Veritas™ Disaster Recovery Orchestrator

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One click disaster recovery to the cloud

On-premises

Microsoft Azure | **amazon** web services

Takeover   **Failback**   **Firedrill**   **Reports**
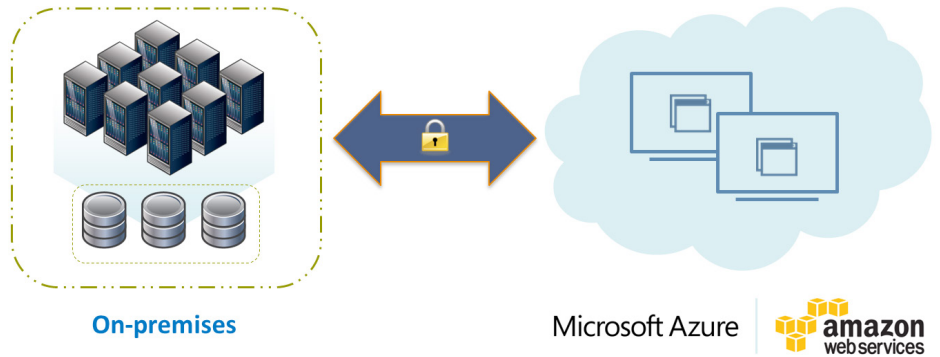
Overview

The cloud appeals to businesses for multiple reasons as it addresses many of their long standing IT issues. Whether its lowered costs, faster deployments or just less internal red tape to deal with, businesses are finding the ease and ubiquity of the cloud tempting. One of the newer use cases topping many priority lists is leveraging the cloud for disaster recovery. One benefit of DR to the cloud is the cost savings gained because there is no longer a need to build or rent a secondary data center. Veritas™ Disaster Recovery Orchestrator gives businesses the flexibility to affordably and easily initiate disaster recoveries of their Microsoft Windows applications to and from the cloud.

Disaster Recovery in the Cloud Tops Business Priority Lists

The media today is replete with stories about the benefits that cloud services offer to businesses. It increases their corporate agility, offers them higher levels of fault tolerance and saves on utility and infrastructure costs. Yet using the cloud for disaster recovery (DR) plans top many business priority lists as a primary use case since it can provide them with an affordable, easy to manage and viable means to introduce DR into their environment.

Traditional DR solutions involve building or renting a secondary data center for use as a DR target site. This is an expensive proposition, which is complex, laborious, and susceptible to human error. Even if a secondary data center for DR purposes is available, there are still many complex tasks that must go into the planning, testing and validating of a DR strategy that will withstand the scrutiny of an audit.

Even with this complex DR strategy, it still may not provide the recovery point objectives (RPOs) and recovery time objectives (RTOs) that the lines of business have come to expect. Lines of business that have had some exposure to SaaS applications have new "cloud-like" availability expectations for their internal IT departments. These new expectations include RPOs and RTOs of seconds or minutes, not hours or days. Implementing a DR solution that satisfies these real-world requirements can further increase costs.

Using the cloud for DR significantly reduces costs and delivers enterprise-level RPOs and RTOs. The challenge becomes identifying a cloud solution that offers all of the features needed to make takeover and failback from the cloud quick, easy and affordable.

Veritas automates Disaster Recovery to the Cloud

Veritas Disaster Recovery Orchestrator enables businesses to automate and manage the takeover and failback of Microsoft Windows-based applications residing on either physical or virtual machines (VMs) to Microsoft Azure and Amazon Web Services (AWS) platforms. Disaster Recovery Orchestrator includes the following unique features to facilitate DR.

Cost-effective approach for cloud usage:

▪ Traditional disaster recovery solutions typically have a 1:1 replication relationship or pairing between the source and the target recovery site. This approach would normally require the customer to double their infrastructure costs. Veritas Disaster Recovery Orchestrator leverages a consolidated replication target in the cloud which significantly reduces infrastructure costs.

▪ The consolidated replication target functions as the central component for all the applications that a business needs to recover in the cloud. This approach reduces the number of VMs that the business needs to host in the cloud to just one, while giving it the flexibility to recover any application in the cloud at any time.

Businesses have made great strides in recent years in adopting DR plans. More than 94 percent say they are prepared for a disaster and 80 percent of them have a DR plan in place. However their collective ability to execute upon their DR plan leaves much to be desired.[1]

▪ "Extremely prepared" – **11%**

▪ "Not very" and/or "somewhat prepared" – **89%**

Fully automated and orchestrated end-to-end application recovery:

▪ DR plans are customarily very complex and difficult to test, which cause businesses to express doubts about the viability of their plans. Using Veritas Disaster Recovery Orchestrator, businesses can easily initiate either a DR test or DR event by recovering any or all of their applications. Or they can allow Disaster Recovery Orchestrator's extensive monitoring capability to initiate a recovery as required.

▪ Upon a DR event, Disaster Recovery Orchestrator will automatically handle:

   1. Replication reversal and takeover

   2. Instantiation of application recovery VMs

   3. Detaching replicated data from the consolidated target

   4. Attaching to the application recovery VMs

   5. Making the file system writeable

   6. Starting up the application in service/process dependency order

▪ Disaster Recovery Orchestrator will also automatically handle the failback when the primary is restored. These automated features will restore confidence in a business' DR plan.

▪ Veritas Disaster Recovery Orchestrator handles these various complexities to help ensure the application with all its dependencies is accurately recovered. These include managing tasks such as verifying that application data is replicated and synchronized before a takeover or failback takes place as well as handling the assignment of network IP addresses. Whether the takeover or failback is a test or a real event, end-users should see minimal to no disruption of their activities.

Simplification of deployment and ongoing management:

▪ One of the struggles of successfully executing a DR plan is simply remembering where everything at the DR site is physically and virtually located when the time comes to do a recovery. Veritas Disaster Recovery Orchestrator eliminates this common challenge. By making the Disaster Recovery Orchestrator management console permanently available via any web browser in the cloud, businesses always know where to go to initiate a recovery.

1. Source: Symantec 2012 Disaster Preparedness Survey.

- The Disaster Recovery Orchestrator management console provides an end-to-end configuration wizard experience, beginning with what application(s) to protect on-prem, pairing the applications to the cloud, and then configuring replication settings. The console will manage all DR operations – including takeover, failback, fire drill, and reporting. It offers a simple single click takeover and failback capability.

- Another advantage of using the Disaster Recovery Orchestrator management console in the cloud is that organizations will become comfortable with managing cloud compute, network and storage services. They can begin to see and experience the cloud's accessibility and data security features for their production applications while minimizing their risk.

Disaster Recovery to the Cloud just a click away with Veritas Disaster Recovery Orchestrator

Businesses have put off implementing DR because it cost too much, did not work that well and was too complex to implement and manage. Veritas Disaster Recovery Orchestrator changes the value proposition of DR in the cloud. Businesses may now minimize their upfront and ongoing costs associated with DR in the cloud even as they accelerate, automate and simplify application takeovers and failbacks. In so doing, they may create and enter a new world where disaster recovery for any or all of their Windows applications is only a click away.

More Information

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http://www.veritas.com

About Veritas Technologies Corporation

Veritas Technologies Corporation enables organizations to harness the power of their information, with solutions designed to serve the world's largest and most complex heterogeneous environments. Veritas works with 86 percent of Fortune 500 companies today, improving data availability and revealing insights to drive competitive advantage.

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Businesses fail to execute upon their DR plans for two primary reasons. They either fail to budget for DR or what they do budget for DR is insufficient to meet their business needs.[2]

- Businesses that allocate 10 percent or less of their budget for DR: **38%**

- Businesses that do not know what percentage of their budget is allocated for DR: **31%**

Businesses view the cloud as a means to bring their DR plans and DR readiness back into alignment. **85 percent** already use cloud services which suggests that they are ready to move ahead with the cloud as part of a broader DR strategy if they can implement it safely, easily, quickly and cost-effectively.

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2. Source: ITWeb survey.

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