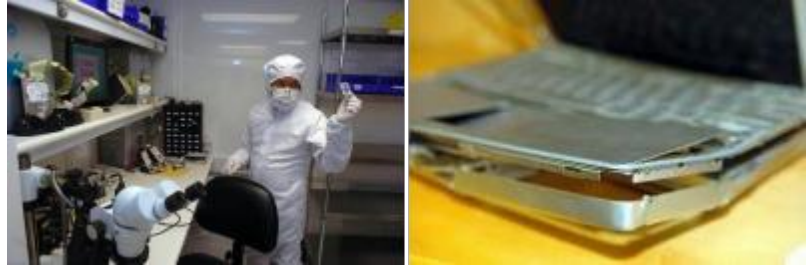


# Novato data recovery service cleanroom now even more clean

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Novato's DriveSavers is recovering data from damaged computers in a newly built cleanroom that prevents even the slightest trace of contaminants, magnetic fields and excessive air particles from harming vulnerable components.

The 2,000-square-foot temperature- and humidity-controlled cleanroom has staging areas that are a step closer to a dust-free environment. DriveSavers officials say the \$2 million room is the most advanced and largest cleanroom dedicated to data recovery.

"With a cleanroom of this caliber and size, our engineers, who are the best in the industry, have the facility and tools to take data recovery to a whole new level," said Scott Gaidano, president of DriveSavers. "As hard drive manufacturers continue to push the limits of data storage capacities, DriveSavers continues to keep pace by adopting the latest data recovery technology, procedures and software tools."

Workers in the cleanroom are covered from head-to-toe in uniforms designed to minimize dust and prevent skin and hair particles from entering the environment.

"By the time you're in here, you're absolutely pristine," said Ed Sit, cleanroom manager. "It's all about air flow - there are 10 tons of air conditioning on the room because the computers give off heat and you want to remain as cool as possible."

The cleanroom makes it possible for DriveSavers to retrieve data more successfully because any exposure to dust or static can harm delicate components. Data can be recovered from hard-drive computers to iPhones.

Sit said the new cleanroom was two years in the making and involved acquiring the space at company headquarters at 400 Bel Marin Keys Blvd., gutting the third-floor room and starting with a clean slate.

CleanAir Solutions Inc. in Fairfield designed and built the system, which principal Kathie Kalafatis said was a challenging job - particularly because it is on the third floor of the building. Most cleanrooms are on the ground floor and would not require the kind of structural reinforcement the DriveSavers site needed.

"We do a lot of cleanrooms but not many in their application," Kalafatis said. "Most people in data recovery just have sheltered work stations instead of a full-scale cleanroom."

Gaidano said the new cleanroom was built to meet future needs as the company grows.

"With the new technology coming out that we now have, we need new, higher standards," Gaidano said.