Four Critical Elements That Determine Disaster Recovery Success



Every minute of every day, somewhere around the world, there is an extremely frustrated systems administrator futilely attempting to recover a failed server without the benefit of a tool designed expressly for this purpose. Without one, a recovery can take anywhere from two hours to two days, and cost thousands of dollars. Many organizations are simply unaware that there is an inexpensive solution to remedy this problem.

There are numerous products that help eliminate computer downtime by offering fail-over and redundancy. However, the important issue is that those products do not help once a machine becomes unbootable. The quickest and easiest method of restoring a failed Windows server or workstation is by implementing an image-based disaster recovery (DR) solution like UltraBac Software's UBDR Gold.

With UBDR Gold, live snapshots can be periodically stored on the network for easy disaster recovery retrieval—simply boot the dead machine and restore the operating system partition in as little as five minutes. UBDR Gold may also be used for provisioning, roll-back or any other need that might require a quick restore or creation of a server.

The Four Critical Elements:

- 1. Product Reliability
- 2. Support
- 3. Features and Functions
- 4. Ease-of-Use

For a DR tool to be of benefit, it must be extremely reliable in both taking the snapshot and in its ability to boot and recover the image successfully. In today's market, this means not only restoring an OS to the same machine, but also being able to recover it to a totally different hardware configuration. A quality product should also provide the ability to recover a physical server to a virtual environment.

No matter how fast a disaster recovery product might be, it will be rendered useless if an insurmountable restore problem is encountered by an operator during a vital recovery. Therefore, a critical element is being able to quickly engage a qualified technical support representative if and when required. To put this into perspective, UltraBac Software's industry leading support hold time is less than five minutes.

Along with reliability and support, a disaster recovery product must also offer great flexibility to meet the needs of both the SMB and enterprise markets. UBDR Gold, for instance, allows users to back up snapshots to any disk or tape target, along with options for TSM and FTP devices. The program even offers a fail-over to an alternative device to ensure a quality backup.

Lastly, ease-of-use can make or break a disaster recovery attempt. While UBDR Gold is straightforward in its use for manual recoveries, restores can be 100 percent automated so an operator need only insert a CD or USB key and initiate a boot. Remote DR operations may even be performed via centralized management.

About UltraBac Software:

In its 25 years of business, UltraBac Software has earned the reputation for providing reliable, fast, and innovative backup and recovery software to organizations of all sizes. Visit www.ultrabac.com to receive an evaluation copy of UltraBac and UBDR Gold.



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