

Kenneally Technology Services

NEWSLETTER

PRODUCT REVIEW EDITION

IMAGINE...

...a worry-free backup system that not only protects data files of all kinds, but one that could also restore your computer system in a matter of minutes rather than hours or even days.

Such a system exists if you choose **imaging** software to protect your business or home-based computer system. Symantec, the makers of various system protection and backup tools such as Norton Anti-Virus and Backup Exec, have a product for both your business and your home.

NORTON GHOST VERSION 14

This product, meant primarily for the home user, allows an end-user to make periodic image files of your computer system. Or in other words, it allows you to take a snap shot of your computer's files and configurations and save it to various sources including an external hard drive, an FTP website and a network attached storage device. You can even configure the software to make an emergency image if a certain security threshold is reached by a piece of malicious software or download.

You may say to yourself that when I delete a file I do not necessarily want to restore my whole system just to get it back. The Ghost software allows you to recover individual files or folders as well as having the full protection of complete system restoration in the event of a computer disaster. More information can be found at www.symantec.com/ghost.

SYMANTEC BACKUP EXEC SYSTEM RECOVERY SERVER EDITION

This product aimed at businesses with true servers is very similar to the Ghost product however it is little more complex and has enhanced capabilities. The software creates complete image files of a network server allowing individual file restoration or even full system restoration even to dissimilar hardware. That means if your server is completely dead you could purchase brand new server hardware and use the image process to restore your system in a fraction of the time.

The software also has the capability to backup and restore mail system files and crucial network security files such as user account properties and network permissions.

For more information go to www.symantec.com and search their product offerings for System Recovery Server

SUMMARY

These two softwares are not meant to replace your existing tape backup or online backup system. They are meant to enhance what you are already are using. However, in the event you need to restore a file, I would be willing to bet that you head for the image file rather than your stack of tapes. Just think how long it would take to restore your network server in the event of a catastrophe. Just finding all of the software installation CDs would probably take you hours before you even got started.

You never realize how important data backup is until the day you need them and rarely do computer users verify their backups are actually good ones. In these hard economic times where every dollar counts, having more than one option for file and system restoration is not a luxury but a necessity.

If you would like to assistance with the installation and configuration of the software mentioned in this edition, Kenneally Technology Services has a team of experienced and trained technicians to assist you. Please contact Dave Thomas at 410.321.9558 or dthomas@jlktech.com

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