

AECOM Protects Complex Salesforce Environments and Accelerates Development with OwnBackup

“
OwnBackup provides us with the ability to know what we’re backing up and ensure it remains available. In the event of a small or large disaster, we know we can find specific information from our huge database and get it back in a fast, reliable way.”



Jake White
IT Project Manager
AECOM

AECOM OVERVIEW

AECOM designs, builds, finances, and operates infrastructure assets for governments, businesses, and organizations. As a fully integrated infrastructure firm, AECOM connects knowledge and experience across their global network of experts to help clients solve their most complex challenges. With \$20 billion in annual revenue, and 87,000 employees, AECOM provides projects and services across the world.

Delivering clean water and energy. Building iconic skyscrapers. Planning new cities. Restoring damaged environments. Connecting people and economies with roads, bridges, tunnels and transit systems. Designing parks where children play. Helping governments maintain stability and security.

AECOM connects expertise across services, markets, and geographies to deliver transformative outcomes. Worldwide, AECOM designs, builds, finance, operates, and manages projects and programs that unlock opportunities, protect our environment, and improve people’s lives.

CUSTOMER | AECOM

- 1 Industry: Civil Engineering
- 2 Location: Los Angeles, CA
- 3 Founded: 1990
- 4 Salesforce Users: 70,000

AECOM Stores Business-Critical Data on Salesforce

AECOM's usage of Salesforce has grown over the years to support both department and enterprise applications. AECOM stores millions of operational and sales records, including, but not limited to tens of thousands of projects, opportunities, accounts, project plans, contacts, project results, and employees. The complexity of AECOM's Salesforce environments Includes:

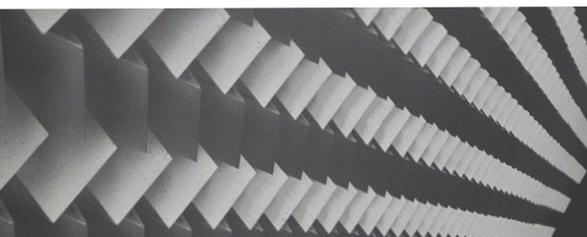
- 1) Custom Applications and Data** - Project administration and cost data, financial data, CRM data, etc.
- 2) Multiple Integrations** - ERP, custom applications, HR system, etc.
- 3) Huge Data Volumes** - Thousands of projects that consist of millions of records, as well as pages of objects with pages of fields.
- 4) Complex Data Structure** - Five-layer relationships, relational dimensions, and a long & wide structure.

Given the increasing complexity, AECOM had opportunities with both their production and sandbox environments.

AECOM Experienced a Time-Consuming Backup Process with the Weekly Export

Every week, AECOM was using the Salesforce Weekly Export to export .CSV files and metadata to back up their Salesforce environments. This process was time consuming and not scalable as their Salesforce usage and data grew. After noticing the extremity of what could happen in the event of a user-inflicted data loss or corruption, AECOM decided to seek out a more reliable Salesforce data protection and management solution.

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AECOM's Manual Sandbox Seeding Process Was Slow and Time-Consuming

With multiple full sandboxes, including those which were used for applications critical for project delivery and financials, AECOM was experiencing development project obstacles. Sandbox seeding while maintaining complex data relationships was also a challenge for AECOM. Because of this their development team relied heavily on full sandboxes, which slowed down their development cycles. They needed a solution that would empower them to seed multiple developer sandboxes with clean datasets in a timely fashion.

AECOM leveraged multiple processes and tools to get a handle on their Salesforce environment. OwnBackup was a key solution in this process.

“OwnBackup Sandbox Seeding is extremely helpful for seeding development sandboxes. This product has enabled us to get more agile with our development program. We can now take a slice of our data, ensure all of the relationships are maintained, and put it into a sandbox that a developer can work on without impacting other parts of a project.”

- Jake White, AECOM

OwnBackup Minimizes Data Loss and Corruption Risk

OwnBackup protects AECOM against user-inflicted data loss and corruption that can occur during large-scale initiatives. With OwnBackup, AECOM is now able to back up data and metadata daily, rather than weekly, allowing them to maintain a faster recovery point objective (RPO). AECOM monitors data and metadata modifications using OwnBackup Smart Alerts, which notify them of any changes to their Salesforce objects. If something were to go wrong, OwnBackup Restore provides a way to granularly recover lost or corrupted data, metadata, and attachments, while maintaining circular relationships. OwnBackup enabled AECOM to implement data recovery management as a practice.

Beyond backup and recovery, AECOM leverages OwnBackup Compare and Visual Graphs for advanced data investigation. For example, OwnBackup is used to understand what happened with their data from a specific environment between a specific date range.



AECOM Maintained Business Continuity During a Service Disruption with OwnBackup

On May 17, 2019, AECOM was notified by OwnBackup Smart Alerts of a profile and permission sets metadata change within their Salesforce platform. AECOM was affected by permissions exposure as well as the service disruption. OwnBackup support worked with AECOM throughout the weekend to help them access their environment and recover their profiles and permission sets. With OwnBackup, AECOM was able to identify, verify, and recover changed permission sets, and stay a step ahead during the disruption.

OwnBackup's R&D team quickly released an update to their data and metadata restore capability, incorporating several enhancements to help their clients streamline the restore process. The release included manually editing the XML before initiating a restore job, warning alerts to help identify problematic profiles that might prevent an accurate restore, and auto-exclude for the restoration of permissions sets for managed packages to prevent restores from failing.

AECOM now leverages OwnBackup, an independent web application, to access their data outside of Salesforce in the event a service disruption.

AECOM Enables Faster Innovation with OwnBackup Sandbox Seeding

AECOM now has the ability to replicate data to various sandboxes with real-time test data for more accurate development and production success. Since partnering with OwnBackup, they've gained additional agility in their development and environment management. Instead of having to work in a limited number of development environments, AECOM's development team can take complex or risky features and push them into a developer sandbox, test them independently, and integrate them back into a full sandbox.

ABOUT OWNBACKUP

OwnBackup, a leading cloud-to-cloud backup and restore vendor, provides secure, automated, daily backups of SaaS and PaaS data, as well as sophisticated data compare and restore tools for disaster recovery. OwnBackup covers data loss and corruption caused by human errors, malicious intent, integration errors and rogue applications. Co-founded by seasoned data-recovery, data-protection and information-security experts, OwnBackup is a top backup and restore ISV on the Salesforce AppExchange and was selected as a Gartner 2015 "Cool Vendor" in Business Continuity and IT Disaster Recovery. For more information, visit <http://www.ownbackup.com>.