

Data Protection and Guaranteed Recovery for Virtual and Cloud Environments

Unitrends ReliableDR and Nimble Storage
Provide Complete Data Protection and
Disaster Recovery Assurance



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"The annual costs of DR testing can reach or exceed \$150,000 for many Gartner clients."

"The time and resource costs of disaster recovery (DR) plan exercising, especially that which is supported by manual or semi-manual processes, has become the most significant DR management (IT-DRM) pain point for many of Gartner's clients."

John Morency, Research VP, Gartner, Inc. (Research Paper G00215785)

Introduction

Nimble Storage provides unprecedented capacity and performance with highly scalable snapshots and asynchronous replication to remote disaster recovery sites, among many other features.

Unitrends provides the only recovery solution for virtual environments that dramatically reduces the cost of granular data, application, business service and site-wide recovery. ReliableDR facilitates 100% automated disaster recovery (DR) testing for guaranteed push-button failover and failback. Without any impact on your production environment, it works with Nimble Storage natively to create application and service-aware snapshots at your DR site that are guaranteed to work, making it easy to enforce your recovery point objectives (RPO) and recovery time objectives (RTO).

Virtualization and Business Continuity

Wherever you are on your business continuity roadmap, server virtualization is making it more challenging.

Your computing infrastructure is getting denser, so smaller incidents affect more of your users and applications. It's harder to track dependencies in service-oriented clouds: exactly which assets comprise your CRM?

As you build out your infrastructure, from backup and restore to high-availability mirroring to disaster recovery, exercising your DR plan to make sure it really works becomes a priority. The required DR testing is so costly that many companies can barely afford to do it once a year, and then only on a small subset of their application portfolio. Yet the agility that makes virtualization so attractive also makes it ever more difficult to keep production and disaster-recovery assets in sync.

Nimble Storage Advanced Storage Arrays & Business Continuity

The right storage platform for virtualized environments can simplify business continuity while reducing costs. With its Adaptive Flash platform, Nimble Storage leverages the best of flash performance and the price/capacity of high-capacity hard disk drives to provide unmatched data management functionality.

For business continuity in particular, Nimble Storage arrays were designed from the ground up for data protection and disaster recovery based on very efficient storage snapshots and replication. Nimble arrays leverage a modern snapshot implementation (redirect-on-write) as well as flash to improve snapshot performance. Snapshots can be cost-effectively retained for 30, 60, or 90 days due to very granular block sizes, inline compression, and the use of capacity disk to store snapshot data. This allows you to roll back to any given point-in-time for days, weeks, or even months. Nimble Storage arrays also offer disaster recovery with efficient snapshot replication, which only transfers changed blocks to the offsite array.



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Solution Brief: ReliableDR + Nimble Storage
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Solution Highlights

- Fully-automated DR testing
- Easily enforce RPOs and RTOs
- Eliminate storage performance and capacity trade-offs
- Prevent failover to corrupted data
- Push-button DR-site failover and failback
- Zero footprint in production environment
- Service and application aware
- Seamless integration with Nimble Storage
- Cost-effectively retain months of storage snapshots
- Minimize WAN usage with efficient storage replication

Complete Data Protection and Guaranteed Disaster Recovery

Add Unitrends to take the next step in data protection and disaster recovery management: Disaster Recovery Assurance. Unitrends Recovery Series and Enterprise Backup provide high performance, scalable and cost effective backup to ensure data is protected day to day. And ReliableDR fully automates disaster-recovery testing. With the ability to test standard applications and IT services out of the box (e.g., Exchange, SharePoint, Oracle Database), ReliableDR is easily customized to test and certify any application or service, no matter how complex.

ReliableDR is a zero-footprint solution, imposing no load at all on your production site. It creates a recovery sandbox in your disaster recovery site or cloud. In this recovery sandbox, leveraging Nimble's advanced architecture, ReliableDR creates Certified Recovery Points (CRP). These are fully-tested application or IT service recovery points that are known to operate correctly.

If ReliableDR cannot create a CRP, it notifies administrators of the failure. This eliminates the possibility of data corruption or infection and configuration drift is detected immediately.

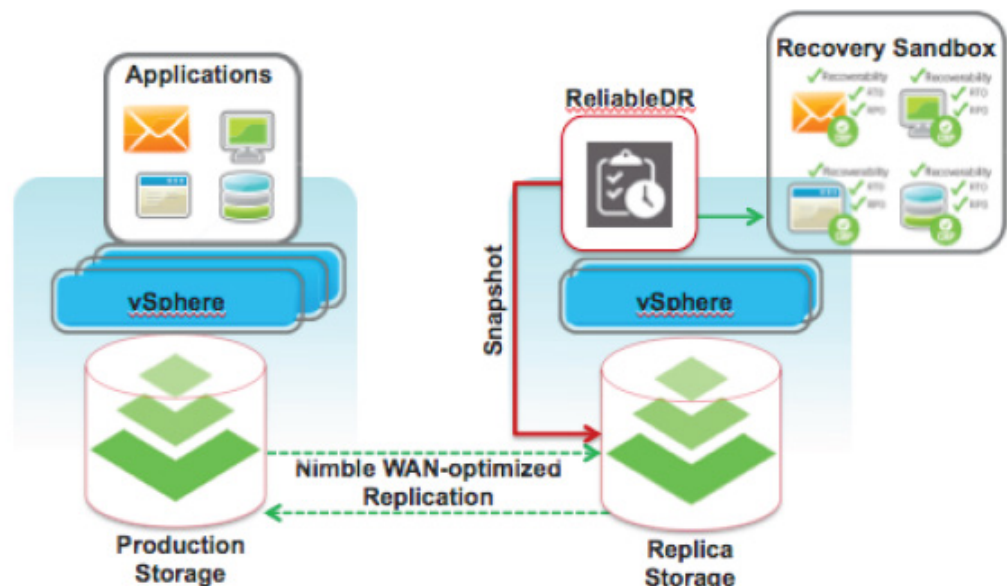


Figure 1: ReliableDR and Nimble Storage

Easy RPO/RTO Enforcement, With Push Button Control

Instead of testing once a year at great expense, with ReliableDR you can enforce recovery point objectives (RPO) on the order of hours. Its testing also measures how long it takes the application or service to come back up, enforcing recovery time objectives (RTO) as well. A web-based dashboard makes compliance monitoring and reporting easy and can be integrated with other IT governance systems.

ReliableDR also manages failover and failback. Any application or IT service can be rolled back to a Certified Recovery Point at the DR site, or restored to production, at the push of a button.

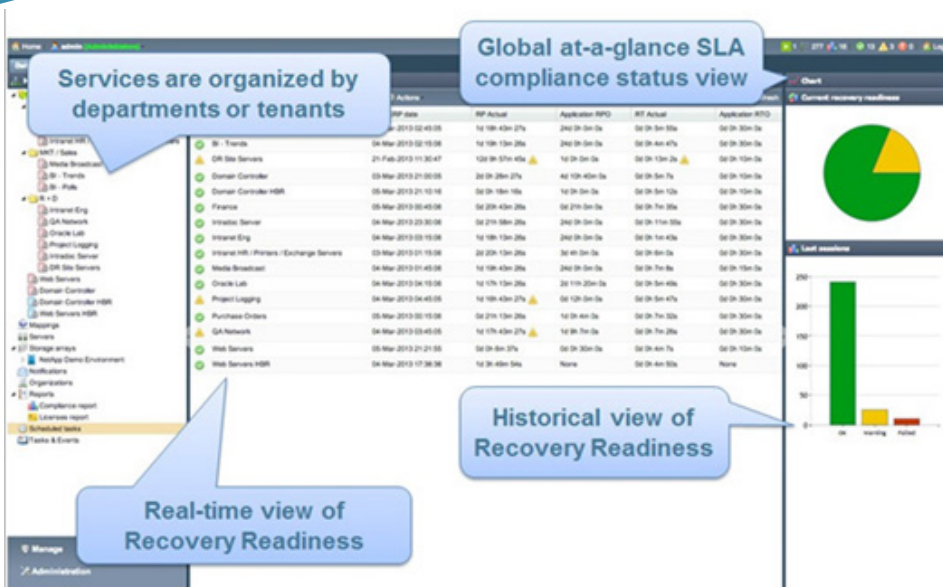





Figure 1: ReliableDR Interface

ReliableDR's operator dashboard provides an at-a-glance overview of your RPO and RTO compliance status. A service-owner dashboard accessible through mobile devices or any web browser eliminates the need for IT to generate manual reports for line of business managers, risk officers, and auditors.

ReliableDR Dashboard symbols:

-  The DR exercise was successful. A Certified Recovery Point has been created, guaranteeing that this application or set of services can be rolled back to this point (RPO met) without data corruption within the recovery time specified (RTO met).
-  The DR exercise was successful, so there is a valid recovery point (RPO met), but the required recovery time could not be met (RTO not met). An SNMP trap is generated and an email sent to the DR administrator.
-  The DR exercise was not successful. No valid recovery point could be generated. An SNMP trap is generated and an email sent to the DR administrator.

About Nimble

Nimble Storage thinks enterprises shouldn't compromise on performance, capacity, ease of use, or price. So, they developed the first storage architecture designed from the ground up to seamlessly integrate SSDs with high-capacity disks, all to give you unparalleled performance and capacity efficiency, easier backups, and stress-free operations. Visit www.nimblestorage.com.

About Unitrends

Unitrends provides physical, virtual and cloud-based protection for every organization's most valuable asset: its data. The company helps organizations play IT safe with a "Crazy-Committed" customer service model based on levels of engagement, experience and excellence that consistently deliver a 98 percent customer satisfaction rating and the best cost-to-value ratio in the data protection industry. Visit www.unitrends.com.

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