

Re: Tape vs HDD vs NAS (speed considerations and size etc)..

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- *From:* "markm75" <markm75c@xxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* 8 Jan 2007 10:19:55 -0800
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Leythos wrote:

In article <1168277786.821425.191360@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>, markm75c@xxxxxxx says...

I guess another approach (if faster).. would be a sata or scsi array for the backups.. then backup the array to a tape library (assuming the array would be faster than the tape). Of course the cost goes up a bit more, but it provides more of a double assurance factor (even though, technically we already have single drive internal backup units, but these are beginning to run low on space at the end of 1 month, our full backup cycle period).

Yep, that's how we do it in large areas. We install a couple cheap servers with large multi-TB arrays (normally using cheap drives in a 8 or 12 drive solution) and then install a dedicated SCSI tape backup. All the servers backup to dedicated spaces on the backup server and then the server does a backup to tape – we copy to tape based on area/need, not doing it all on one tape. So we might backup servers from two areas on one day on Monday, then another set on Tuesdays, and then back to the first set....

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Cool.. so I'm a little closer to designing the plan we will need then.

Curious.. how are the disk arrays installed.. is this typically a rack situation.. say 2U etc..

Same thing with the tape drives on the installation part.. I'm assuming

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rack.. though I thought I've seen standalone "tower" type setups before.

I ask those 2, as we have yet to get a large enough rack to handle this, plus the large UPS we are going to be getting (APC unit, which handles like 4000 watts of load or so).

Also.. on the connectivity side.. the harddrive arrays.. I'm assuming these would use fiber or maybe an eSATA connection to one single server (though if connected to one server via sata or even SCSI, I'd think I would want something faster than gigabit for network connectivity if I'm going to send large backups to the unit from say 2 large data sized servers)?

Finally, similar question on the tape units.. are all of these scsi connected.. and would that imply "picking" a server to connect them to.. or is fiber the method used to connect to the backup harddisk array (or even scsi/esata)?

You said the server does the backup to the tape.. is this the harddisk array you are referring to (IE: one server.. handpicked to do the job.. backs up the harddisk array to tape..).. and can you selectively pick which tapes in the library get which "backups" or "backup data"? I'm also assuming that for both the backup to the Harddisk array and/or the backup of the array to tape, you are using something like BackupExec or even Windows Backup?

Thanks again for the help

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