NEWS RELEASE

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D+S Distribution Leverages IT Resources to Benefit Customers
Data Replication and Cyber Security Top Priorities

WOOSTER--Today's customers expect advanced, adaptable solutions. It is not enough to be just the lowest cost provider. Technology is the key to more efficient and flexible operations. Operations teams are more reliant on systems than ever before. To that end, D+S Distribution continues to expand and energize its IT campaign in the areas of network up-time, server replication and data connectivity.

"Our company leverages IT resources to benefit the client," said Kevin Trent, Vice President of D+S Distribution. "The advantage we offer is our department is more focused and nimble allowing us to respond to the customer's business needs. Our IT integration links provide consistency and strong data integrity as we move data between D+S and our clients' systems."

While most IT processing and functioning is not front and center, D+S takes a very serious and strategic approach to ensure the proper infrastructure is in place to service clients according to Mick Bolon, Vice President, Operations at D+S Distribution. "Data replication and network security are top priorities for the IT team," said Bolon.

Data replication utilizes an active replication process which writes the data to two locations. The location's data is then replicated at a remote site as part of the disaster recovery plan. This procedure ensures customers and operations never lose data. Loss of vital business data can cripple a company. Protecting essential data has never been more important. With D+S data replication technologies, the duplication of valuable business data from one highly available storage location to another occurs in real time.

The D+S network is strong with replicated systems and redundancy in connectivity and infrastructure according to John Lucas, Information Technology Manager at D+S Distribution. "D+S maintains two data centers and a Wide Area Network (WAN) consisting of servers,

workstations and various devices to ensure the integrity of our data systems," said Lucas. "Everything is utilized to better communicate and integrate with our customers. The communication can be as simple as an email or as complex as data integration to multiple systems."

Because Internet access exposes today's companies to a wide variety of threats, cyber security is also a top priority at D+S Distribution. "Our system employs a strong network protection mechanism against cyber threats," added Lucas.

Network uptime is also critical in servicing customers according to Lucas. The D+S infrastructure provides 100 percent uptime during a 12-hour period Monday through Saturday and an automatic fail-over and fail-back to and from a secondary server. A system of IT ticketing streamlines to a Help Desk to expedite IT related issues and solutions.

"We are very pleased with the capability and depth of the IT team which allows us to impact customers in a positive way," said Jon Ansel, President of D+S Distribution. "The IT team differentiates us from the competition and helps us strategically align with our customer's business plans."

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