

# Public Utility Maintains Control of its Microsoft Office 365 Data with Veeam



"Veeam guarantees our Office 365 data is backed up and stored locally so it's available 24.7.365. Veeam provides us with the peace of mind that we remain in control of our company's data, and we're covered from a legal and compliance perspective."

— Karen St.Clair  
IT Manager  
Columbia Power & Water Systems

## The Business Challenge

Like many companies, Columbia Power & Water Systems (CPWS) was eager to deploy Microsoft Office 365 because of the business benefits.

"Office 365 can be a fantastic means to an end," said Karen St.Clair, IT Manager at CPWS. "Employees can work anytime, anywhere and collaborate in new and more efficient ways. IT admins can keep their company up and running during a crisis because their IT infrastructure is replicated in the cloud for availability."

St.Clair had only one concern about Office 365. Before making the leap from on-premises Microsoft Exchange to Office 365 Exchange Online, she needed to ensure she could back up and maintain control of the company's historical email data.

"We worried about the backup and retention policies in Office 365," she said. "Microsoft takes care of your infrastructure, but companies remain responsible for their data. It is our responsibility to protect our data, and protecting historical email data is important to CPWS. That's why we decided to ensure we have a backup of our data residing in Office 365."

## The Veeam Solution

CPWS deployed Veeam® Backup for Microsoft Office 365 to back up all emails residing in Office 365 Exchange Online. Veeam provides total control and access to the company's emails, calendars and contacts.

"Veeam provides a local, historical backup, so email data is available 24.7.365," St.Clair said. Veeam provides us with the peace of mind that we remain in control of our company's data, and we're covered from a legal and compliance perspective."

### Industry

Energy and utilities

### Company



Columbia Power & Water Systems has been a public utility since 1939 — it's owned by the citizens of Columbia, Tennessee. The utility provides electric power and clean water to approximately 30,000 customers, as well as high-speed Internet, television and telephone services.

Veeam has CPWS' Office 365 data covered. As the company grows, every email documenting the changes can be readily available for reference, whether it's two years old or two days old, or if it's been deleted or buried in the inbox.

"We need fast access to our data-period," St.Clair said. "And, we need a solution that is straightforward and streamlined. That's what I love most about Veeam. It's so fast and easy."

Veeam backs up all Exchange Online items and stores them in one location, making recovery fast, easy and reliable.

"We've tested every kind of restore scenario possible, and Veeam makes it effortless every time," St.Clair said. "My 12-year-old could restore data with Veeam — it's that simple."

Veeam has a bright future at CPWS.

"Back in the day, we deployed one of Veeam's competitors because we needed physical backup in addition to virtual backup," she explained. "Now that Veeam offers physical backup, we're on our way to becoming a full Veeam shop."

## The Results

- **Enables a smooth move to Microsoft Office 365 Exchange**

Veeam Backup for Microsoft Office 365 helps CPWS protect historical email data residing in Office 365, eliminating a roadblock to migrating to Office 365 Exchange Online.

"Our biggest concern was losing long-term retention of our data," St.Clair said. "Veeam provides reassurance that all of their data — current and historical — is backed up locally and readily available."

- **Provides total control and access to current and historical data**

"The common perception is that Microsoft takes care of everything, but in reality, Microsoft takes care of your infrastructure, and you're responsible for your data," St.Clair said. "It's your data — you control it — and it's your responsibility to protect it. Veeam protects our data."

- **Expedites and simplifies the retrieval of emails**

Veeam backs up all Exchange Online emails for CPWS and stores them on-premises, making recovery fast, easy and reliable.

## Challenge

Before migrating from on-premises Microsoft Exchange to Office 365 Exchange Online, Columbia Power & Water needed to solidify its long-term retention and data protection strategy. Without a backup, the company worried it would lose access and control of its data.

## Solution

Veeam Backup for Microsoft Office 365

## Results

- Enables a smooth migration to Microsoft Office 365
- Provides total control and access to current and historical email data
- Expedites and simplifies the retrieval of emails

## About Veeam Software

Veeam® has pioneered a new market of *Availability for the Always-On Enterprise™* to help companies solve the challenges of keeping their businesses up and running at all times. Veeam enables the Always-On Business™ with solutions that provide recovery time and point objectives (RTPO™) of less than 15 minutes for virtual, physical and cloud-based workloads.



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