

Veritas Backup Reporter Getting Started Guide



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Documentation version 6.2

PN: : (HRO7210)SKU 11132088

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Symantec Corporation
20330 Stevens Creek Blvd.
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Introducing Veritas Backup Reporter

This document includes the following topics:

- [About Veritas Backup Reporter functions](#)
- [About Veritas Backup Reporter components](#)
- [About the documentation](#)
- [About the demo database](#)

About Veritas Backup Reporter functions

Veritas™ Backup Reporter (VBR) helps organizations by providing visibility into their data protection environment. By using Veritas Backup Reporter, you can track the effectiveness of data backup and recovery operations by generating comprehensive business-level reports. A wide range of audiences benefit from the reporting and management capabilities of Veritas Backup Reporter. For example, IT (Information Technology) managers, application owners, IT finance teams, external compliance auditors, legal teams, line-of-business managers, external customers, IT architects, and capacity planning teams.

The primary objectives of Veritas Backup Reporter are as follows:

- Help organizations assess their compliance with business standards by allowing them to accomplish the following:
 - Manage Service Level Agreements
 - Report out to legal department, auditors, IT managers, and administrators
 - Verify compliance with internal as well as external business-level regulations

- Identify risks in terms of shortfall of backup resources
- Assess recovery of clients and applications
- Assist organizations in effective business planning by enabling them to do the following:
 - Estimate backup resources required in the future, with the help of backup trend analysis
 - Calculate the cost of data protection management and chargeback to customers and business units
 - Provide support to multiple backup products

About compliance reporting

Veritas Backup Reporter helps organizations evaluate their compliance with internal and external business standards by providing accurate, abdicable, and customizable reports. By using internal compliance reports, you can measure performance of the system against Service Level Agreement (SLA). The results are then used to optimize data protection management. The reports, such as history or trend analysis, ensure your compliance with SLA. By using these reports, you can track the usage of backup resources and identify the risks involved. For example, you can generate a report that anticipates a shortfall of resources in the future based on the current backup trend. This report is then used to determine the time required to purchase new tape drives, master servers, or media servers.

External compliance reports help you follow the policies laid down by various regulatory bodies that are related to federal, healthcare, internal processes, and others. These policies include SOX and HIPAA.

In addition to tracking the backup information, VBR reports ensure recovery of key information assets. The reports can help you ensure that the data recovery meets the recovery-time and recovery-point objectives.

Veritas Backup Reporter can generate reports filtered by views. A view shows a set of enterprise assets (hosts or file systems) organized in logical groups. For example, you can create views to display assets according to their locations in the organization, the line of business they represent, or the applications that are installed. Veritas Backup Reporter can generate reports according to views created. These reports help you identify locations or departments containing assets with critical data. These reports are then used in resource planning.

About business planning

Veritas Backup Reporter is a management tool that helps you optimize your data protection environment with effective business planning. It delivers backup services to organizations, which include reporting on backup and recovery trends and managing data centers. Veritas Backup Reporter supports a wide range of backup and recovery solutions including Symantec's NetBackup and BackupExec. It seamlessly integrates with Symantec's as well as third-party backup products and provides consistent reporting across them. Veritas Backup Reporter can collect data from the following backup products:

- Veritas NetBackup
- Veritas BackupExec
- IBM Tivoli Storage Manager
- CommVault Galaxy Backup & Recovery
- EMC Legato Networker

Veritas Backup Reporter's ability to forecast backup resource requirements helps data center executives to decide whether to maintain the existing resources or add new capacity. The detailed, drill-down VBR reports help you determine the applications, databases, or business departments that are the heaviest consumers of backup resources. For example, in an environment running 20 instances of Oracle applications, you can generate a report showing resource consumption by department, server, or location. Depending on this information, organizations can provide appropriate resource planning in advance.

Veritas Backup Reporter offers you a set of chargeback reports that detail backup services expenditures. By using these reports, you can track the backup and recovery usage and the associated cost. By using the chargeback function, you can define pricing models for backup service delivery and allocate costs to customers based on these models. For example, you can create a formula that determines charges based on kilobytes of backed up data over a period of time. Using this chargeback data, you can then present itemized invoices to internal customers, export chargeback tables to third-party billing systems, or use the data to analyze and justify expenditures.

About Veritas Backup Reporter components

Veritas Backup Reporter is based on a distributed client-server architecture. The core of the software suite is the VBR Management Server.

Veritas Backup Reporter consists of the following components:

VBR Management Server	Stores and manages the data collected from multiple backup products.
VBR Agent	Gathers backup information from systems and applications by interacting with a local or a remote service.
VBR View Builder	Enables IT to define multi-level views of backup resources for use within the VBR console. For example, views can be organized by line of business, geographic location, or application type.
VBR console	Provides browser-based access to backup services features.

About the VBR Management Server

The VBR Management Server, core of the VBR architecture, is a Web application that merges data collected from multiple backup products. The Sybase ASA (Adaptive Server Anywhere) database management system is used to store the backup data, chargeback formulae, and alerts. This data is used for reporting on backup-related information.

About the VBR Agent

The VBR Agent consists of modules that are specific to backup products. The VBR Agent modules collect data from the respective backup products and return it to the VBR Management Server. When you install the VBR Agent, Agent modules for all backup products are automatically installed. However, you need to configure and run an Agent Module to be able to collect data from the related backup product.

About the VBR View Builder

The VBR View Builder is used to create views that represent logical groups of IT assets (hosts or file systems), which are organized in a hierarchical manner.

In a VBR view, IT assets that are scattered across the organization can be grouped according to their locations, business units, or applications. You can generate business reports depending on the selected views.

About the VBR console

The VBR console is a browser-based dashboard that provides a centralized view of the data backup and recovery environment. Using the VBR console, you can access multi-level views of backup resources. You can manage multiple backup products and generate consistent reports for them. The console consists of tools for defining cost metrics and chargeback formulas used to charge customers that use backup service.

About the documentation

An electronic version of VBR documentation is provided on the enclosed discs. To view documentation prior to installing the product, mount the disc and navigate to the `/docs` directory.

After you install Veritas Backup Reporter, documentation is available under the following directories:

- For Windows: `\Program Files\Symantec\Veritas Backup Reporter\Docs`
- For Solaris: `Solaris:/opt/VRTS/docs`

Note: You can purchase the printed version of the VBR documentation from the Symantec Web Store at: <http://www.symantec.com/enterprise/veritas/index.jsp>.

About the demo database

After installing VBR, you have the option to populate the VBR database with a collection of sample data. This sample data helps you evaluate the scope of delivering backup services across your enterprise. The sample data simulates a fully functional network, containing instances of many types of discovered devices and applications.

For information about installing the demo database, see the *Veritas Backup Reporter Installation Guide*.

