



## PARAGON

### > Industry

Legal/Real Estate

### > Client Information

Paragon is a real estate law and title company in Jacksonville, Florida.

### > Problem

Backups of its industry-based software were manually made to CD-ROMS daily, relying on one employee to make sure it was being done. Without a central contact-point, this environment was fast becoming a bottle-neck for its business. With two branch offices opening soon, it wanted to get its hardware configuration on track and ready for expansion.

### > Solution

2 Nitix-powered Net Integrator Mark II servers

### > Quote

"Our solution was to set-up VPN access from some of the Legal branch PCs to the Sales office. This allowed them to access the database and documents when needed, but keep the Sales office from viewing files on the Legal branch server," says Edmond Girardi from Sophisticated Logic Inc.



## Case Studies

### OVERVIEW

Paragon is a real estate law and title company in Jacksonville, Florida that experienced rapid growth forcing it to split into two branch offices: one to handle legal documents and one to handle real estate sales. Paragon wanted a solution that would allow effective internal communication between the two offices, while maintaining data security and integrity.

### CHALLENGES

Paragon's existing network was a piecemeal installation. The setup consisted of seven clone PCs running Windows® 2000 and a Windows 2000-based DHCP/domain controller. Its existing firewall and content filter were installed by its T1 provider and required a third-party to make changes to it.

The Windows 2000 domain controller was installed and active, but network logins were not enforced since each user logged onto their machines as the Administrator. Folders were being shared across all machines making it hard to organize and locate electronic files.

Paragon didn't have IT support staff, but had several people from different organizations and some employees with 'some computer knowledge' to make changes to its hardware configuration.

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### SOLUTION

After Edmond Girardi from Sophisticated Logic Inc. introduced them to the rock-solid

features of the Nitix-powered Net Integrator Mark II, Paragon was convinced that this was the route to take. "We especially liked the fact that the server was an all-in-one 'central' machine that could be supported and monitored remotely," says Paragon.

### Real Estate Sales Branch

A Nitix-powered Net Integrator Mark II was installed at Paragon's Real Estate Sales office. The solution immediately replaced Paragon's firewall and content filter installed by the T1 provider, removing one link of its hardware support chain.

Nitix's Intelligent Disk Backup (idb) backup technology eliminated the need for Paragon to manually conduct backups to a CD-ROM, and Paragon purchased a second idb cartridge for off-site backup storage. The Microsoft® SQL Server database housing its data was then configured to do idb backups to a folder on the Nitix-powered Net Integrator Mark II three times a day. This eliminated the need to rely on an employee for data integrity.

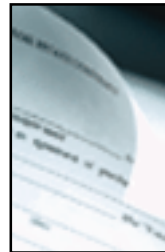
Email and web services were moved in house and hosted the Nitix-powered server. Nitix's built-in ExchangeIt! groupware was used to enable Paragon employees

to share calendars and contacts using their existing Microsoft Outlook® email client.

"We moved its website and email services to the Nitix-powered Net Integrator Mark II, saving it monthly hosting fees," says Girardi.

### Legal Branch

Paragon's Legal branch office had different concerns. Because of the sensitivity of the firm's data, data security and integrity were of paramount importance.





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A second, rack-mounted Nitix-powered Net Integrator Mark II was installed at this location and a secure Virtual Private Network (VPN) was set up between the offices. This allowed the Legal branch to access to the Microsoft SQL Server data and client application at Paragon's Real Estate Sales office, but, due to the sensitivity of legal documents, the Sales office could not see anything on the Legal office's server.

"Our solution was to set-up VPN access from some of the Legal branch PCs to the Sales office. This allowed them to access the database and documents when needed, but keep the Sales office from viewing files on the Legal branch server," says Girardi.

A Windows XP Pro-based application server was installed to run Paragon's industry software, legal document template and management software called Pro Docs. The XP Pro application server was configured to do idb backups to the Nitix-powered Net Integrator Mark II at this location as well.

### CONCLUSION

Both offices are taking full advantage of all the services the Nitix-powered Net Integrator Mark II has to offer.

Overall, 99% of Paragon's former network and support issues were eliminated with the installation of the Nitix-powered Net Integrator Mark II servers. The two offices can now easily access shared files and communicate effectively while the Legal office is able to retain data security and integrity of its sensitive legal documents.

"We were able to be 'Star Performers' compared to Paragon's previous tech support companies. The confidence Paragon has in us, via the Nitix-powered Net Integrator installation and fewer support issues, gives us more opportunities to work with them in the future," says Girardi.