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## Reducing Backup Windows

*All businesses face pressure to back up their data in a timely manner. Not only is data growing at an exponential rate, but most organizations need round-the-clock system availability for customers and employees. These pressures have shrunk the backup window and forced many businesses into either very expensive solutions, or taking extraordinary risks with their most valuable asset.*

### **Why is Reducing Backup Windows Important?**

Meeting the backup window is critical, and getting backups done faster is desirable, as long as it can be done cost-effectively.

The consequences of not meeting the backup window are well known. Backups fail, leaving the company at risk of losing critical data. In most cases, nothing bad happens and the missed backups are never noticed. But in the event that a file, volume, or entire server needed to be restored and the backup wasn't available, there could potentially be millions of dollars at stake. So, clearly it is essential that backups are completed within the designated time frame.

The benefits of reducing the backup window are more subtle, as they consist mostly of soft costs. Some users will make copies of their most critical data on another primary storage device, just to ensure that it is available in the event of a loss or corruption in the original data set. This costs the user valuable primary data space which could be recovered if only the backup could be done quickly and reliably within the backup window.

### **Reducing Backup Windows Affects Business Productivity**

Several years ago, open file agents or application specific backup agents were developed to allow systems to be backed up without skipping or missing files while those systems are up and running. While these help to capture all the data, if the backup is still running when users begin logging onto those systems, they will experience very low response times, resulting in a loss of productivity.

Finally, reducing time to back up gives users room for data growth and variability, which ensures that existing systems can be in place longer, extending the ROI.

### **Reducing Backup Windows Begins with You**

Storage technologies have evolved, with a number of different approaches to help users meet the backup window challenge.

The most sensible approach to addressing the backup window identifies the correct technology for the type of data and the restoration objectives. A tiered data protection strategy can be implemented to ensure that all of the different data types and policies are met in the most cost effective manner.

**Tiered Data Protection Appliances from Overland Storage®** offer midrange and distributed enterprises the ability to backup windows in timely manner. Overland Storage high performance RAID arrays, advanced disk-based virtual tape libraries and best-in-class automated tape libraries enable round-the-clock availability of your data. Whether you're driven by reducing costs or reducing risk, Overland storage ensures that information is constantly protected, readily available, and always there.

