Ensuring Business Continuity – Keeping Your Critical Information & Applications Online
Symantec Offers Comprehensive Business Continuity for Today’s Evolving Data Centers

Solution Overview: Disaster Recovery

Maintaining business continuity today is becoming increasingly complex with organizations being dependent on myriad technologies like cloud and virtualization, and heterogeneous infrastructures that span Windows®, Linux® and other operating systems. For organizations with a global footprint, it is a necessity to have internal and external customer-facing applications running with no or almost no downtime. Maximizing revenue, maintaining brand reputation and customer base is essential. To be successful, organizations must have a business continuity plan in place that is comprehensive and more importantly, one that can be easily tested from a local high availability and wide area disaster recovery perspective.

Many organizations struggle to create disaster recovery and business continuity strategies in their multi-OS environments, relying on point solutions that only address specific applications. Such a disjointed approach creates silos within the data center and leads to heavy reliance on manual processes, which can be fatal.

A unified approach to IT disaster recovery is more effective – one that offers a common solution across all OS platforms and hypervisors. A unified approach honors dependencies between elements of complex, multi-tier applications without regard to which OS platform a component is running on, or whether it’s on a physical or virtual server.

Accelerated Adoption of Virtualization and Cloud

It is no surprise that most organizations have adopted virtualization and built private clouds in their data centers. However, virtualizing a data center requires a refresh of the business continuity strategy as well, since virtualization has many risks that need to be addressed. These include how organizations monitor and protect applications, data and business services in the event of a failure.

Symantec offers business continuity for virtual environments by monitoring applications running in virtual machines, and taking action to recover them when an incident occurs. This eliminates the need for virtual machine reboots, keeping downtime to a minimum.
Migration from legacy Unix to Linux

Organizations are drawn by the savings that Linux brings to the data center, but should be aware of potential uptime and data protection risks that arise from trusting their business-critical applications to "free" or native software. Native Linux solutions also prove challenging, with required manual scripting and lack of wide-area disaster recovery, automated operations and management.

For business-critical data center applications, the complete line of Symantec high availability, data protection, backup and recovery, disaster recovery and storage management offerings deliver UNIX-class performance, scalability, administration, and support on Linux.

Moving DR to the Cloud

While cloud-based DR is not yet mainstream, it is slowly gaining acceptance within organizations wanting to reduce costs and complexity.

This year, Symantec will provide a cost-effective and easy-to-deploy disaster recovery to the cloud for business critical data and
multi-tier applications. The solution will eliminate the need for a second DR site by replicating data and automating application failover from on-premise to Windows Azure in case of an on-site failure.

**Symantec’s holistic Business Continuity Strategy across physical, virtual and cloud**

Symantec takes a unified, holistic approach to IT disaster recovery and business continuity and recognizes that some applications are more critical than others and need to stay protected against human error, system failure and natural disasters. Symantec offers an appropriate level of protection for each application in the data center with:

- Data backup & restore
- Resilient and flexible online storage
- Data replication
- Local & metro high-availability
- Wide area automated disaster recovery
- Disaster recovery testing and assessment

Each of these levels of protection build upon the one before it, and together, form the comprehensive protective layer providing business continuity in the data center.

**Data backup and restore**

A good backup strategy that addresses all source workloads such as virtual and physical environments, arrays, and big data, that also provides flexible storage options such as tape, disk, appliances, and cloud to meet backup and recovery SLAs is a foundational piece of a proper business continuity solution. The Symantec NetBackup™ Platform addresses all of these areas with a single product, which means a single console to recover from in the event of a disaster and significant time and cost savings in day-to-day management because you don’t have to play systems integrator – as is the case when managing point solutions and protection silos. Furthermore, the NetBackup Platform can be delivered as an Integrated Backup Appliance delivering even greater levels of simplicity and increasing disaster recovery readiness.
Data replication

Applications requiring quick recovery at a remote site must implement data replication. Maintaining a consistent copy of the application’s data at the secondary site at all times is essential to faster recovery, and how current that data is kept is a function of that application’s recovery point objective (RPO).

Symantec offers Veritas™ Replicator, which provides continuous volume-based replication, as well as periodic, file-based replication. Another option would be Auto Image Replication (AIR) – a feature within NetBackup that allows for the optimized replication of backup images between sites and domains.

High Availability and Disaster Recovery

Replication by itself enables availability of data at a secondary site, but requires manual intervention to bring up applications using this data, which can be error prone and time consuming. With Veritas™ Cluster Server, Symantec provides several architectures for automated application recovery for applications running across both physical and virtual environments:

• Local high availability: Moves applications to another node within the data center in the event of a localized outage such as a server failure.
• Metropolitan cluster: Creates a cluster of nodes across different sites (within 60 miles/100km or less of each other) making applications available in one data center in the event the other one fails.
• Global cluster: Makes applications available at a remote facility (over an unlimited distance) in the event of a data center failure
• Virtual Business Services: With myriad technologies in today’s data centers, each having their own administrative tools and authorization requirements, managing an entire business application stack or service is challenging. Virtual Business Services from Symantec, included with Veritas Cluster Server and managed through Veritas™ Operations Manager, is aware of the complete business service and can take action in the event of a failure – 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.

Figure 3: Virtual Business Services – single control point for multi-tier applications
Disaster Recovery Testing and Assurance

Disaster Recovery strategy testing is essential and Symantec provides numerous ways to validate the configuration of storage, clusters and application, since production servers and applications are constantly changing. To better enable successful recovery in the event of an outage, Veritas Cluster Server includes Fire Drill, a tool that simulates disaster recovery tests by starting up an application at the disaster recovery site as it would in an actual disaster, without disrupting production applications. Symantec also offers Disaster Recovery Advisor that scans the primary and secondary environments including storage, applications and cluster configurations, and determines gaps between site configurations that may impede recovery in the event of a disaster.

More Information

Visit our website
http://go.symantec.com/business-continuity

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Call toll-free 1 (800) 745 6054

To speak with a Product Specialist outside the U.S.
For specific country offices and contact numbers, please visit our website.

About Symantec

Symantec protects the world’s information, and is a global leader in security, backup, and availability solutions. Our innovative products and services protect people and information in any environment – from the smallest mobile device, to the enterprise data center, to cloud-based systems. Our world-renowned expertise in protecting data, identities, and interactions gives our customers confidence in a connected world. More information is available at www.symantec.com or by connecting with Symantec at go.symantec.com/socialmedia.

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