

VERITAS Backup Exec

for Windows NT and Windows 2000

Network Storage Executive™

KEY BENEFITS

- Reduces cost and increases the efficiency of backup administration for multiple and/or distributed Backup Exec servers
- Improves reliability and integration of data protection with backup server pooling
- Easily scales to meet growing backup demands



The intuitive Network Storage Executive graphical user interface includes a Getting Started Taskpad that reduces the time required for administrators to set up their backup policies. Wizards guide new users through the most common tasks.

"Backup Exec Network Storage Executive is a solid solution for any Windows NT and Windows 2000 environment. The Information Technology Group (ITG) at Microsoft has chosen to deploy Network Storage Executive with Backup Exec for Windows NT/Windows 2000 to protect our world-wide data centers."

– Mike Carlson,
Director of Data Center Operations,
ITG Microsoft

Centralized Management and Fault Tolerance for Backup Exec

VERITAS Backup Exec Network Storage Executive™ is a powerful management tool designed to greatly enhance the functionality of VERITAS Backup Exec™ for Windows NT and Windows 2000. Network Storage Executive unifies multiple independent Backup Exec servers into a single storage domain to create one central point of command and control under a single Network Storage Executive Master. For the many corporations and institutions with rapidly growing networks, Network Storage Executive is an easily implemented backup solution that can measurably reduce administrative costs and increase operational efficiency. Network Storage Executive provides an easy path from server-based, departmental backup to fully automated, policy-driven, company-wide storage management.

Network Storage Executive has the flexibility and power to effectively manage multiple Backup Exec servers from one easy to use console by leveraging the strengths of leading technology, including Microsoft SQL Server, the Microsoft Management Console (MMC), and Crystal Decisions' Crystal Reports. Backup policies provide a scalable way to efficiently manage data protection for a large number of network resources, while backup server pooling improves overall backup performance and fault tolerance by intelligently load-balancing backup jobs across all available Backup Exec servers within the storage domain.

Product Highlights:

- **Centralized management** of backup, restore, and device operations gives administrators a single point for managing and controlling a group of servers running Backup Exec for Windows NT and Windows 2000.
- **An intuitive user interface** based on the Microsoft Management Console enables the backup operator to learn functions quickly and manage by exception.
- **Enhanced policy-based management** offers a scalable approach to efficiently manage hundreds of network resources and thousands of jobs. Copy policies from one master server to another for increased efficiency.
- **Backup server pooling** permits load balancing across Backup Exec servers and delivers higher levels of fault tolerance.
- **An embedded, centralized database** provides a robust platform that stores all job, device, media and configuration information in an easily accessible format that makes superior performance, data integrity and reliability possible.
- **Enhanced integration with Crystal Reports** provides administrators with over 30 different management reports instantly with a "point and click."
- **Create a centralized LAN-free backup solution** in a SAN by combining the Network Storage Executive with VERITAS Backup Exec SAN Shared Storage Option.
- **Enhanced Load Balancing** allows the movement of protected resources from one master server domain to another.



Version 8.6



Centralized Management

Administrators responsible for several backup servers can save valuable time and increase efficiency by centralizing the management of these servers. Backup Exec Network Storage Executive centralizes management activities across all Backup Exec servers within a single storage domain under the control of the Network Storage Executive Master, thus allowing more backup servers to be managed by each administrator. The Network Storage Executive Master sends commands to the Backup Exec servers to carry out various backup, restore, or device operations. Once these jobs are processed, results are stored in a central database using Microsoft SQL Server 7.0, providing a consolidated view of all job history. Media catalog information is stored in a central catalog repository so the administrator can quickly find any data that needs to be restored. Centralized media and device management ensures that standardized media protection policies are followed and presents a single consolidated view of all media and device inventory, location, and status information. To speed up deployment and ease future upgrades, Network Storage Executive allows the administrator to remotely install new Backup Exec servers and all options and update them in the future by pushing the software out from the Network Storage Executive Master.

Intuitive User Interface

The Network Storage Executive interface is based on the Microsoft Management Console (MMC), providing a familiar look and feel for users of Windows 2000. Wizards introduced by the "Getting Started Taskpad" walk new users through the most common tasks. Profiting from MMC's versatility, administrators can now customize consoles to enhance security or simplify the interface for less technical users. Security is further enhanced by an audit log that tracks user interface activity.

Many backup administrators prefer to focus their attention on the most urgent information first and manage by exception. Within the Network Storage Executive interface, red icons identify where backups have recently failed. Less critical, noteworthy details are highlighted with yellow icons. Customizable job and alert filters allow the administrator to hide unimportant details. Over twenty-seven standard reports, created with the embedded Crystal Reports reporting engine, enable administrators to quickly find the information they need most. Reports that show data at risk, protection status, performance trends, and service levels help backup administrators work smarter, not harder.



Network Storage Executive's Alert Configuration screen defines which alerts are important, allowing the user to manage by exception.

Policy-Based Management

As the demands of the storage environment change, backup administrators can spend significant time adjusting backup systems to accommodate these changes. Network Storage Executive enables the administrator to quickly adapt by establishing common backup policies to enforce data protection across the network. Backup policies may be reused to protect any desired number of network resources via simple drag-and-drop actions. Changes to a policy are automatically passed on to all resources that use this policy. It is therefore very easy to quickly reconfigure the backup strategy at a moment's notice. In a multimaster deployment, policies can be quickly exchanged among Network Storage Executive Master Servers as backup strategies evolve and protected resources are exchanged across storage domains.

The backup administrator also needs greater control over the backup process to help manage a large number of resources and tasks in a scalable way. Resource priority and availability settings allow the administrator to identify when and in what order backup jobs will be performed. This prevents jobs from running during peak business hours and makes sure the most important data is backed up first. Automated error-handling rules customized for several unique error categories further increase reliability and fault tolerance by giving administrators the option to retry failed jobs.

Backup Server Pooling

By pooling together several Backup Exec servers, administrators can create a more powerful, flexible and fault tolerant backup system. Network Storage Executive improves overall backup performance and resource utilization by intelligently load-balancing backup jobs across all available Backup Exec servers and backup devices within a user-defined pool. Capacity planning is greatly simplified, since the backup administrator no longer needs to determine exactly what data each Backup Exec server must back up, and new Backup Exec servers can be quickly incorporated into existing backup server pools with minimal configuration. Backup server pooling also improves fault tolerance by rerouting jobs to other Backup Exec servers and thus ensuring backup jobs will complete in the event a backup server or device is not available or fails during a backup.

Centralized Database

Integration with Microsoft SQL Server 7.0 provides Network Storage Executive with a robust database platform offering superior performance, full data integrity and uncompromised reliability. Using standard ODBC interfaces, administrators can enjoy unlimited management flexibility as they develop their own tools to access and report on information stored in the database. A runtime version of Microsoft SQL Server 7.0 Standard Edition is included with Network Storage Executive.

Create a Completely Centralized LAN-Free Backup Solution

The combination of Network Storage Executive with VERITAS Backup Exec SAN Shared Storage Option lets backup administrators create a completely centralized, LAN-free backup solution for Windows NT and Windows 2000 servers connected to a SAN. SAN Shared Storage Option allows dynamic sharing of centralized storage devices while Network Storage Executive centralizes storage management.

VERITAS Backup Exec

for Windows NT and Windows 2000

Network Storage Executive™

FEATURES	BENEFITS
Centralized Management	
Centralized backup, restore, and device utility operations	Execute all operations for any Backup Exec server from one location, increase operator productivity, and accelerate data recovery.
Scheduled device utility operations	Automate device maintenance, such as tape drive cleaning.
Backup server pooling	Load balance backup jobs across multiple Backup Exec servers; increase fault tolerance in the event a backup server fails.
NEW! Move protected resources and their policies between storage domains	Efficiently load balance protected resources and their associated policies among Network Storage Executive storage domains.
Push installation of Backup Exec and Network Storage Executive options	Quickly and easily deploy new Backup Exec servers for use by Network Storage Executive, and remotely upgrade all Backup Exec <i>for Windows NT and Windows 2000</i> options.
Centralized database using Microsoft SQL Server 7.0	Robust database platform stores all job, device, media, and configuration information in an easily accessible format.
Centralized job history, logging and media catalog operations	Consolidated views of backup status and history of protected servers and related protected data enable the use of any available Backup Exec server for restore (no need to remember which backup server originally performed the backup).
Centralized Device and Media management	Consolidated views simplify management capabilities for device inventory, media configuration and overwrite protection.
Alert configuration	Define which alerts are important and which alerts should be ignored.
Customizable notification methods	Use an array of flexible methods to inform backup operators of problems and status using Exchange, Lotus Domino and SMTP e-mail, SNMP, event log, and alpha-numeric pager.
NEW! WAN configuration wizard	Eases system setup for Wide Area Network installations by creating localized catalogs and creating settings for communications bandwidth throttling.
Advanced notification	Define unique notification methods and schedules customized for each person managing the system; stop repeating notifications if a certain threshold is exceeded within a time period.
Offsite media tracking	Track media movement offsite to facilitate disaster recovery.
Advanced scheduling	Schedule backups with greater flexibility, exclude holidays, and view summary in a calendar format.
Ease of Use	
Intuitive user interface with Getting Started Taskpad	Reduce the time required for administrators to set up backup policies: wizards guide new users through the most common tasks.
Interface based on the Microsoft Management Console (MMC)	Familiar look and feel for Windows 2000 users; customize consoles to suit the needs of individual users, or restrict access to certain areas of the interface.
Color-coded backup status icons	Quickly identify existing problems or backup failures by network resource.
Job and alert filter view	Customize and save filtered views of jobs and alerts to display only the information you want to see; answer media request alerts from the active job view.
Audit log	Track which users have performed specific operations within the interface.
NEW! Rolling software Network Storage Executive upgrades	Nondisruptive backup and restore operations as an upgrade is rolled out to remote backup servers over time.
Consolidated reporting using embedded Crystal Reports	Instantly view job status, device, media, performance, or engine configuration information consolidated across all Backup Exec servers.
Policy-Based Control	
Backup policies	Efficiently manage data protection for a large number of network resources.
NEW! Copy job policies from one storage domain to another	Save time configuring job policies in multi-master environments.
Global, server, or resource level file exclusions	Prevent unnecessary backups.
Resource priority settings	Ensure the most important data is backed up first.
Resource availability window	Establish the time of day when backups should, or must not, execute on a resource.
Backup task precedence	Easily set up a variety of media rotations while ensuring backups will not overlap on the same days.
Error handling rules	Increase backup success rates by automating job retry in the event of failure.
Database and catalog pruning	Control growth of the database and catalog size by automatically deleting the oldest information (optional setting).
SAN Integration	
Integration with VERITAS Backup Exec SAN Shared Storage Option	Create a completely centralized data protection system from storage device to management console.

Centralized Management and Fault Tolerance for Backup Exec

System Requirements

Network Storage Executive Backup Server Requirements

- Must have Backup Exec for Windows NT and Windows 2000 v8.6 (refer to Backup Exec datasheet for system requirements)
- Additional Backup Exec Requirements
 - Intel Pentium Class 166 MHz or higher
 - 128 MB RAM minimum required
 - 250 MB minimum free disk space
 - 128K connection to master server

Note: Backup Exec for Windows NT and Windows 2000 v8.6 is required (sold separately).

Network Storage Executive Master Requirements

Operating System

- Microsoft Windows NT Server 4.0, Service Pack 4 or greater; or Windows 2000 Server.

Processor*

- Intel Pentium 2 or compatible – 233 MHz or higher.

Memory*

- Physical memory available, 256 MB RAM.

Disk Space*

- 150 MB for Network Storage Executive application.
- 400 MB minimum for Microsoft SQL Server and Network Storage Executive database.
- 1 GB minimum for catalogs.

* Minimum requirements for processor speed, memory, and disk space may increase based on the number of backup servers, protected servers, and overall size of the managed environment.

Other Hardware

- CD-ROM drive
- Printer supported by Microsoft Windows NT or Windows 2000 (optional)
- Modem supported by Microsoft Windows NT or Windows 2000 for pager notification and Support Now configurations (optional)
- Backup devices and matching device drivers installed

Storage Hardware

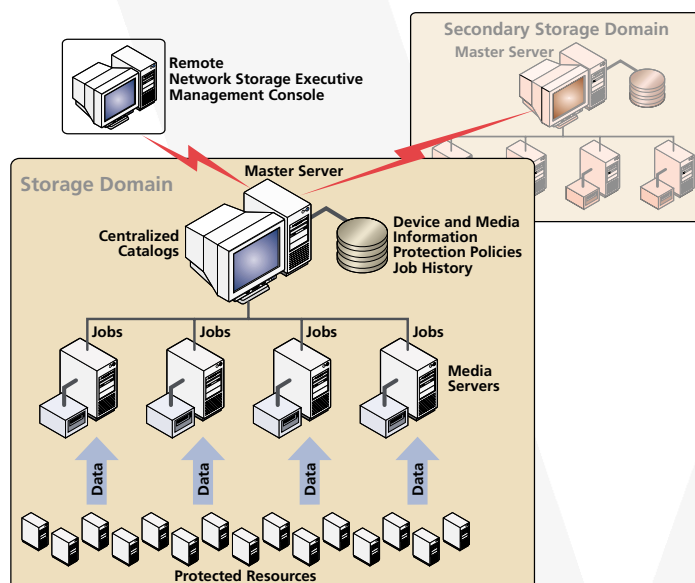
- Network Storage Executive requires at least one storage media drive or autoloader and the appropriate controller card per Network Storage Executive backup server.
- Refer to the Backup Exec Hardware Compatibility List at www.support.veritas.com/dsl for a complete device support list.
- Refer to the Microsoft Windows NT and Windows 2000 Hardware Compatibility List for a complete list of supported SCSI controllers.

Software

- Internet Explorer 5 (required by MMC 1.2)
- Microsoft SQL Server 7.0 (Service Pack 2 recommended)
Note: A runtime version of Microsoft SQL Server 7.0 Standard Edition is included with Network Storage Executive but is restricted to use with Network Storage Executive only.

Backup Exec Network Storage Executive Ordering Information

- Backup Exec Network Storage Executive Starter Pack (includes 1 Network Storage Executive Master and 3 Access Licenses)
- Backup Exec Network Storage Executive, Access License 3-Pack for Backup Exec
- Backup Exec Network Storage Executive, Remote Management Console



VERITAS Backup Exec Network Storage Executive unifies multiple independent Backup Exec servers into a single storage domain to create one central point of command and control under a single master server.

About VERITAS The Data Availability Company™: VERITAS Software Corporation (Nasdaq:VRTS) provides essential data availability software solutions that enable customers to protect and access their business-critical data for Business Without Interruption™.

VERITAS Software Corporation

Corporate Headquarters
1600 Plymouth Street
Mountain View, CA 94043
650-527-8000 or 800-327-2232

For additional information about VERITAS Software, its products, or the location of an office near you, please call our corporate headquarters or visit our Web site at www.veritas.com.