

Berry Global: a “Game Changer” in Packaging Innovation & Sustainability and in IT Management with baramundi Unified Endpoint Management



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Berry Global is a Fortune 500 manufacturer of protective packaging solutions for hundreds of products that consumers and businesses worldwide use every day. With fiscal year 2018 sales of more than \$13 billion, the Evansville, IN-based company is known for its broad range of rigid, flexible, and non-woven products for the food and beverage, pharmaceuticals, healthcare, personal care and hygiene, industrial, transportation, and agriculture markets.

Berry Global also is respected for “Always Advancing to Protect What’s Important” to its customers and the environment. The company is a signatory on the New Plastics Economy Global Commitment, an initiative led by the Ellen MacArthur Foundation in collaboration with UN Environment. That support complements Berry Global’s participation in the Alliance to End Plastic Waste and its own “Impact 2025” sustainability strategy that includes innovating recyclable, biodegradable, and less-energy-intensive plastics.

Meeting the needs of its diverse customer base are more than 48,000 employees at over 290 locations on six continents. The company’s global IT organization of about 200 employees includes about 150 IMS staff in the US handling network infrastructure, help desk, cybersecurity, communication and collaboration, as well as ERP. The company’s installed base of 13,000 clients and servers and consists of mostly Lenovo PCs running Windows and a variety of applications, plus a lesser number of Dell, HP and Apple computers.



Growing Needs for a Growing Business

IMS Security Analyst and 18-year company IT veteran Brian Tweddell said the company was reaching the limits of its previous endpoint management system as the network expanded through organic growth and acquisitions. The need to renew the system’s licensing and a planned Windows 10 upgrade prompted a fresh look at more capable solutions.

“Deploying upgrades and bug fixes was difficult, time-consuming and sluggish, and it always took several weeks to iron out any bugs. We needed a better solution,” he said.

As part of the evaluation process, Berry Global enlisted Evansville-based Keller Schroeder, a regional IT consulting services firm highly regarded for its expertise in bringing the right technology partners and solutions to meet a client’s performance improvement goals.

“I was excited to introduce baramundi to their IT team,” said Keller Schroeder Select Account Manager Jason Smith. “I believe baramundi is a game-changer among unified endpoint management solutions. Our clients like the fact that they can create tasks to manage Windows and deploy software with a consistent, methodical and intuitive interface.”

The IMS team considered a number of vendors during a thorough evaluation and the modular baramundi Management Suite (bMS) emerged as the best solution.

“Berry Global chose us after an extensive proof of concept,” said David Sterz, the senior baramundi consultant supporting Berry Global through the POC. “It clearly showed how baramundi would enable them to manage thousands of endpoints worldwide in real-

time. That is a key deciding factor for every customer no matter the size or complexity of their environment."

The test installation took place in June 2018. Tweddell noted how quickly and easily they deployed and were able to use bMS across the network. "Day one of the POC we had it up and running," he said.

Tweddell cited the system's automation of software deployment and other tasks, real-time display of endpoint data, and the use of a single agent for all bMS modules. "baramundi Management Suite is so efficient and easy to use that we have actually found ourselves adding jobs and completing tasks that we couldn't otherwise," he said.

"Honestly, we were a bit concerned at first with baramundi being a German company and that there could be some issues with translations. But that has not been the experience at all," Tweddell said. "We are very pleased with baramundi. On top of that the support team was professional, prompt and quick to respond."

A Seamless Windows 10 Upgrade Rollout

The first major project using bMS was the in-place upgrade from older versions of Windows 10 to newer releases. That can be a fraught and tedious process with multiple endpoint configurations requiring careful planning to minimize downtime and preserve users' personal files and settings.

"It was a seamless process," Tweddell said. "Just upload the correct customized ISOs as needed for different configurations and schedule the job. Users retained their data and were able to work during the process since it was running in the background. Most users just thought it was a normal update except for the time Microsoft takes to actually apply the update on the reboot."


Changing the Game for IT Management


baramundi has been a great fit for a company dedicated to being an innovation and change leader making packaging solutions more efficient, easier to use, and sustainable for all stakeholders. "baramundi is a game-changer in client management solutions," Tweddell said. "We can confidently recommend the baramundi Management Suite."


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