

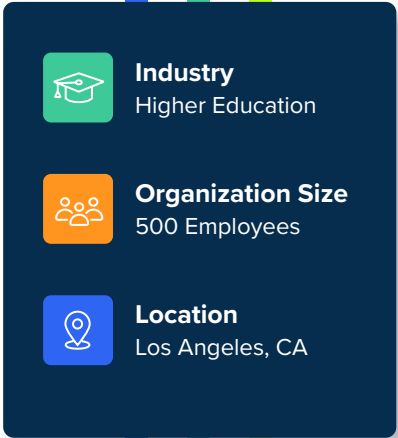
Case Study

Protect Your Data From Natural Disasters **Without Compromising Physical Safety**




Leverage Continuous Offsite Backup
for uninterrupted protection.

Background

The University of California Los Angeles' (UCLA) Anderson School of Management has stood in the Westwood neighborhood of the city since its founding as the "School of Management at UCLA" in 1935. With faculty spread across greater LA, the wildfires that devastated the nearby communities of Malibu and Pacific Palisades in January of 2025 were bound to have an impact. While the institution could do little to physically protect faculty or their homes, backup software installed on their laptops made it possible to recover vital information in the aftermath. By planning in the past, the IT team at the Anderson School had been able to deliver on its axiom to "Think of the next."



An infographic card with a dark blue background and white text. It features three icons: a graduation cap for 'Industry', a group of people for 'Organization Size', and a location pin for 'Location'. The card is flanked by three vertical bars in blue, green, and yellow.

	Industry Higher Education
	Organization Size 500 Employees
	Location Los Angeles, CA

Key Challenges

With 14 wildfires encroaching on the city in early 2025, typical "save data to an external hard drive" solutions to backup would have proved futile.

When we talked with Howard Miller, UCLA Anderson School's CIO, about the situation, he provided a specific anecdote. "I have one particular faculty member. He's now in his 80s. He lived in a house in Malibu on Pacific Coast Highway. His house burned. He barely had time to get out. They basically just left and didn't take anything (including laptops) with them."

When the choice is between protecting physical safety and protecting the safety of data, the choice is clear: evacuate and figure it out later. Luckily for Howard's user and their data, the physical device where it was stored was backed up.



Solution

Following the fire, Howard reached out to his faculty member to find out how he could help. “I just hope you can get my data,” was the response. And, because CrashPlan’s continuous offsite backup was installed on the professor’s machine, “within a week to 10 days after we got our hands on a new computer, we were able to get his data back,” recounted Howard.



Key Use Case



Disaster Recovery

In this situation (rapidly changing fire conditions), the decision between “do I leave now” and “do I try to collect my device” can be the difference between escaping harm and calamity. For that reason, being able to rely on the fact that a disaster will not impact your precious data can be a matter of physical safety. The best way to do that is by using an automated, continuous, off-site backup solution like CrashPlan.

CrashPlan completely backs up your data to the cloud once every fifteen minutes. That means that no matter what happens to your laptop (flood, fire, tornado, or simple hardware failure), you will be rapidly reunited with your data. By leveraging CrashPlan for data protection, you are freeing yourself and/or your users up to focus on what really matters, regardless of what chaos is thrown your way.



Conclusion

Having a strong solution for offsite data protection is a must. Whether it's financial records, cancer research, or 'just' pictures of your kids, the added safety of knowing data is regularly and securely protected from hardware failure and site disaster is indispensable. By securely backing up all types of faculty and staff data to the cloud every fifteen minutes, CrashPlan enables everyone to breathe a sigh of relief.

"I've been working in IT for 37 years at this point. And I don't know that there's been any one more validating moment for me as an IT leader to know that a piece of software that I purchased had such an impact on a person's life."

Howard Miller, CIO, UCLA Anderson School



CrashPlan provides cyber-ready data resilience and governance in a single platform for organizations whose ideas power their revenue. Trusted by businesses of all sizes worldwide, CrashPlan's comprehensive backup and recovery solutions ensure the safety and compliance of data without disruption, anywhere at any time.

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