



“ Data is the lifeblood of our company, so it’s reassuring that the integrity and security of our IT network and systems are being managed so effectively.

The NCI team are also highly responsive to all our IT needs, we know we’re in good hands. ”

Stephen Derrington
Director
Scymaris

Our Success Story

‘Excellence in scientific services’

► Summary

Scymaris are a new, start-up company based at the Brixham Environmental Laboratory, formerly Astra Zeneca, in Devon which boasts fantastically modern office infrastructure and state-of-the-art laboratory facilities. The company was initiated by three experts to specialise in the key areas of ecotoxicology, environmental fate, plant metabolism and analytical chemistry services. However, Scymaris is growing rapidly and predict a considerable rise in staff within their first year to support new and developing contracts.

The company approached NCI Technologies because they wanted a comprehensive IT solution to help them get off the ground quickly, effectively manage IT costs and scale for expansion. They needed a provider with a proven track record in advanced cloud services and backup deployment with proactive and reliable support plus, top-notch security, significant data storage and secure remote access.

Microsoft Partner

Gold Volume Licensing
Silver Small and Midmarket Cloud Solutions

The Technologies

Firewall – Dell SonicWALL with Comprehensive Gateway Security Suite

Dell Servers with Microsoft Windows Server 2012

Microsoft Office 365 with business class email across all desktops and laptops

Managed Backup and Disaster Recovery Service and BDR server

Offsite Cloud Backup at UK Datacentre

Microsoft Azure – archive storage in the cloud

▶ How NCI Supported Scymaris:

Connectivity and Communication

A dedicated secure network was installed to efficiently connect the legacy machines in the laboratory.

Cloud hosted email via Microsoft Office 365 was provided on each desktop pc and devices for remote access when staff are working off-site. This means they can:

Manage emails, calendar and contacts at any-time on a device that can access the internet

Share documents and collaborate easily with contacts at flexible working times

Easily use and manage the software, with built in security via compliance and privacy controls

Security

A SonicWALL firewall was installed, including the Comprehensive Gateway Security Suite - for the whole network. As one of the most advanced security solutions it includes:

Traffic inspection

Antivirus – eliminating viruses, worms and trojans

Anti-spyware

Intrusion prevention

Website and content filtering

Plus, as an additional layer of protection, no internet access was made available via the machines in the laboratory so they're entirely secure.

Backup, Storage and Data Retrieval

Implementation of an on premise Backup and Data Recovery (BDR Server). The archiving solution is held on the BDR server including long-term storage of project data.

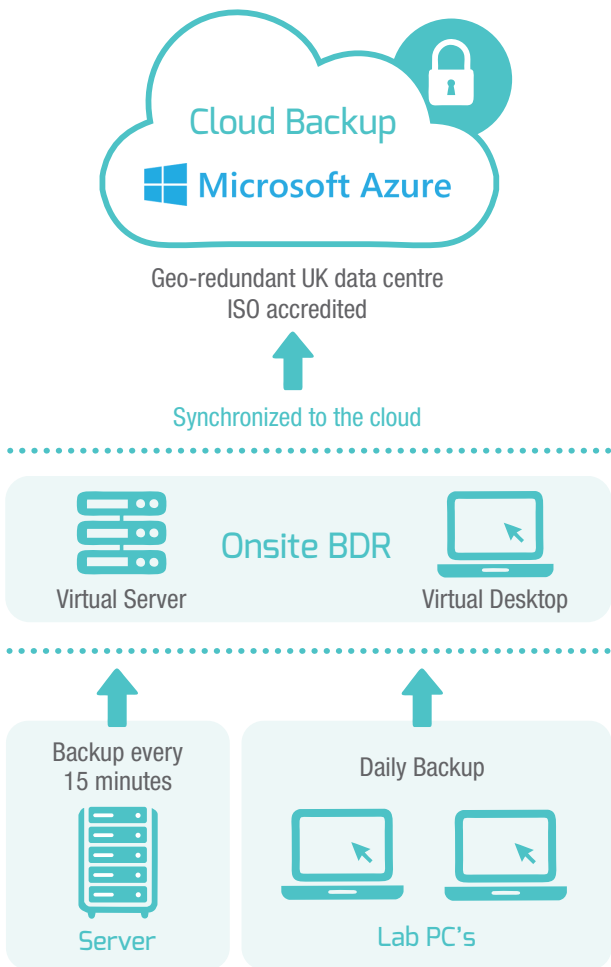
Cloud Backup was integrated, with storage at Goonhilly datacentre, Cornwall, UK. All data on the server is backed up every 15 minutes to the BDR server and the laboratory PC's backed up daily, with daily copies of the data being stored off-site.

Microsoft Azure 'cloud-based architecture' was used for efficient retention of archive data.



Backup, Storage and Data Retrieval - Continued

The benefits of Data Protection and Azure's cloud facilities include:



“ The Microsoft SLA guarantees at least a 99.95% uptime ”

- Reducing the amount of backup work involved by integrating both on premise and cloud based solutions
- Easily accommodate data growth and the next phases of business expansion
- Minimising the risk of lost productivity, data and employee stress through any potential downtime since there is a 99.95% guaranteed uptime with this solution
- Storage at a UK, geo-redundant data centre with corporate level security and ISO accreditation.
- Zero-failure backups
- Fast and efficient recovery of data, if needed
- Server software and security is up-to-date proving optimum efficiency and reliability
- Total cost of ownership is reduced since hardware purchases are minimised and cloud service and support is on a monthly pay-as-you-use basis. This means the start-up company is supported with easier to manage costs that are scaled for growth.



NCI was founded in February 2004, by Directors Andy Trish, Chris Penrose and John Andrew, with a vision to provide great IT support to the local community. Over the last decade, the company has grown considerably and is now a 30 strong team of passionate and dedicated professionals delivering IT solutions to businesses and schools across the UK.

NCI continually strive to improve their services and increase customer satisfaction. Years of experience working closely with small and medium sized businesses and schools have led NCI to develop products and services that empower their customers to progress and lead the way.



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