



# CHARLES RIVER LABS CASE STUDY

## SUMMARY

With a goal of optimizing the overall efficiency of their IT infrastructure and reducing costs, Charles River Labs (CRL) set out to consolidate data centers by closing a large remote location and bringing all infrastructure back to corporate headquarters. Daymark architected and implemented a consolidation plan that included migrating their disaster recovery (DR) site to a private cloud. This approach saved the life sciences company more than \$15 million over three years.

## CUSTOMER OVERVIEW

Charles River Labs specializes in a variety of essential pre-clinical and clinical laboratory products and services that help pharmaceutical and biotechnology companies, government agencies and leading academic institutions around the globe accelerate their research and drug development efforts. The company operates 80 facilities in 23 countries and employees over 13,000 people worldwide.

## ASSESSING THE CLIENT ENVIRONMENT

The cost to support multiple data centers had continued to escalate and CRL's storage infrastructure was ready for an upgrade as the existing environment was due for a costly maintenance renewal. Furthermore, CRL was committed to migrating some of its infrastructure, including their entire DR site, to the cloud for scalability and cost efficiencies,

## CLIENT VALUE

Daymark technical consultants executed a thorough assessment of the infrastructure and presented a detailed architecture document that outlined all design phases. Daymark's professional services team redesigned CRL's virtualization and tiered storage architecture to provide a solid, secure and stable platform for their private cloud. This consolidation effort also entailed creating a private cloud infrastructure that would leverage CRL's

## KEY BENEFITS

- Saved \$15 million in operational costs
- Optimized overall data center efficiency
- Dramatically improved performance through strategic use of flash
- Leveraged existing investments in VMware vCloud Suite
- Enhanced DR readiness and efficiency with secure private cloud
- Delivered detailed documentation and knowledge transfer to CRL IT staff





investment in VMware vCloud Suite and re-architect their DR strategy.

Due to Daymark’s deep expertise, the tiered storage solution included a combination of technology to meet the business initiatives while maximizing the functionality of each device. For example, 28TB of all-flash storage was paired with a highly available Big Data solution to provide proper tiers of performance and cost effective storage. Network and load balancers were added to create a network optimized solution further enabling deployment of cloud-based DR resources.

### RESULTS

The data consolidation saved CRL more than \$15 million in operational costs over three years. In addition, the tiered storage architecture, with its strategic use of flash, dramatically improved performance. As a result, CRL’s entire DR infrastructure is now secured in the cloud using hypervisor-based replication.

Daymark and Charles River Labs have had a long partnership in designing, deploying and optimizing data centers. Daymark understands the strict industry regulations CRL must comply with, and continues to test, deploy and validate new components to ensure compliance. Daymark also provides CRL with detailed end-state documentation - complete with support and operational procedures so that the CRL IT team has all of the tools, resources and technical knowledge to manage their new infrastructure efficiently and effectively.



### THE DAYMARK DIFFERENCE

We take the complexity out of your IT infrastructure. Daymark architects and implements data center infrastructure, data protection, virtualization, managed services and cloud services for businesses throughout New England. We provide deep technical knowledge, extensive experience and proven methodologies that help our clients make strategic decisions, streamline the acquisition process and successfully implement cost-effective data management infrastructure solutions.

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