. I now have time for cool, meaningful projects. Sleeping through the night and taking back my weekends have made life so much better.”