

Question

Is Replicator a replacement for backup?

Answer

Replicator is not a replacement for the traditional disk-to-tape backup function. Traditional backups are done to copy data to some form of removable media (typically tape) so that it can be stored in a location outside of the system for disaster recovery purposes. In high data availability environments, backups are a low availability application. There are two reasons for this: First, backups are batch operations and consume large amounts of network bandwidth; second, when data has to be restored, time is needed to retrieve the removable media, find the data and finally restore the data. With Replicator, anyone with proper permission, including the end users, can instantly restore their data with their Web browser.

Replicator complements traditional data backup requirements because it can be programmed as to how it replicates and stores data in a centralized location. From this location, you can run your traditional tape backup tasks on the same computer that Replicator is running. A major benefit is that it consumes no additional network bandwidth - Replicator executes from small, task-oriented executions and can return your traditional backup operations to a 24-hour window without sacrificing your end users' immediate access to their replicated and historical data.