

white paper

esXpress 3.5 Product Comparison

PHD Virtual esXpress 3.5

esXpress 3.5 by PHD Virtual uses multiple virtual backup appliances (VBA's) to provide highly scalable, high throughput, simultaneous de-duplicated backups of virtual machines. The use of de-duplication technology in all backups, which are performed source side at the block level mean that backups are fast and storage efficient. One highly unique feature of the esXpress product is the ability to restore virtual machine backups without requiring the esXpress software installed. The restore mechanism is built into the backup file itself making it highly portable as well as providing the simplest and most versatile restore process in the market.

For more information on esXpress 3.5 product visit: <http://www.phdvirtual.com/products/esxpress-virtual-backup>. To download a free trial of esXpress 3.5 please visit: <http://phdvirtual.com/register>

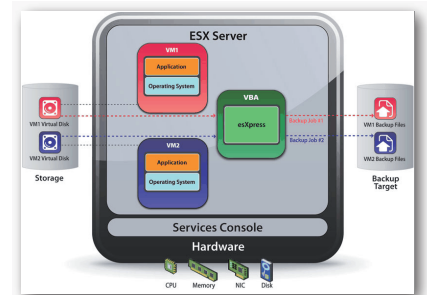


Figure 1: PHD Virtual esXpress

VMware Data Recovery 1.0

VMware Data Recovery (vDR) is a virtual backup and recovery appliance. Backups of VM's can be scheduled, and taken via the VMware standard snapshot process. As with esXpress, multiple backups of a VM can be stored allowing specific point in time restores. Full or incremental Image level backups can be configured. VMware promote key features such as fast backup/restore, central management and cost effective storage management, however product features are limited.

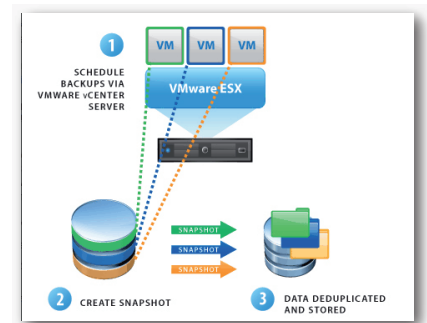


Figure 2: VMware Data Recovery

Vizioncore vRanger Pro 3.2.8.1

Vizioncore vRanger Pro provides full or differential hot image level VM backups through snapshotting via a Windows based management application. Multiple backups of a VM can be stored allowing specific point in time restores. Key features promoted leverage VMware VCB.

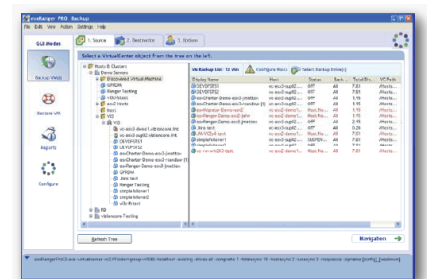


Figure 3: Vizioncore vRanger

Veeam Backup & Replication 3.1

Veeam Backup & Replication provides VM disaster recovery via a Windows based management application and a SQL database. Full or incremental Image level backups can be configured. Key features include replicating backups, fast file restore and de-duplication.

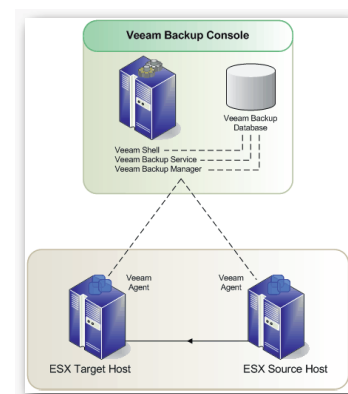


Figure 4: Veeam Backup & Replication

Product Comparison Summary

Function	PHD Virtual esXpress (VBA)	VMware vDR (VBA)	Vizioncore vRanger (VCB)	Veeam Backup 3.1 (VCB)
Data de-duplication at source across all backups **	YES	NO	NO	NO
Replicates de-duplicated blocks	YES	NO	NO	NO
Compression at source	YES	YES	YES	YES
Completely fault tolerant backup infrastructure	YES	NO	NO	NO
On demand "one up" backups	YES	NO	NO	NO
Number of simultaneous backup jobs	16 (per ESX host)	8 (per appliance)	2 (per ESX host)	8 (in VCB mode)
Instant file level restore ***	YES	NO	NO	YES
Easy one step restore process	YES	NO	NO	NO
Natively export backups to tape device	YES	NO	NO	YES (script only)
Supports backup encryption	YES	NO	YES	YES
Supports multiple backup targets per backup	YES (9 per ESX host)	YES (2 total)	NO	NO
Multiple backup targets with failover capability	YES	NO	NO	NO
One-to-many backup replication	YES	NO	NO	NO
Portable backups (restore without backup software)	YES	NO	NO	NO
Maximum supported VM's	Unlimited	100	Unlimited	Unlimited
Backup VM templates	YES	NO	NO	YES
Can throttle backup speeds	YES	NO	NO	NO
Backup VM's that are powered off	YES	YES	YES	YES
Retry failed backups	YES	NO	NO	NO
Multiple restore points	YES	YES	YES	YES
Microsoft VSS support	YES	YES	YES	YES
Requires vCenter server	NO	YES	NO	NO
Backup VMware 'Fault Tolerance' virtual machines	NO	NO	NO	NO
Agent installation in the source virtual machine	NO	NO	NO	NO
Supports ESX 3.x and ESX 4.x	YES	NO	NO	YES

** espress is the only backup software that deduplicates across all backups. Some other products claiming de-duplication only do this per backup, and effectively only provide compression.

*** 'Instant' means without requiring to restore an entire backup first

Key Product Comparisons

- VMware themselves state that vDR is not suitable for medium to enterprise VMware installations (100+ VM's), whereas esXpress has unlimited scalability
- esXpress can natively replicate backups from a primary site to a secondary site (or any other location), while VMware vDR and Vizioncore vRanger cannot.
- esXpress does not require vCenter making it ideal for environments of any size whilst vDR always requires a vCenter instance.
- esXpress does not require any infrastructure other than a single ESX host to restore virtual machines, whereas all other products require their own backup infrastructure.
- Except for esXpress, all other backup products do not provide a resilient backup infrastructure. If their backup management server fails so do all the backups. esXpress has a distributed architecture, so one failure does not impact the remaining hosts. This also makes the solution more scalable than other products.
- Except for esXpress, all other backup products do not provide portable backups, eg: require a backup infrastructure in order to restore a backup. An esXpress backup file can restore itself, without the need for any installed backup software.
- esXpress is the only backup product that will retry a backup if it fails AND/OR try an alternative backup destination if the primary one is full or offline etc. This level of workflow intelligence places esXpress well ahead of the competition.
- esXpress has over 1600 installations, case studies, awards and a proven track record.

4.0 Useful References

1. PHD Virtual, <http://www.phdvirtual.com/>
2. esXpress 3.5 Trial, <http://www.phdvirtual.com/register>
3. esXpress 3.5 information, <http://www.phdvirtual.com/products/esxpress-virtual-backup>
4. VMware Data Recovery, <http://www.vmware.com/products/data-recovery/overview.html>

About PHD Virtual

As the pioneer of virtual backup appliances (VBA's), PHD Virtual Technologies has been transforming data protection in virtual IT environments since 2006. Its award-winning data protection solution for virtual infrastructures, esXpress, is used today by more than 1,600 enterprises worldwide to achieve unlimited dynamic growth, high availability, no single point of failure and scalable performance. PHD Virtual is committed to helping our customers and provides free, easy-to-use virtualization utilities to assist with the administration and management of virtualized environments.

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