

### Queen Elizabeth Conference Centre turns to DATAFORT for unrivalled business continuity. The UK's 'Most Technologically Intelligent Conference Centre' chooses DATAFORT as their Security specialist.

DATAFORT, the innovative developer of data protection managed services, today announced that the Queen Elizabeth II Conference Centre (QEII), the winner of the 'Europe's Leading Conference Centre' award, is now relying on the provider's fully managed services to ensure the company's data availability and business continuity. By choosing to partner with DATAFORT, QEII now enjoys enterprise-grade service at SME prices. DATAFORT's Hi-5 high availability service allows organisations to protect their data and information systems at a fixed price without compromising on SLAs and with recovery from full system failure in just 15 minutes.

With astonishing views, situated amongst the Big Ben, Westminster Abbey, and the Houses of Parliament, and with a turnover in 2009 of £11 million, QEII has been providing leading conference facilities for over 24 years. The venue prides itself on its business-supporting technologies including E3 wireless 100 mbs Internet connectivity, sophisticated telephony and state-of-the-art communications equipment, including video conferencing, throughout its 2,000 square metres of space spread over seven floors.

Having successfully worked with DATAFORT for a number of years, in early 2010 QEII turned once again to the managed services provider to seek assistance with the design of a brand new business continuity strategy. Until then, tape backup was used as the primary recovery method with critical data being secured through DATAFORT's offsite backup service. However the systems' recovery time was too long for a seven-day-a-week, customer-facing organisation like QEII so IT administrator Alan Suppaya decided it was time to increase availability for the company's five most critical servers. At the same time he opted to streamline and automate data backups for the remaining eight servers located throughout the building. He turned to DATAFORT to fulfil both requirements.

'It was not profitable to devote time and resources to internally manage backups because we need to focus on the live systems,' said Alan Suppaya, IT manager at QEII. 'The DATAFORT Hi-5 approach to recovery from system failure not only turned a day-long process into a 15-minute

exercise, it also limited data loss to 15 minutes prior to failure. The best tape could offer was to restore from the backup made the previous night, losing at least a day's work. Switching to Hi-5 was a no brainer for us.'

Thanks to DATAFORT's Hi-5 high availability service QEII has not only improved recovery speed of critical systems but also consolidated and automated the backup policy for the entire organisation. This is essential because the venue can host events seven days a week making any system downtime highly disruptive.

'Putting Hi-5 in place has guaranteed productivity of QEII staff regardless of what disruptive event might occur,' said Marcie Terman, business development director at DATAFORT. 'The conference centre now also benefits from full data archival capabilities that allow data audits to be performed on up to seven years of planning and event data.'

Thanks to the deployment of the Hi-5 high-availability service QEII now exceeds its board and management policies as it protects all its data both locally on backup servers and in DATAFORT's tier III remote data centres. File, folder, server or archive recovery are handled over the local network and in the event of a disaster servers loaded with fully-functioning virtual servers are delivered to the customer's temporary headquarters within one business day from the reported disruption.

#### ABOUT DATAFORT

DATAFORT provides dependable and secure fully-managed data protection services that offer enterprise-level functionality with a focus on security and reliability. Its software and services are used by thousands of organisations worldwide, ranging from SMEs through to large enterprises and local government departments. Every hour of every day someone, somewhere backs up with DATAFORT. The company was founded in 2000, is headquartered in Guildford, UK and has offices in London and New York. For further information please visit [www.datafort.com](http://www.datafort.com) or dial 0800 45 44 35.

