What does Symantec offer in terms of Business Continuity?

Symantec offers high availability, disaster recovery, data replication, backup and storage management solutions that help keep your critical applications, business services, and data up and running. Symantec’s full range of Business Continuity solutions help you architect and automate the right level of protection for your applications and data by Service Level Agreements (SLAs), helping you balance risk and cost. These solutions span physical, virtual and cloud infrastructures and provide a common solution architecture across multiple operating systems, applications, databases, servers and storage hardware.

My data center is complex with applications having different SLAs. How would you help me build a business continuity solution across my entire IT infrastructure?

Symantec provides essential solutions from advanced backup technologies that break traditional backup windows, to high availability and disaster recovery for your business services. Whether you need to protect your most mission-critical business services from any downtime, or your less critical applications or data from extended downtime, Symantec has you covered.

You can architect and automate your business continuity plan by SLAs across heterogeneous environments. Choose from solutions that back up your data across multiple workloads and give you a single point of recovery, to more comprehensive solutions that offer application high availability in addition to data availability for mission-critical applications and services. Depending on your budget and pre-calculated risk allowance in the event of a disaster, Symantec has a solution for you no matter the threat.

I am backing up my application data. Doesn’t that mean I am protected?

Backing up all your data and systems, regardless of where they reside is the first step – and Symantec is the market-leader in backup. But backup alone is not an adequate disaster recovery solution. For less than mission-critical applications, where the highest levels of availability are unnecessary, backup works well. But for mission-critical applications like databases, customer facing applications, email and others, where constant uptime is crucial, in addition to backup, you also require a holistic solution that features data replication and automated application failover to ensure your critical applications and IT business services experience as little down time as possible.

I do not want to build out a separate Disaster Recovery site. How can Symantec help me leverage the public cloud?

Symantec will be introducing disaster recovery as a service (DRaaS) in partnership with Microsoft and their Azure public cloud service. As it leverages Microsoft’s Azure public cloud service, this solution will eliminate the need of a second DR site by replicating data and automating application failover from on-premise to Windows® Azure™ in case of an on-site failure. Further, Symantec high availability and disaster recovery solutions can be deployed in any virtualized infrastructure in the public cloud to provide interoperability with the infrastructure on your own premises.

We are virtualizing our infrastructure. Why would we need any other business continuity solutions?

Current virtualization technologies provide high availability for virtual machines, but do not take into account failure of the application(s) within the virtual machine, which could prove disastrous. Symantec offers application monitoring, restart and failover services for applications hosted within virtual machines. For your critical applications, you can also minimize your downtime by failing them over to a healthy virtual machine without wasting precious minutes trying to restart the failed virtual machine and application.

In today’s heterogeneous data centers that run a mix of
physical and virtual platforms, Symantec’s solutions are more relevant than ever in providing end-to-end availability.

My applications cover multiple platforms and are managed by different teams. How can Symantec help me streamline disaster recovery in such a scenario?

Managing an entire business application stack or service can be challenging. Virtual Business Services (VBS) from Symantec is aware of the complete business service and can take action in the event of a failure of even a single component – to recover the failed application and orchestrate connections to other resources to keep the business service available. The end result is faster recovery and minimal downtime—all with no manual intervention. Each cluster or each “tier” in a VBS configuration is a separate entity and each “tier” can be managed by the responsible platform team. In a VBS environment, it is perfectly fine to let Windows, Unix and Linux teams manage their clusters separately. VBS was designed to allow customers to operate in this fashion.