DESIGN SCALABLE, FLEXIBLE DATA BACKUP AND RECOVERY SYSTEMS

How to Futureproof Your Backup and Recovery Strategy

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INTRODUCTION

Traditional backup and recovery methods are falling short of meeting the demands of modern enterprises. Cloud adoption is rapidly increasing—as many as 78% of organizations say they've adopted the cloud throughout[1]—and infrastructures have grown increasingly complex.

Data now resides in various spheres: in the cloud, at the core, at the edge, and elsewhere. With 90% of organizations harnessing the cloud in their data protection efforts[2], corganizations need a more flexible approach to data backup and recovery.

To futureproof data protection, you need to eliminate silos and disparate solution requirements that create bottlenecks. You also need flexible storage and cost models that evolve with the organization.

Looking to modernize your backup and recovery approach? Here's what you need to consider.

COMPREHENSIVE DATA PROTECTION ACROSS PLATFORMS

Cloud use for business continuity and disaster recovery (BC/DR) is increasing. In the past year, it grew from 36% to 47%.[3] In addition, 99% of IT and storage professionals say they move data between locations.[4] Complex data environments contribute to the fact that 80% said they're worried about whether they can be compliant with privacy laws.[4]

Businesses that are expanding—or have distributed data and systems—are easier to manage with the help of hybrid cloud solutions. Cloud principles of automation, statelessness, and resilience enable agility across systems.

Cloud, backup as a service (BaaS), and disaster recovery as a service (DRaaS) offerings can make your backup and recovery architecture more scalable. Implementing a single solution that can protect on-premises, VMs, or cloud-native workloads helps to eliminate data silos, simplifies the administrative oversight required when working with multiple point solutions, and can offer global protection and make compliance with privacy laws easier to maintain.

LOOK FOR FLEXIBLE STORAGE

Flexible storage solutions are the linchpin of a resilient data protection strategy. Among the options available, the cloud emerges as the most versatile and future-ready choice. Unlike legacy storage systems, which are often characterized by on-premises hardware or rigid in-house data centers, cloud-based storage offers unparalleled scalability and accessibility. It allows organizations to seamlessly adjust their storage capacity in real-time in order to cater to the ever-changing demands of data growth.

In addition, look for a backup and recovery solution that can deliver greater storage efficiency, which can translate into less storage to purchase and manage for backup data, reduced network bandwidth costs, and faster finish time for backups.

DESIGN SCALABLE, FLEXIBLE DATA
BACKUP AND RECOVERY SYSTEMS

PAY ONLY FOR WHAT'S NEEDED

Cloud environments should be flexible and allow for payment based on what you consume. It's also important to watch for egress fees for transferring data and other unanticipated charges. Look for solutions that give you the flexibility to use your data as you see fit. Data resiliency ensures users have access to data and applications when they need it. Evaluate fixed-price and pay-as-you-go options to find what makes the most sense for you.

CLOSE THE GAPS

Most organizations report having an "availability gap" (82%) and a "protection gap" (79%).[5] The availability gap indicates they can't recover data and applications as fast as their users need them. The protection gap means their data isn't backed up frequently enough to prevent essential data loss after an outage.

Narrowing these gaps will help minimize data loss as well as the impacts of outages. Having a backup isn't enough. Data should be backed up frequently and be able to be restored quickly. Test recovery and restoration abilities to make sure everything works when the time comes.

Fortunately, most organizations recognize the risk of these gaps, with 85% of organizations saying they plan to allocate more of their budgets to data protection.[5]

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ASPIRE TO INSTANT RECOVERY

Research by IDC indicates that most organizations are using multiple backup software products.[2] Some have as many as seven. While the rationale is that redundancy is necessary to protect diverse workloads and a single tool is unable to address all requirements, multiple backup products only add complexity and slow down the recovery process. Simplifying backup systems and operations through consolidated, cloud-based solutions will deliver better SLA attainment.

Backup and recovery processes are also often bogged down by legacy backup systems that fall short of instantaneous recovery. However, modern, snapshot-based solutions can provide instant or rapid recovery. Snapshots also take up less storage space compared to traditional full backups, which can be especially advantageous for large datasets.

GET EXPERT HELP

The complexities of data backup and recovery can make finding the right solutions and skilled resources difficult. Experts can provide recommendations on storage solutions, assess your current solutions, and develop recovery and response plans. It is also worth considering BaaS and DRaaS. These services offer a level of expertise and specialization that can be challenging for in-house teams to match. They are well-versed in the latest advancements and best practices in data protection and can provide the assurance of a swift, comprehensive recovery in the event of a catastrophic data loss scenario.

Connection can help you find data and backup solutions that will improve the resilience, scalability, and agility of your data environments. **Reach out to your Account Team for more information.**

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www.connection.com/BackupRecovery

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2 IDC, 2022, Using Backup as a Service to Modernize Data Protection
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4 IDC, 2021, FUTURE-PROOFING STORAGE
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