



Understanding Backup and Recovery



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Backup Overview

Backup is the means to recovery. Whether it's an entire system or a single file, the objective is to make a duplicate copy for the sole purpose of recovery should the need arise. When setting up a backup, you need to determine the backup set i.e. define what you will be backing up and retention i.e. how many revisions of the backup you want to keep. For most, 30 days is acceptable. However, there may be exceptions such as month-end or year-end where you may want to keep an entire year or longer.

The AcuVault NexGen backup solution has the ability to backup a single file, database, directory or an entire virtual machine (VMDK/VHD). For both compliance and disaster recovery, it is important to ensure you have a copy somewhere other than your primary data center. IMS offers a single node solution that can be placed at your primary data center for faster backups and recovery. Additionally, the single node can replicate the backups to the AcuVault NexGen grid at IMS.

Disaster Recovery Overview

Disaster recovery begins with first determining your **RTO** (Recovery Time Objective) and **RPO** (Recovery Point Objective) per server. This is critical as it tells us which type of method is needed to meet your recovery objectives.

RTO is the duration of time your organization has defined for a server to be recovered to avoid unacceptable consequences associated with a break in business continuity i.e. what is an acceptable time you are willing to wait for a server to be up and operational.

RPO is the maximum period of time your organization has defined in which data might be lost i.e. what is an acceptable amount of data you are willing to lose after the server is back up and operational. Is 12 or 24 hours acceptable or do you need it recovered to the minute or second?

IMS offers five methods to help you meet your recovery objectives;

- Real-Time Replication | High Availability
- Real-Time Replication | Disaster Recovery
- Virtual Machine Recovery | Backup Recovery of a VMDK/VHD
- Bare Metal's Recovery | Backup Recovery to physical or virtual
- Data Recovery | Backup Recovery to a staged server

The cost varies depending on the type of recovery method. You will need to determine the appropriate RTO's and RPO's that fit your budget.