

CASE STUDY:

Second Harvest of South Georgia

Location:
Valdosta, Georgia

Size:
42 Employees

Objective:
To update their technology infrastructure and centralize communications between four facilities.

Solutions:

- Migrated Small Business Server 2003 to 4 separate servers
- Installed new file server, MS Exchange Server, Terminal Server and SQL Server
- Setup SAN for Network Data
- Installed 2 Firewalls, one for internal internet access and the other for WAN access for Terminal Server Users
- Configured BES Server for all BlackBerry communications.

Nexxtep Makes Substantial Donation to Regional Food Bank



Second Harvest of South Georgia provides food for over 700 non-profit organizations throughout the region.

Second Harvest of South Georgia is responsible for providing more than 8 million pounds of food with a value of over \$13.5 million to non-profit programs throughout South Georgia. As the regional food bank (headquartered in Valdosta) expanded into facilities in Thomasville, Albany and Douglas, Second Harvest's President and CEO Frank Richards realized they would need to update their technology infrastructure to meet the demands of their growth. In conjunction with a technology grant for hardware and software purchases, Nexxtep provided free services throughout the year. Second Harvest and Nexxtep worked together to build a technology strategy to connect their four facilities and to substantially revamp their outdated technology. The following are excerpts from an interview with Frank Richards.

Can you talk about some of the services that Nexxtep has donated to Second Harvest?

"For years we only had one server in our organization, and it was working so hard it was almost smoking. We were fortunate enough to get a grant for the new equipment that we needed, and Nexxtep worked with us to design a system that put six servers in a new server room. Each of those

servers does a very specific function to make sure that we're able to run very quickly, efficiently to reduce our downtime and to protect the integrity of the data that we're keeping every single day. Nexxtep also installed SAN (Storage Area Network) that would keep a very large amount of information very safe. Nexxtep also helped us connect to our other facilities throughout South Georgia."

How have Nexxtep's services helped Second Harvest grow and expand your capacity to feed the hungry?

"What we do every day requires a lot of dependence on technology. We are a Fortune 500 size company operating as a non-profit. With the help and contributions from Nexxtep, we've been able to keep costs low while keeping our technology systems current and reliable."

Would you recommend Nexxtep to friends and colleagues in the business community?

"We recommend Nexxtep every day. We give hundreds of tours to business professionals and other groups, and one of the things that everyone who comes into our organization is always amazed about is the amount of technology that we utilize. They see everything from our large server closet, to our high definition video systems that we use to monitor the facilities, to the GPS technology we use to monitor and route our vehicles. Nexxtep helps us maintain this level of technology every day."



"No matter when we have a problem, I know we can get ahold of someone right away to get that problem fixed. That's a very comforting feeling."

-Frank Richards, CEO