



Governed, auditable file services built for a global intellectual property practice.

LEG-01 • LEGAL

Global IP law firm secures matter data and **cuts restores to minutes**

Z7 Solutions™ moved a global IP law firm off aging file servers, DFS shares and inconsistent backups to FileCloud and Commvault Metallic with DLP and immutable backups. Clean room restores now take minutes, not hours.

CLIENT

Global intellectual property law firm
Legal

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01

At a glance

PROFILE	DETAIL
CLIENT	Global intellectual property law firm
SECTOR	Legal
ENGAGEMENT	Data protection and secure collaboration modernization
SERVICES	Data protection modernization • Data loss prevention (DLP) • Secure collaboration • Backup and recovery

THE CLIENT

A global intellectual property law firm, name withheld, that manages patent, trademark, licensing, technology and IP portfolios for clients around the world. Those clients require strong controls around confidentiality, matter access and evidence handling. The firm's environment must support cross-border collaboration while preserving matter integrity and providing clear audit trails for every action taken on client data. Before the engagement it relied on aging Windows file servers, DFS shares and inconsistent backup tools.

HEADLINE RESULTS

Zero

Reported incidents of unauthorized data leakage since deployment

Minutes

Clean room restore time, down from hours

Quarterly

Recovery tests, documented for client audits

1

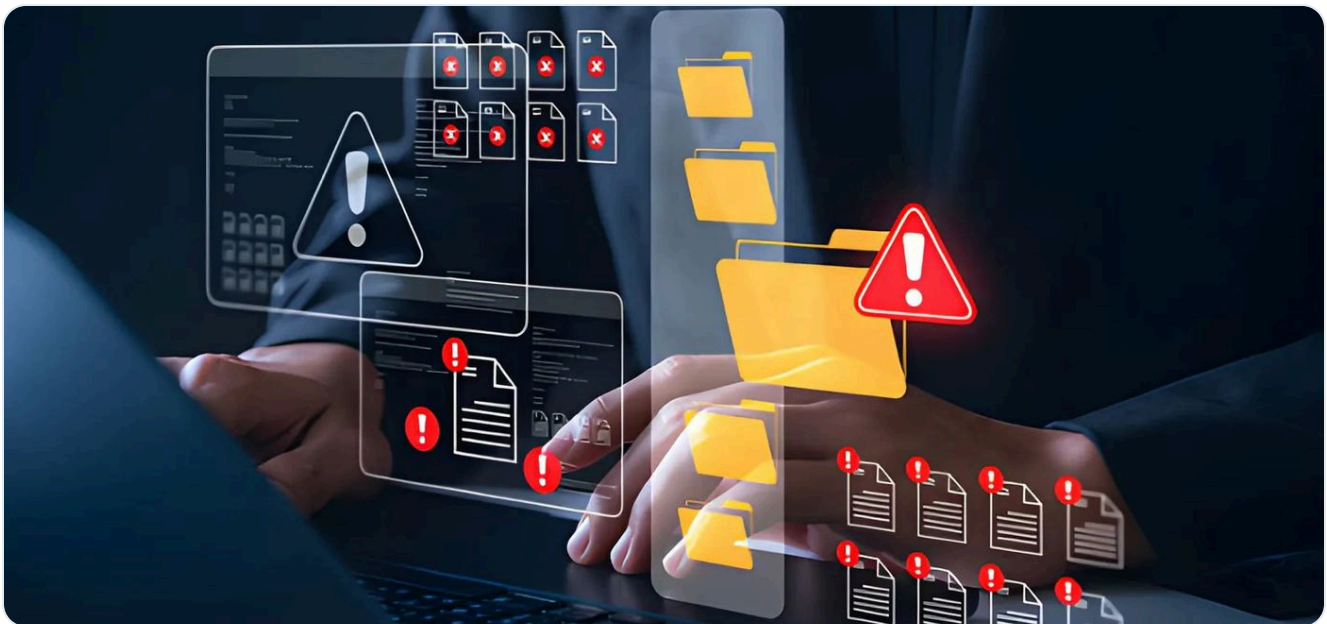
Backup platform in place of a patchwork of tools

02

The challenge

The firm's file and backup environment had reached the point where incremental fixes could no longer keep client data confidential, recoverable and auditable.

- Matter files were scattered across Windows file servers, DFS namespaces and local silos, so access controls and retention rules were inconsistent and hard to enforce.
- Legacy Veeam backups were not consistently deployed across systems, and there was no immutable or air-gapped copy of critical data, which raised ransomware risk and prolonged outages after an incident.
- Corporate clients began sending detailed security questionnaires that demanded proof of strong encryption, auditable access controls and tested recovery, and the fragmented environment made that evidence hard to produce.
- External collaboration depended heavily on email attachments and personal cloud tools that were difficult to control and audit.
- IT staff spent large amounts of time on routine restores, DFS permission fixes and remote user support, so modernization projects lagged behind.



Scattered matter files and fragile backups left confidential data hard to control and recover.

03

What we did

01 Assess the environment and design

Z7 began with a structured assessment of storage and DFS usage, backup coverage and retention, access models for matters and practice groups, client security requirements, and internal document workflows. The result was a future state design with FileCloud as the matter-centric collaboration layer and Commvault Metallic as the unified data protection platform.

02 Rebuild file services around matters

Z7 deployed FileCloud as the primary secure collaboration and file services platform and redesigned the folder hierarchy around matters and practice needs. Permissions and inheritance now follow legal confidentiality requirements and partner policies, so attorneys, paralegals and staff work from a single source of truth for each matter.

03 Enforce DLP and ethical walls

FileCloud policies control download, print, copy and external sharing at the document level, block unapproved sharing in real time and expire shared links automatically.

Ethical walls tied to matter team membership, multi-factor authentication, identity-based access and full chain of custody recording complete the governance layer.



A matter-centric FileCloud folder hierarchy with permissions tied to roles and matter assignments.

03

What we did, continued

04 Move external sharing to secure portals

Encrypted, governed portals replaced email attachments and personal cloud tools. Co-counsel, foreign associates, clients and experts receive time-bound, auditable access to only the materials they need, and attorneys work from web and mobile without moving client data onto unmanaged devices.

05 Deploy immutable Metallic backups

Commvault Metallic now produces backup copies that cannot be altered or deleted, even by administrators, logically isolated from production and protected by separate encryption keys. One platform covers FileCloud repositories, virtual machines and server infrastructure, Microsoft 365 workloads, and SAN storage used by legal applications.

06 Test and document recovery quarterly

Z7 built quarterly recovery tests into the program. Recovery runbooks and test results are documented to directly support client audits and outside counsel guideline responses.



Result: immutable, logically isolated Metallic backups with recovery tested every quarter.

Results

The firm now runs on a zero-trust aligned platform that protects client confidentiality, recovers quickly and produces the evidence corporate clients ask for.

Zero

Reported incidents of unauthorized data leakage since deployment

Minutes

Clean room restore time, down from hours

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Recovery tests, documented for client audits

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Backup platform in place of a patchwork of tools

- End-to-end encryption covers data at rest and in transit, DLP policies stop unapproved sharing, and every file action is recorded in a complete audit trail, with zero reported incidents of unauthorized data leakage since deployment.
- Clean room restores that previously took hours now finish in minutes, and immutable backups exist for every critical system.
- The multi-tier backup architecture is aligned with NIST and CMMC guidance, and the recovery posture is documented for rigorous client security audits.
- Scattered file shares are consolidated into one governed structure, and manual restores and DFS permission fixes have dropped significantly, freeing IT to focus on modernization and attorney support.
- The firm meets or exceeds typical corporate counsel security requirements for encryption, access control and recovery, and can demonstrate chain of custody for matter data at a granular level.
- The firm is better positioned in RFPs and client onboarding evaluations where security posture and data handling practices influence selection.

05

Technology

FileCloud

Commvault Metallic

Microsoft 365

SAN storage

Windows file servers (legacy)

DFS namespaces (legacy)

Veeam (legacy backups)

06 • NEXT STEP

Put the same team on your environment

Tell us what you are running and what has to change. The engineers behind this work will map the first steps with you.

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