



Whitepaper

# Guaranteed Recovery of your critical data and applications

Recovery Assurance is an innovative platform that uses state of the art technology to deliver enterprise class business continuity features at a lower price and with more flexibility.

# **Backup is not Disaster Recovery**

Many organisations fail to realise that daily or weekly backups and the replication of data from one site to another are not enough to protect against an IT disaster. True business continuity is all about ensuring your critical applications can be recovered predictably to deliver the vital processes essential for the success of your business.

# Data is important but applications are critical

A true disaster recovery solution should guarantee which applications and what data sets can be quickly recovered irrespective of the type of outage that impacts your organisation. The 'Recovery Point Objective' is the maximum tolerable period in which data might be lost from an application. The other factor is the time taken to deliver this recovery point, a measurement called the 'Recovery Time Objective'. Put simply, these two factors - RPO and RTO determine what can be recovered and how quickly an organisation can get "back to normal" in the event of a disaster.

# Can you guarantee that your critical applications and data can be recovered in a timely fashion in the event of a disaster?

Many organisations are either unprepared or unable to validate a disaster recovery plan. Legacy solutions such as tape are difficult and time consuming to test and are not suited to a disaster that forces evacuation of a site. Even those organisations that do conduct expensive and time-consuming yearly disaster recovery tests face issues. For example, if any application is updated, hardware changed or configuration altered – the previous recovery test is no longer relevant. Worse still, the disruption to live production systems and working practices of a failed DR test is potentially as damaging as a real disaster.

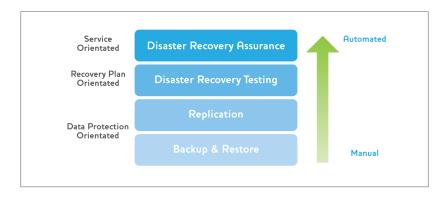




# 'Recovery Assurance' can guarantee the availability of your critical applications and data

Instead, organisations are embracing a concept called 'Recovery Assurance' which specifically addresses this complex problem. Recovery Assurance combines state-of-the-art virtualisation and enterprise class storage within a private cloud to test and automate the recovery processes. This allows enforcement of RPOs and the continuous measurement and compliance of RTOs without human intervention or impact on production systems. Recovery Point/Time Objectives become Recovery Point/Time Actuals.

# Recovery Assurance using VirtualSharp



# How can my organisation implement Recovery Assurance?

Depending on the needs of your organisation, you can deliver this Recovery Assurance capability as a managed service or architected directly within your enterprise datacentre. Both methods have distinct advantages and require consideration.

# Recovery as a Service offers low CAPEX, ease of deployment and flexibility

Core DataCloud Recovery-as-a-Service platform is the UK's first platform built on VirtualSharp's Recovery Assurance technology. This fully managed service is designed to protect virtualised applications and offers application and data backup, recovery testing, failover and failback. Core DataCloud RaaS requires no software agents running on production systems and is backed by a 99.999% Service Level Agreement.

Core DataCloud is a true utility service that requires minimal capital outlay, with monthly fees based only on the number of applications servers and volume of data under protection. This managed service model allows organisations to pay for only what they need and scales up and down as their requirements change over time.

#### Recovery-as-a-Service has several distinct advantages which include:

- Pay –as-you-go model without the need for a separate datacentre
- Select only the servers that need protecting
- Flexible recovery speed
- · Requires no in-house IT expertise to setup and manage
- · Provides access to enterprise class EMC storage, datacentre and management expertise
- · Backed by a 24/7 support team and network operation centre





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# Recovery Assurance deployed on-premise

For larger organisations that have already invested in business continuity infrastructure such as multiple datacentres or site mirroring, VirtualSharp's Recovery Assurance technology can offer many advantages. The technology provides a cost effective approach to testing the validity of a recovery strategy working alongside the existing infrastructure. In addition, as IT requirements change, the platform can scale as required without impacting critical production servers.

# How does Recovery Assurance work?

Either deployed as a Core DataCloud Recovery-as-a-Service or on-premise, Recovery Assurance technology is designed to protect any VMware based virtualised environment.

#### Define your level of protection:

Using VirtualSharp and Core DataCloud, you can specify Recovery Point Objectives and Recovery Time Objectives for each production server and application. This can include how often data is backed up and how quickly a server can be recovered. All RPO's and RTO's are backed by a comprehensive Service Level Agreement from Core DataCloud.

#### Testing:

The VirtualSharp platform conducts regular application recovery tests without impacting the production environment. These tests generate real-time dashboards and PDF reports that provide an accurate indication of how long it will take to recover any application under protection and any given point in time.

#### Compliance:

Whether to meet compliance from financial service authorities, or for industry best practice such as ISO 22301, the ability to prove disaster recovery capability is a requirement for business of all shapes and sizes. With Recovery Assurance technology, instant reports can meet both auditor requirements and deliver confidence to other critical stakeholders that SLA's are being met.

#### Failover:

In the event of a disaster, the Recovery Assurance platform powered by VirtualSharp can automate the failover process to allow recovery in minutes. With Core DataCloud, an expert team is also available to help manage the process 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. For staff that may need to evacuate a building, application access can be provided via internet VPN to ensure the business is able to continue as close to normal as possible.

#### Failback:

When the crisis is over, the platform can also automate the critical failback process to allow an organisation to resume running critical applications on its own servers. All transactions or changes to the applications are now moved back to the organisation's control and the systems can once again become fully protected by the VirtualSharp Recovery Assurance platform.





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# A Trusted UK provider

Core DataCloud is a leading managed service provider of Disaster Recovery-as-a-Service, enabling customers to protect their critical applications and data. Core's cloud platform is based on high performance storage, servers and networking technology to ensure rapid recovery of service following a disaster situation. Core has been a specialist provider of backup hosting since 1998 and a recognised Cloud Disaster Recovery-as-a-Service specialist since 2006.

- ISO 27001 Accreditation
- · Tier 3 secure datacentre with redundant connectivity
- · VirtualSharp Technology Partner and specialist
- · EMC Isilon storage for enterprise grade data protection
- · 'Specialist Business Continuity and Disaster Recovery Company of the Year' Business Continuity Awards Winner
- · Consulting and implementation services
- · 24 hour a day Monitoring NOC and disaster response team

# A state of the art technology platform

VirtualSharp Software was founded in 2010 to address the new Disaster Recovery needs for the cloud era. VirtualSharp, an elite-level VMware Technology Alliance Partner, develops next generation Disaster Recovery software for private and public clouds that continuously and automatically certifies the recoverability of services running in the cloud. VirtualSharp's software enables unparalleled levels of resiliency for virtual IT infrastructures and full alignment between IT Disaster Recovery and Corporate Business Continuity Planning.

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