

**Case Study**

# State's IT Department Restores Active Directory in Minutes with Patented Instant Forest Recovery

After a traditional backup and recovery tool failed during a real outage, Cayosoft delivered a successful AD restore in minutes



# Patented standby instant forest recovery restores AD in minutes instead of days

Ransomware and other factors have led to a 172% increase in Active Directory (AD) outages in the past two years, according to a recent survey. Active Directory is used by roughly 90% of organizations globally. 94% of those who suffered a ransomware attack take hours or days to recover their AD, leading to crushing costs from the impact on employees who cannot work, suppliers & partners who cannot collaborate, and customers who cannot buy. Active Directory is often one of the first systems needed back online because all (or most) other systems rely on it. Delays in AD forest recovery have negative ripple effects throughout the organization.

## The Challenge

A US state's IT Department was in year two of a three-year subscription with backup vendor Semperis. According to the project leader, the organization struggled significantly with the solution's implementation and their backup process.

When the organization had an AD outage that made many key systems inaccessible, their recovery quickly became overwhelming.

Despite spending ~8 hours troubleshooting with Semperis support, the organization reported it was unable to recover it with Semperis.

## The Solution

The customer expressed concerns about the limitations of the Semperis platform, and so the IT department was evaluating Semperis alternatives prior to their critical AD outage. They were actually evaluating Cayosoft's modern architecture when the outage occurred. Working with Cayosoft support, the organization was able to restore AD within a few minutes.

### Customer Profile

- Provides IT Services to 65+ state agencies
- Established in 2015
- Goal: Find the fastest and most reliable AD recovery solution

### Challenge

- Deployment was difficult from the beginning
- Initiating backups did not go smoothly
- Semperis' recovery speed didn't meet the organization's needs
- As the outage persisted, the organization faced the potential for significant financial losses

### Results

- Cayosoft recovered AD in minutes
- Terminated Semperis contract to buy Instant Forest Recovery from Cayosoft
- Confidence to recover AD at any time for any reason with minimal business disruption

The key was utilizing Cayosoft Guardian Instant Forest Recovery™. It is the only AD recovery solution trusted to work every time. It offers the industry-only patented instant standby in a secure environment ready to go in minutes when your AD is down.

## The Result

Despite being a two-year customer of Semperis, the organization was unable to restore its Active Directory after a full day of working with Semperis support. Cayosoft restored the Active Directory in under 30 minutes

**The IT department was so impressed with Cayosoft's solution that they canceled a 3-year contract with Semperis and switched to Cayosoft Guardian Forest Recovery.**

After deploying Cayosoft, the IT department now feels confident that if a disaster, cyberattack, or major accident happens, they can quickly recover within minutes.

## Key Features & Benefits

- ✓ The only Instant Standby Forest Recovery solution
- ✓ All-in-one architecture for all key recovery scenarios
- ✓ Easy to test, configure, & maintain
- ✓ Eliminate potential failed AD forest recoveries
- ✓ Instantly rollback unwanted directory data changes
- ✓ Minimize the complexity & costs of forest recovery
- ✓ Quickly detect risks & indicators of attack with continuous threat protection

*"Ease of use, reliability and speed of recovery performance were our key drivers, with performance tied to our ability to automatically bring back the AD forest in the cloud."*

**NCDIT Agency Chief Information  
Security Officer**

## About Cayosoft

Cayosoft delivers the only unified solution enabling organizations to securely manage, continuously monitor for threats or suspect changes, and instantly recover their Microsoft platforms, including on-premises Active Directory, hybrid AD, Entra ID (Azure AD), Microsoft 365, Intune, and more.

To learn more, visit [cayosoft.com](https://cayosoft.com)

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