



CASE STUDY

THE UNITED NATIONS

COMPANY

- The United Nations

INDUSTRY

- Government

CHALLENGES

- Extremely slow file transfer speeds
- Geographic dispersion slowed file transfer speeds further

PRODUCTS

- FileCatalyst Direct
- FileCatalyst HotFolder

RESULTS

- File transfers speeds were dramatically increased—up to 10 Gbps
- FileCatalyst HotFolder keeps data synced globally across every endpoint

“FileCatalyst Direct brought us up to speed regarding file transfers, allowing us to transfer files that once took hours in minutes.”

~ Jose Villegas, Collaboration Systems Administrator

PROFILE

The United Nations (UN), founded in 1945, is an international organization committed to maintaining international peace and security, developing friendly relations among nations, promoting social progress, better living standards, and human rights. The UN provides a forum for all 193 member states to discuss and take action on a wide range of current fundamental issues including sustainable development, disaster relief, expanding food production and more. With their work reaching every corner of the globe, efficient information sharing over vast geographical distances is an essential process when addressing global issues and striving to achieve goals for a safer world for this, and future, generations.

CHALLENGES

The UNIFEED department, the central hub of the UN’s information sharing, receives regular briefings from the field regarding ongoing missions. The updates are posted on the Department of Peacekeeping Operations website, as well as other publications. These updates come in the form of audio and video files, which are commonly large files, making them very hard to transfer via traditional methods. These assets were usually transferred via email, third-party sharing tools or different ad-hoc methods such as shipping physical storage mediums. Aside from extremely slow transfer speeds, these file transfer methods weren’t user-friendly and created potential security risks.

SOLUTION

To eliminate the slow transfers, the UN implemented FileCatalyst Direct to provide secure, reliable and accelerated transfers. FileCatalyst Direct is immune to packet loss and latency caused by poor network conditions, eliminating file transfer bottlenecks and quickly delivering files of any size or format to any location. The FileCatalyst Server software was deployed at the UN headquarters in New York, NY to serve as the central point of management for all accelerated file transfers. Finally, the FileCatalyst HotFolder client application was distributed globally to the machines of end users, enabling the UN to set scheduled transfers and allocate bandwidth as needed.

RESULTS

FileCatalyst’s deployment immediately addressed the UN’s transfer speed issues, while adding further reliability and security. “FileCatalyst Direct brought us up to speed regarding file transfers, allowing us to transfer files that once took hours, in minutes,” said Jose Villegas, the UN’s Collaboration Systems Administrator.

The FileCatalyst platform also helped save the UN time by establishing a simplified file transfer process for end users executing or scheduling file transfers. “Aside from the speed gains, we found FileCatalyst to be a much more reliable and resilient method of file delivery over an FTP application, which tends to disconnect on high latency or low bandwidth connections,” added Jose Villegas. “These improvements enable us to cover more up-to-date situational reports on the field because the turnaround time for ingesting reports, and their supporting materials, was drastically reduced.”