McHugh Construction Increases Operational Efficiency and Protects Its Data with Rubrik

Headquartered in Chicago, Illinois, James McHugh Construction Co. (McHugh) is the premier builder of unique, one-of-a-kind structures in Chicago and the Midwest. The company is one of the largest construction managers and general contractors in Chicago, and has built some of the most complex and recognizable structures across the city’s one of a kind skyline, including Marina City, Aqua Tower, Blackstone Hotel, and Navy Pier’s Centennial Wheel. McHugh serves clients in both the public and private sectors, specializing in high-rise concrete construction, historic restoration, special use projects, and infrastructure works.

Ronald Sinopoli, CIO, leads an IT team that supports over hundreds of employees, along with numerous subcontractors and clients. “McHugh is known for leadership and innovation in general contracting, in addition to our unwavering commitment to our clients. We focus on delivering high-quality work in a timely manner,” said Sinopoli. “The use of technology in the construction industry has increased astronomically over the years, keeping our team very busy. As an IT team, we strive to keep our systems available for the operations side of the business, increase overall efficiency, and ensure our data is secure,” added Sinopoli. “Rubrik’s data management solution is an essential part of this equation.”

**INDUSTRY:** Construction

**RESULTS:**
- Significant management time savings
- 22% TCO savings
- 66% reduction in data center footprint

**THE CHALLENGE:**
- Inefficient and time-consuming legacy NAS and tape-based solutions
- Reliance on consultants for daily administration and management

**LACK OF CONFIDENCE AND DAILY RELIANCE ON CONSULTANTS WITH LEGACY SOLUTION**

Prior to Rubrik, McHugh was using a legacy tape-based solution and relying heavily on outside consultants for day-to-day maintenance and monitoring. “Overall, we were not happy with our previous solution. The process was extremely manual and we were worried that it wasn’t consistently backing up our data. From a business continuity standpoint, we were also concerned that we wouldn’t be able to fulfill our RPOs,” said Sinopoli.

As they searched for a new vendor, Sinopoli and team wanted a modern, cutting-edge solution that would provide peace of mind and reduce the amount of time and work involved for his team.

**TRUE SIMPLICITY AND SIGNIFICANT TIME SAVINGS WITH RUBRIK**

“With Rubrik’s automated SLA policy engine, managing our backups takes a fraction of the time compared to our previous solution,” said Rombert Lazo, Director of IT. “We no longer rely on consultants for daily backup administration or performing recoveries. Rubrik is so easy to use that we have moved this function completely in-house and have increased our team’s operational efficiency as a result.”
“Rubrik is definitely a superior product; I haven’t seen anything comparable on the market,” added Lazo.

Benefits include:

- **Significant management time savings**: “Compared to our legacy solution, we spend a fraction of our time managing Rubrik. We also no longer rely on consultants for daily backup administration or performing recoveries.”

- **22% TCO savings**: “By switching to Rubrik, we have reduced costs by eliminating tape, support licenses and our warm site. We now manage our backups in-house, which means we are no longer paying consultants for day-to-day maintenance and can instead utilize them for more strategic projects. As a result, we have been able to shift those cost savings towards continued hardware upgrades and infrastructure improvements.”

- **66% reduction in data center footprint**: “Rubrik has allowed us to eliminate our tape library and reduce our data center footprint from 6U to 2U.”

- **Ransomware defense with immutable backups**: “Ransomware attacks are on the rise, and we’ve put significant time and effort into securing our defensive structure to ensure our business keeps moving at the right pace. With Rubrik, our applications and data are stored in an immutable format, preventing ransomware from accessing and encrypting our backups. We feel confident in our ability to recover by utilizing Rubrik’s point-in-time recovery.”

- **Replication for disaster recovery**: “We are using Rubrik to replicate data from headquarters to our secondary DR site and have conducted successful recovery testing on a critical server. Previously, we were concerned about meeting our RPOs, but now we’re confident that we can get our data back expeditiously in case something were to happen.”

- **World-class support**: “We’re truly impressed with the quality of Rubrik’s technical support. If we experience any issues, they’re able to jump on the phone and walk us through a resolution.”