

Deduplication backup software and system

ESSENTIALS

- Data is deduplicated at the client, before transfer across the network
- Ideal for protecting VMware environments, remote offices, NAS servers and desktops/laptops
- Reduce backup windows up to 90 percent; single-step recovery
- Reduces network bandwidth for backup by up to 99 percent
- Secure backup and replication via existing LAN/WAN links
- Global deduplication reduces total backup storage by up to 95 percent
- Redundant Array of Independent Nodes (RAIN) for high availability and reliability
- Daily server and data recoverability checks
- Export deduplicated backup data to tape for long-term storage
- Flexible deployment options: Avamar software only, Avamar Data Store, Avamar Virtual Edition for VMware
- Integrated with Data Domain systems for application-specific backup

Companies are rethinking their data protection methods as a result of exponential data growth, regulatory compliance, strict service-level agreements, and shrinking backup windows. The IT team faces additional challenges brought on by aggressive virtualization and the need to better protect data residing at remote offices.

Developed to solve the challenges associated with traditional backup, EMC® Avamar® backup and recovery software, equipped with integrated global, client-side data deduplication technology, facilitates fast, daily full backups for VMware® environments, remote offices, enterprise applications, LAN/NAS servers and desktops/laptops.

Unlike traditional backup software, Avamar eliminates redundant sub-file data segments at the client before it is transferred across the network and stored to the Avamar Data Store. As a result, the network bandwidth required for backup is reduced by up to 99 percent—enabling fast daily full backups across existing WAN/LAN and virtual infrastructure. Avamar also deduplicates backup data globally, across sites and servers, reducing the required total back-end disk storage by up to 95 percent. Backup data can be encrypted in flight and at rest, enabling secure, cost-effective, retention on disk.

THE DRAWBACKS OF CONVENTIONAL DATA PROTECTION

One of the key drivers impacting backup performance is the amount of data that must be protected within the available backup window. Traditional solutions are inefficient because they repeatedly backup everything—duplicate files and sub-file data segments that exist across servers, desktops, laptops, and offices. When combined with traditional daily incremental and weekly full backups, the amount of duplicate data is staggering. The sheer amount of data that must cross already congested networks, backup servers, and infrastructure often makes meeting backup windows a significant challenge.

The impact is especially severe when dealing with virtual environments, remote offices, and NAS filers. In virtual environments, each virtual machine (VM) represents an individual backup job, often with overlapping backup windows, and includes redundant operating system, application, and file data. Consequently, backups for VMs often overrun backup windows and tax shared resources, leaving data unprotected and creating issues for backup administrators.

In remote offices, limited network bandwidth makes centralized, automated WAN-based backup nearly impossible. As a result, backup tasks must be handled by non-IT staff. Failure-prone, tape-based hardware and ad-hoc manual processes do not provide reliable remote office data protection.

Protecting NAS filers can pose a significant challenge too, especially when full backups fail to complete within the allotted time frame, which can impact employee productivity and leave data unprotected.

Traditional solutions also increase costs because extra storage is needed to back up duplicate data. This is often exacerbated by data retention requirements for regulatory compliance. In addition, traditional backup often involves the shipment of tapes offsite, which can result in exposure of confidential information, theft, or data loss.

NEVER BACK UP THE SAME DATA TWICE

EMC Avamar enables fast, efficient backup and recovery by reducing the size of backup data at the client—before it is transferred across the network and stored. Unlike traditional backup, Avamar delivers fast, daily full backups in a fraction of the time. Avamar deduplicates backup data globally across your servers, desktops, laptops, and offices worldwide to reduce the total required disk storage by up to 95 percent. As a result, Avamar provides benefits of efficient long-term retention of backup data on disk while dramatically lowering capital and operating expenses including floor space, power, and cooling.

Avamar backups can be quickly recovered in just one step—eliminating the hassle of restoring full and subsequent incremental backups to reach the desired recovery point. The backup data is encrypted during transit across the network and at rest for added security.

In addition, Avamar’s centralized web-based management and at-a-glance dashboard view make it easy for you to protect hundreds of offices worldwide from a single location over existing network bandwidth.

HIGHLY EFFICIENT DATA DEDUPLICATION

The method for determining segment size is a key factor in eliminating redundant data at a sub-file level. Some solutions on the market use fixed-length segments when performing data deduplication. With this approach, even small changes to a dataset (for example, inserting data into the beginning of a file) can change all subsequent fixed-length segments in a dataset. Despite the fact that very little of the data has actually changed, the entire file will appear as new data that must be backed-up again.

Avamar solves this problem by examining the data to determine logical boundary points using variable-length data segments. Avamar delivers the most-efficient global, client-side data deduplication on the market—dramatically reducing the amount of data sent and stored, while eliminating backup bottlenecks and increasing performance.

SCALABILITY, HIGH AVAILABILITY, AND RELIABILITY

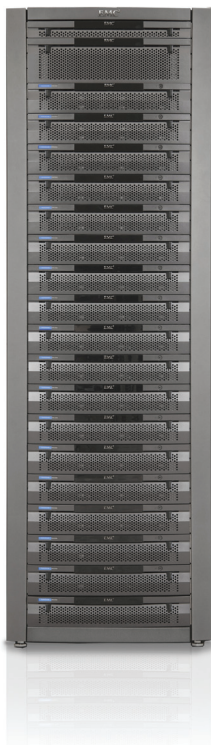
Unlike many server deployments, the Avamar Data Store uses a grid architecture that facilitates linear performance increases by simply adding storage nodes. Each incremental node increases CPU, memory, I/O, and disk capacity for the entire grid. When a storage node is added, data is automatically load-balanced without compromising system performance.

When traditional backup solutions fail, a company is exposed to potential data loss. Avamar eliminates single points of failure by employing patented redundant array of independent nodes (RAIN) technology to provide high availability and fault tolerance across nodes in the Data Store. In addition, system and data integrity is verified daily to ensure recoverability.

OPTIMIZED PROTECTION FOR VMWARE INFRASTRUCTURE

Avamar deduplicates your backup data globally, across your physical and virtual servers. For virtualized environments, flexible backup options include guest- and image-level backups that leverage the latest VMware vStorage APIs for Data Protection. In all cases, only new, unique sub-file, variable-length data segments are transferred across the virtual/physical infrastructure. Avamar deduplicates the data stored within the VMDK image files, enabling efficient replication for disaster recovery. Avamar leverages Changed Block Tracking for faster backups and restores. For image backup, Avamar maximizes throughput by load balancing across multiple proxy VMs. Avamar provides fast, single-step recovery of individual files or complete VMDK images to the original VM, an existing VM or a new VM. Avamar is approved for protecting the VCE Vblock.

EMC Avamar Data Store



“Tape just wasn’t doing the job for us. The Avamar solution gives us more effective data protection and puts us in a better position to restore lost data if necessary. In turn, we’re able to recover failed systems faster and shorten time to recovery for customer-facing services.”

TODD GOURD
MANAGER OF IT SYSTEMS ADMINISTRATION
CHEROKEE NATION ENTERPRISES

EFFICIENT EXPORT TO TAPE

If you require the use of tape media, Avamar Data Transport makes it easy to export Avamar deduplicated backup data to physical tape for cost-effective, long-term storage. By leveraging Avamar’s powerful deduplication technology, daily full backups can be efficiently stored on tape via EMC NetWorker® and other popular backup software. Avamar verifies data integrity for your peace of mind and offers a searchable catalog to simplify recovery from tape. In addition, an intuitive interface, along with streamlined reporting, make the entire process easy to manage.

FLEXIBLE DEPLOYMENT OPTIONS TO FIT YOUR EXACT NEEDS

Avamar provides flexibility in solution deployments depending upon your specific use case and recovery requirements. EMC Avamar Data Store, a RAIN grid, is a turnkey backup and recovery solution that integrates Avamar software with EMC-certified hardware for streamlined deployment. A replicated Avamar Data Store single-node is ideal for smaller businesses or remote offices with strict SLAs.

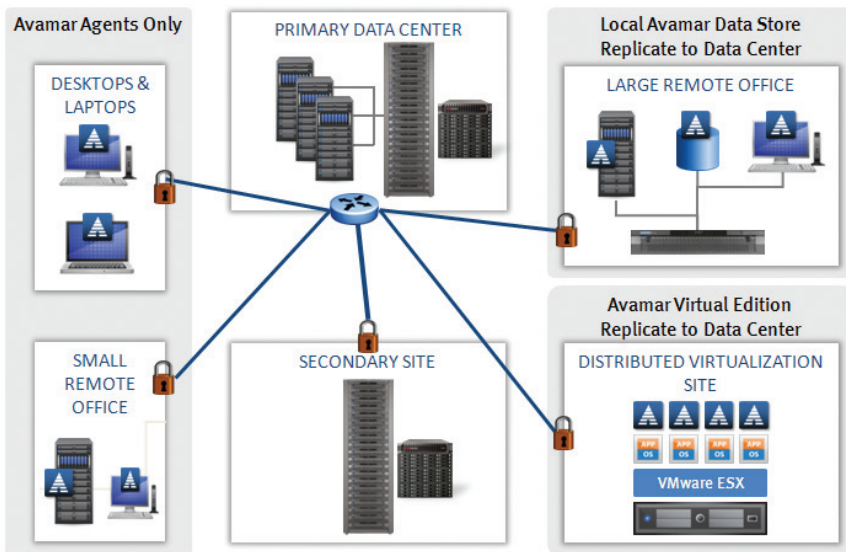
The EMC Avamar Virtual Edition—the industry’s first deduplication virtual appliance for backup and recovery—consists of EMC Avamar software deployed as a virtual appliance. It enables the deployment of a complete Avamar server on an existing VMware ESX® Server, leveraging the attached disk storage (up to 2 TB) and infrastructure. Since all aspects of the backup and recovery process are encapsulated and virtualized, control and management are also streamlined, reducing demands on your IT staff. Avamar Virtual Edition has the added benefit of cost-effective Avamar virtual-to-virtual, or Avamar virtual-to-physical server replication to meet your disaster recovery objectives.

“[EMC] Avamar provides a huge time and cost savings for backup of multiple virtual machines.”

CURTIS DAMHOF
SENIOR NETWORK ADMINISTRATOR
ST. PETER’S HOSPITAL

For remote offices, lightweight, efficient Avamar software agents can be deployed on servers with no additional remote hardware required. This enables data to be backed up directly over existing WAN connections to a central Avamar Data Store at the data center, eliminating the need for local tape backups and the risk associated with offsite tape shipments.

For application-specific backup, Avamar uses EMC Data Domain Boost software to send enterprise application data (Oracle, SQL, Sharepoint, Exchange, VMware image) directly to a Data Domain system. Now customers can unify their data protection process with the leading deduplication software and hardware in the industry; achieving the highest performance and most scalable backup and recovery solution.



Avamar enables desktop/laptop backup and recovery. It provides end users—anytime, anywhere with data deduplication at the client, open-file backup, and CPU throttling. Avamar quickly protects valuable data via existing network links, and since it operates in the background, Avamar is not disruptive to end users. Data is automatically backed up when a user logs in during normal backup windows, or users can initiate their own backups on demand. A streamlined GUI enables them to recover their own data quickly and easily without tasking the IT department. Data at the edge is now protected.

“The [EMC] Avamar remote office solution enabled us to reduce administrative support requirements by 80 percent, reduce backup windows by 90 percent, and recover lost files and servers in minutes rather than hours.”

MIKE DEPHILLIP
BACKUP ADMINISTRATOR
VIRGINIA DMV

Avamar Feature	Avamar Benefit
Global, client-side deduplication	Backup data reduced at the client and globally; reduces daily full backup times by up to 10x, network bandwidth for backup by up to 99 percent, and cumulative backup disk storage by up to 95 percent
Secure, efficient use of existing LAN/WAN links	Data encrypted in-flight and at rest for security across existing LAN/WAN links; reduces or eliminates reliance on tape
High availability and reliability	Patented RAIN architecture for fault tolerance across Avamar nodes; no single point of failure
Server health and data recoverability	Avamar server integrity and backup data recoverability verified daily
Centralized management	Simplifies remote office backup by leveraging data center experts; single pane of glass makes it easy to manage
Fast, single-step recovery	Recovers data (whole backups, files, or directories) immediately; no need to restore last good full and incremental backups
Export deduplicated data to tape	Lowers the cost of tape storage while providing a searchable, easy-to-manage interface
VMware infrastructure backups	Fast, efficient, daily full backups for VM guests and images
Physical and virtual Avamar deployment options	Best-in-class solutions to meet specific needs; same easy-to-manage interface
Integrated with Data Domain systems	High performance application-specific backup and recovery

CLIENT ENVIRONMENTS SUPPORTED

OPERATING SYSTEMS

- Apple Macintosh OS X
- Free BSD
- HP-UX
- IBM AIX
- Iomega
- Linux
- Microsoft Windows
- Novell NetWare
- Novell OES 2
- Novell OES SP2
- SCO UNIX
- Sun Solaris
- VMware ESX
- VMware vSphere 4

APPLICATIONS

- IBM DB2
- IBM Lotus Domino
- Microsoft Exchange
- Microsoft SharePoint
- Microsoft SQL Server
- NDMP for NAS Filers
- Oracle, Oracle RAC
- VMware

HARDWARE

Prepackaged EMC Avamar Data Store configurations for simplified deployment

PLATFORMS SUPPORTED

Please contact EMC for further details regarding certified hardware platforms.

CONTACT US

To learn more about how EMC products, services, and solutions help solve your business and IT challenges contact your local representative or authorized reseller—or visit us at www.EMC.com

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