

RIFFNER•BARBER, LLC

Turns to MD Technology Services For A Reliable and Cost Effective Network Solution

Riffner, Barber LLC, a Schaumburg, IL based law firm with 20 employees has reduced down time and increased their IT capabilities and reliability since migrating to Windows Server 2003 Standard Edition, replacing its outdated network system. The organization is also benefiting from a more secure and standardized network environment.

Organization Overview

Riffner, Barber, LLC provides a depth of legal services in the areas of personal injury claims, family law, business law, commercial litigation, real estate transactions, bankruptcy, and criminal defense. Founded in 1984 each partner brings over 20 years of concentrated legal practice to the suburban Chicago area. The firm's technology resources contribute to its ability to serve clients reliably and effectively although there is no IT support on staff.

Challenge

With approximately 20 employees, Riffner, Barber, LLC required a reliable network infrastructure that provided capabilities that could not be accomplished with their existing environment. Their time and billing system, not supported in their existing environment, was originally installed on a single PC limiting their ability to provide accurate and timely billing.

The outdated server hardware and operating system posed a threat to their capability of storing and retrieving client documents. Backups were rarely performed and never tested. Virus threats were also a common problem.

The outdated Email system did not provide remote access to emails or schedules. The firewall was no longer supported by the organization that implemented it.

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Solution Overview

Industry

Legal

Business Need

Required new hardware, network operating system, and email solution that where easier to manage than the existing Server operating system.

Solution

Installed Dell Hardware, Windows Server™ 2003 Standard Server, Exchange 2003, Fortinet™ Firewall, Symantec Anti-virus, and Juris®

Benefits

- Provided compatibility with Juris® application which provides time and billing management
- Increased reliability of data access
- Improved communications internally and with clients
- Increased scheduling capabilities
- Provided file access security
- Increased system reliability
- Reduced administrative time



Implication

Entering time and billing information on a single PC made it very inefficient for entering data and reporting. Support staff worked extra hours at a premium rate in order to keep up with the daily entries. Data entry errors also posed an issue because of documents being hand written by the attorneys and then entered into the system by support staff.

With the threat of viruses on the network, many documents were lost without the ability to recover them.

Inefficiencies with the email system posed many problems because of the lack of ability to correspondence with clients or other attorneys while out of the office.

Solution

Riffner, Barber, LLC working with MD Technology Services LLC based in Illinois developed a solution utilizing Microsoft Windows Server™ 2003 operating system, Microsoft Exchange Server™ 2003 installed on Dell hardware, Symantec Anti-Virus, and Fortinet™ Fortigate firewall. The installation team implemented a single domain structure, along with Exchange email, Symantec Anti-Virus, and Fortigate Firewall. Prior to retiring the old file server, all user data was migrated to the new Windows 2003 server. Juris was also installed on the new server. Fortinet's VPN connectivity solution was also implemented for remote access. MD Technology Services LLC is contracted to provide all IT functions as well as remote monitoring.

Benefits

The new network infrastructure is providing Riffner, Barber, LLC with features, security, and stability the organization needed. Attorneys can now enter their time into the Juris system simultaneously eliminating duplication errors and billing clients in a timelier manner.

With Exchange 2003, Outlook Web Access, and Outlook Mobile Access attorneys can now correspond through emails from wherever Internet or cellular phone connectivity is available.

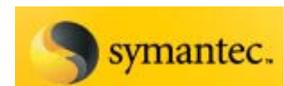
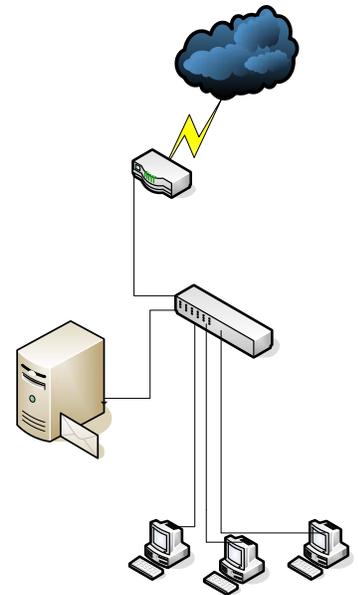
The firm also utilizes Fortinet's VPN solution to provide access to the internal network remotely. This has provided remote connectivity to attorneys working off-site.

The implementation of Symantec's Anti-Virus solution has eliminated many virus threats and loss of data.

The implementation of Barracuda's Anti-Spam Firewall has drastically reduced the amount of spam mail.



MD Technology Services LLC is focused on providing cost effective and reliable IT solutions to its customers. Members average over 15 years of experience in server, network support, and design. We try our best to make sure that the customer has the best solution to meet their IT needs.



Proactive server monitoring now provides Riffner, Barber, LLC with the peace of mind that their systems are taken care of eliminating the need for internal IT staff.

The on-going service provided is truly exceptional. Our firm would be much better served if all of the goods and services to the office were as professional and efficient as MD Technology Services.

- Robert Riffner, Partner

For More Information

For more information on MD Technology Services LLC solutions, visit the Web site at: <http://www.mdtllc.com>

For more information on Riffner, Barber, LLC, visit the Web site at: <http://www.rbmlaw.com>

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