

H2I Group Primed for Growth with Simple and Secure File Services

Within 24 hours of running Egnyte, H2I was able to classify all of our network drives data, find where sensitive data is stored, and start building data policies to help us meet PCI and CCPA compliances.

—Chris Betlach | IT Director

Challenge

As a specialty contractor working on various types of construction projects from laboratories to gymnasiums, pre-construction services to on-going maintenance, H2I specializes in all aspects of building commercial interiors.

Whether preparing estimates to outfit a laboratory to the square footage of flooring, or sharing real time data between the field installation team and the office staff, H2I employees need to collaborate seamlessly regardless of their physical location in order to provide clients with state-of-the-art facilities.

Today H2I Group operates 12 offices serving clients in 50 states. With ambitious plans to double in size over the next five years, H2I Group needed to streamline and unify how data is shared and stored across the organization. The primary goal was to simplify and consolidate IT systems while boosting employee productivity and security.

AT A GLANCE

12

Offices in operation nationwide

100+

Less people on VPN with Egnyte



Egnyte greatly helped H2I work through the COVID-19 crisis without having any downtime or connection issues. Egnyte is, quite literally, saving the day.

—Chris Betlach | IT Director

The company's outdated, expensive file server strategy would not enable the business to scale its services or cope with future growth requirements due to the heavy administration burden IT teams faced with time-consuming server management and troubleshooting activities.

"Keeping all our file servers in sync had become a top challenge," Chris Betlach, IT Director said. "We had constant issues with file replication and file locking. The third-party solutions we'd put in place to resolve this simply added further complexity to our environment."

But that wasn't the only issue.

With so many employees working long hours in the field on complex projects, the IT team spent hours troubleshooting and solving the support needs of remote users who encountered issues when trying to access large design files held on the VPN.

"We wanted to replace our distributed file server infrastructure with a centralized solution that would give everyone fast and reliable access to large files and sharing tools, even when working remotely on a mobile device," said Betlach.

Solution

To streamline group-wide collaboration on time-sensitive client projects, Egnyte was recommended to H2I Group as a resilient, end-to-end solution that would address all its business-grade data needs.



COMPANY

Providing design, build, pre-construction, installation, management and other related services, H2I Group (previously known as Haldeman-Homme Inc.) helps organizations in the education, healthcare, industrial, government, and corporate markets create new state-of-the-art facilities that meet their specific needs and vision. Experienced at building commercial interiors for 95 years, H2I Group has grown from a small Midwest company to a nationwide provider of diverse facility solutions.

LOCATION

Minneapolis, Minnesota

Operations across all 50 states

INDUSTRY

Construction

Deploying Egnyte was straightforward for the business. They simply mapped everything over to implement a company-wide switchover in a single weekend. By Monday morning they were up and running and end users just reconnected to their drives as normal. There was no downtime and the experience proved seamless for everyone.

In addition to simplifying how the workforce accesses, shares and collaborates on files, Egnyte has simplified how the IT team governs data across all devices. This includes content classification, granular permissions, and reporting and auditing controls critical for H2I Group to protect sensitive content and remain compliant.

“Egnyte has transformed how we manage security and governance,” says Betlach. “We can see and manage who accessed what files and from where, and we’ve eliminated any risk of project files getting accidentally deleted or moved.”

Results

Making the shift to Egnyte has given H2I Group a secure, centralized and easily accessible private cloud for all its enterprise data.

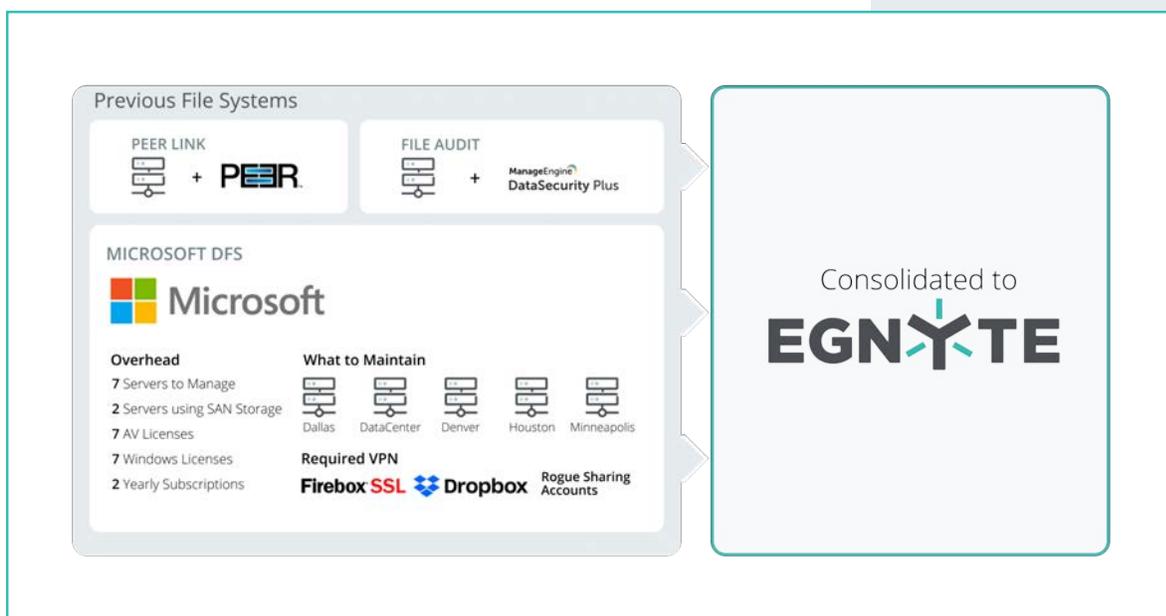
Egnyte has greatly simplified IT systems and improved security for H2I Group. It’s also made the IT team’s lives easier. They no longer have to support 100+ people on VPN and end users are happy they don’t need the VPN to access their files.

CHALLENGE

H2I Group needed to streamline and unify how data is shared and stored across the organization. The business was experiencing rising IT costs and increasing complexity resulting from maintaining a legacy infrastructure in multiple locations across the country and working with multiple service providers.

SOLUTION

H2I Group consolidated its systems including cloud backup and recovery software, file server auditing software, DFS, and VPN into a unified, turnkey content services solution in Egnyte. By decluttering its infrastructure, H2I simplified IT administration while achieving the scalability, user experience, and data controls needed to support bold growth plans.



Egnyte allows all of our offices and remote employees to work in tandem with each other for consistent, repeatable, and reliable data sharing.

—Elizabeth Novak | Director of Innovation & Business Applications

“Compared to the complex environment we had before Egnyte, we don’t have to be on the VPN to access files,” Elizabeth Novak, Director of Innovation & Business Applications, explained. “Our teams in the field can get content from ipads and phones, without going to computers. And we’ve added metadata so we know what jobs we have done with certain architects and what project managers have worked on what jobs. Everything is now easily searchable in Egnyte.”

The IT team no longer frets about whether there’s enough capacity or bandwidth to support project teams when accessing or sharing large files.

“There are so many additional advantages that have arisen from working with Egnyte as well,” says Betlach. “With Egnyte in play, our backup and recovery plan for our network files is built into the system without requiring 3rd parties or additional administrative procedures.”

To learn more about H2I Group, visit haldemanhomme.com.



EGNYTE

In a content critical age, Egnyte fuels business growth by enabling content-rich business processes, while also providing organizations with visibility and control over their content assets. Egnyte’s cloud-native content services platform leverages the industry’s leading content intelligence engine to deliver a simple, secure, and vendor-neutral foundation for managing enterprise content across business applications and storage repositories. More than 16,000 companies trust Egnyte to enhance employee productivity, automate data management, and reduce file-sharing cost and complexity. Investors include Google Ventures, Kleiner Perkins, Caufield & Byers, and Goldman Sachs. For more information, visit www.egnyte.com