

# Gill & Macmillan become virtualized using Microsoft Hyper-V & DPM

## CDSOft Ltd Virtualization/DR Case Study

### The Challenge

The existing backup/recovery solution at Gill & Macmillan was under pressure due to the increasing data footprint and network complexity. The Recovery Time Objective (RTO) was beginning to seem overly ambitious and the 'traditional' DR testing window was no longer adequate to meet the network RTO. Additional pressure was mounting from business demands for greater network agility and flexibility. Being a publishing house, the key asset of the company is the data used to produce books. As new publishing formats are provided to customers, business demands drive the need for new solutions and applications.

### Why CDSOft?

*Gill & Macmillan had been a customer of BlueChip (who were acquired by CDSOft in 2008) for a number of years and were happy with the relationship. There seemed to be a good fit between CDSOft and Gill & Macmillan, and the quality of staff in terms of service delivery and technical ability was exceptional. Gill & Macmillan were also aware of CDSOft's reputation for excellence and their strong Microsoft relationship.*

### Why Microsoft Hyper-V?

Microsoft has made Virtualisation reliable, affordable, scalable and user friendly. The planned integration with Gill & Macmillan's server architecture was a seamless operation due to the hands-on expertise of CDSOft with support from Microsoft.

The Data Protection Manager (DPM) component coupled with Microsoft support was a key factor in the decision to choose Hyper-V, providing the visibility, control and resilience required in the business critical area of backup/recovery.

### Benefits to Date

The servers at Gill & Macmillan were virtualised over the weekend of 23 October 2009. A full DR test was carried out on 14 December 2009 when RTO was surpassed with full recovery of all servers within 6 hours. As a result of server virtualisation, the ICT Dept at Gill & Macmillan has been enabled and equipped with the agility to easily respond to new business initiatives and requirements. In addition, DPM has provided a new level of confidence and reliability in backup/recovery strategy.

### About Gill & Macmillan

In 1865 Michael Henry Gill, who was then printer to Dublin University, purchased the publishing and bookselling business of James McGlashen and formed the company of McGlashen & Gill. In 1875, the name was changed to M.H. Gill & Son. In 1968, Gill & Macmillan was established as a result of an association with Macmillan of London which in turn had been founded in 1843.

Today, Gill & Macmillan publishes a wide range of books and materials for different markets and readerships ranging from schools, university & college, further education & PLC to general interest non-fiction books.

***"In the past, we allocated 2 to 3 days annually for disaster recovery testing. With Data Protection Management, we can recover everything, even all of the archives, in about six hours. That is the business, literally, so it's very reassuring"***

Vincent Hunt  
Director ICT, Gill & Macmillan



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