

# **Case Study**

laaS for Small Business



## **About Dufour Tax Group**

<u>Dufour Tax Group, LLC</u> specializes in providing comprehensive and strategic tax planning and compliance services to individuals and businesses across the globe. With a broad and deep set of in-house skills, they have the flexibility to work with a multitude of clients from startups to multimillion dollar enterprise-level companies. Based in Portland, Maine, Dufour Tax Group has been in business since January 1, 2015.

## **Technology Challenges**

When Peter and Kelly Dufour and Walker Matthews decided to open their own Certified Public Accounting firm in late December of 2014, they knew they had very little time to pull everything together before the start of the 2015 tax season. Their mission was to provide high-level boutique tax and accounting services to businesses and individuals worldwide. To do that with the 400+ clients that were transitioning to the new firm, they had to get their doors open and operational as swiftly and efficiently as possible. They had the downtown location, employees, and clients, but they did not have the necessary IT infrastructure to provide the high level of service that their clientele expected.

#### **SE Solution**

With no basic technology in place, and four weeks until they hoped to start filing tax returns, Peter needed IT assistance as quickly as possible. Having heard of <u>Systems Engineering</u>'s (SE) reputation for successfully implementing and maintaining secure and streamlined IT networks, he called to inquire about how quickly they could get Dufour Tax Group operational from an IT perspective.

"Initially, we thought we might be too small of a business for Systems Engineering," said Peter, "but, we quickly learned that wasn't the case. They treated us as though we were their only client throughout the whole process and we were up and running within three weeks."



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### The Results

SE played a key role in getting Dufour Tax Group operational by working hand-in-hand to design and implement a secure, <u>sophisticated IT network</u>, <u>data storage and recovery</u>, remote <u>SE Network Admin</u>, and <u>SE Help Desk</u>. This allowed them to offer the full suite of accounting services to their clients for the upcoming tax season.

"We know that if anything happens, Systems Engineering will have us back up and running quickly. They regularly check in with us to ensure our system is running smoothly and to see if there is anything we need," explained Kelly.

After <u>Dufour Tax Group successfully accomplished their first tax season</u>, Chad DeVogt, SE's representative working with Dufour, met with the team to ensure that they were satisfied with their system setup and how their IT operated.

"They made sure we were comfortable with how things would work going forward," explained Peter.

"That meant a lot to us since it underscored the fact that they see us as more than just another client they truly care about our success. Systems Engineering is, and will continue to be, a critical part of
our team."

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