

Re: VSS snaps filling my drive

Source:

<http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/Windows/microsoft.public.windows.server.general/2008-05/msg00306.html>

- *From:* Ramesh D <<mailto:d.ramesh@xxxxxxxx>>
 - *Date:* Tue, 6 May 2008 19:58:03 -0700 (PDT)
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On May 5, 9:16 pm, "Phil McNeill"
<philmcne...@xx> wrote:

Hi,

Just got a warning from my monitoring software that my 400GB database drive with around 100GB of Exchange information store is 75% full. I've seen this before, so went looking at the System Volume Information folder (after changing permissions to allow me access to it) to discover that it had accumulated 200GB worth of snapshots over the past 2 months. Every day when Veritas BE 9.1 (yes, we're upgrading this year) kicks in, I get the following message in my app log:

Event Type: Information
Event Source: MSExchangeIS
Event Category: Exchange VSS Writer
Event ID: 9604
Date: 5/1/2008
Time: 4:30:37 PM
User: N/A
Computer: PAGE
Description:
Exchange VSS Snapshot metadata document has been collected.

This is immediately followed by the Event ID 210 indicating that a full backup of the Exchange DB has started. Backups appear to be ok.

Each of the files in the Sysvol folder is created at the exact time the backup starts.

The only article I see on the Symantec/Veritas site talks about seeing these files pile up if a Shadow Copy Component backup is cancelled (<http://seer.support.veritas.com/docs/269989.htm>). Mine do not appear to be cancelled, as the VSS components are being successfully backed up according to the backup log. Anyway, the Veritas solution in the article is to stop the Volume Shadow Copy Service on the server.

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Questions:

1. If I disable the volume shadow copy service, what am I losing?
2. Can I safely delete the old files in the System Volume Information folder?
3. Any other recommendations?

Thanks in advance,

Phil

Exchange 2003 SP2 on W2K3 SP2 being backed up by Veritas BE 9.1

Hello Phil,

If you are taking VSS based backup of Exchange 2007, then VSS service is must. VSS service is going to coordinate with VSS requestor, VSS writer and VSS provider. I guess Veritas BE is a VSS aware application hence the Veritas BE role will be VSS requestor here.

So, if you stop VSS service, future backups won't happen. I am not sure why Veritas suggested to stop VSS service.

As per MSDN website, files should be deleted automatically after the backup is completed.

You may increase log levels of Veritas BE and Exchange StoreDriver to find more clues.

Regards,
Ramesh

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