



## Time Machine® Solutions for HP/UX

### ABOUT ACORN TECHNOLOGY, INC.

Acorn Technology, Inc. evaluates and implements critical personalization applications for clients within the financial transaction and healthcare service sectors.

### ACORN TECHNOLOGY'S CHALLENGE

At the onset of a project with a major pharmaceutical client, Acorn's QA team faced a number of issues regarding testing dates on their HP/UX system. First, they were charged with testing multiple scenarios by various QA engineers without having to purchase additional hardware. Secondly, Acorn needed to batch up test runs so that test scenarios could run during off-peak hours when computing resources were available. And finally, Acorn had to use the testing tool immediately in the life cycle of the project. This would enable developers as well as QA engineers to be more productive and lower the training costs surrounding yet another learning curve.

### THE TIME MACHINE SOLUTION

Time Machine's versatility makes it useful for "what-if" scenarios to evaluate and test time-programmed events and activities such as end-of-month or quarterly reports. Users simply login using the correct time, then the server processes are selected to run under different user-specified time settings. As a result, new software is easily tested for date and time verification and "triggering."

Prior to selecting Time Machine, Acorn's project team had considered building a PERL-based tool with only 60% of Time Machine's functionality. And unfortunately, with maintenance and resource constraints, Acorn needed an immediate solution.

Joel Kosmich, QA Practice Director at Acorn Technology said, "Once we determined its capabilities and installed Time Machine, it was being used in the QA cycle the very next day and received positive feedback from team members. Time Machine saved us 2-4 months of effort as well as \$92,000 in overall domain costs for this particular project. I look forward to using Time Machine for any of our future projects that have tight deadlines regarding time manipulations."