

HexiSTOR Data Protection Service

Top 10 Reasons Why Disk is Replacing Tape for Backup

Reason #1: Continuous Backup

A recent study revealed **37% of businesses actually test their backups regularly**, and of those that did, an alarming **77% found they were unable to fully recover data from those tapes**, meaning that the data you get back could be many days or even weeks old.

Online backup and recovery solves this problem by backing up data on a continuous, rather than scheduled, basis. In the event of a disaster, **companies can restore data from moments before the disaster**, rather than from the previous evening.

Reason #2: Automatic Off-Site Data Protection

Even if businesses are religious about backing up their data, that's only half of the process. Businesses must still get that data off-site to be truly protected.

The time and money spent on recreating lost data can be costly to businesses not only in terms of lost productivity, but in terms of lost revenue and customer goodwill as well.

Disk-based online backup and recovery uses your current Internet connection to automatically get data off site.

Reason #3: Guaranteed Recovery

Backing up data to tape is a complex, manual, and error prone process. The risks include configuring software, running the backup, labeling and cataloging tapes, moving tapes off site, locating the tape and recovering data. A recent study revealed that nearly **50% of backups are misconfigured**, and Gartner reported that **40% of data isn't properly backed up each night**.

Because online backup and recovery removes the problems that businesses encounter with tape-based backup, **online backup and recovery providers are able to guarantee the restorability of all the data** a business expects to get back.

Reason #4: No Equipment to Buy, Lease or Operate

There's a lot of equipment to purchase for tape backup systems: tape drives, tapes, backup software, plug-ins, open file managers, maintenance contracts, off-site storage, and more. Mundane daily backup tasks demand attention that add no strategic value to your business but add risks and cost. Additional expense comes in the management, monitoring, and troubleshooting involved in the daily running of your backup system. Not to mention the price of paying someone to perform the backup if you're not doing it yourself and the cost of getting the tapes off-site.

With online backup and recovery, you don't need to worry about any of this. **There are no tapes to manage or software updates to keep up with**. You just let the backup process run in the background and let the online backup and recovery service provider worry about everything else.

Reason #5: Round the Clock Expert Management

The requirement for experience exists when your business data—the lifeblood of your company—is at risk. In a data loss emergency, you should be able to call on data recovery experts to ensure that you can survive any disaster.

These **professionals are available 24x7x365 to help customers with any issues** and often will contact customers proactively in the event of problems in the backup process, assuring the customer that their backup is always being performed correctly.

Reason #6: Immediate Restores

Because online backup and recovery services immediately get data off-site by backing it up to disk over the Internet, businesses not only have the security of safe data at least 50 miles away but also the ability to restore data as effortlessly as it was moved off-site. Internet-based restores enable businesses to **recover data in a matter of minutes**, rather than having to wait hours for retrieval from the off-site location.

Reason #7: New and Impending Regulations

The Sarbanes-Oxley Act requires certain financial records need to be retained for many years but if you can't recover those records, the business owner or executive is held personally liable. Given that **50% of companies that lose their data in disaster never reopen their doors**, businesses have a fiduciary responsibility to their shareholders to protect critical business data assets. With disk-based online backup and recovery, businesses can automatically stay ahead of the game.

Online backup and recovery allows customers to automatically get their data off-site to a secure facility at 600 S. Federal St. Chicago, IL – a requirement for many industries. As privacy and retention of business records regulations come into force, online backup offers protection tape never can because data is always secured in transmission, in storage and in access.

Reason #9: Competitive Advantage

These days, **your data is your business**. Continuous, guaranteed access to all your data all the time is the prerequisite to being competitive. It's the prerequisite to being able to respond faster, more proactively and more knowledgeably to your customers. Continuous, guaranteed access to all your data provides a leg up against the competition.

Online backup and recovery gives businesses a competitive edge by fully protecting their data, enabling immediate recovery and freeing up resources for other projects.

Reason #10: Tape Just Doesn't Work

Let's say your business suffers a server crash and you need to restore your data. How successful will you be? Let's take a coin out of your pocket and see. Heads – you get your data back, tails – you lose. Sounds absurd, doesn't it? Yet, **every day, businesses place their data at the risk of 50-50 odds in being able to fully get it back**. Businesses to date have generally used tape-based backup to protect their most critical electronic assets. But analysts estimate up to half the time, recovery from tape fails. This is due to a variety of reasons, including human error, bad tapes, software bugs and more.