Reliable Backup Strategies for Businesses

Cloud Platforms and Servers

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In this article we will delve into the critical topic of **Backups** for your business's IT infrastructure. **Backups** are often overlooked or misunderstood, but they are an essential aspect of **data protection**. We will explore various backup solutions, including cloud services and on-premises systems, and emphasise the importance of disaster recovery planning. Let's begin.

Backup Solutions for Cloud Services

One commonly overlooked area is **Backup** solutions for cloud services like **Microsoft 365** or **Google Workplace**. Contrary to popular belief, these platforms do not provide built-in backup solutions, and it is the responsibility of the customer to ensure data protection.

Fortunately, several solutions cater specifically to backing up **Cloud Platforms**. One such solution is **Datto SaaS Protect**, which backs up your emails, calendars, shared drives, and personal drives from platforms like **OneDrive**. These backup solutions continuously monitor and capture changes, ensuring that even accidental file deletions or ransomware attacks can be undone. The backed-up data is stored securely in separate cloud storage, independent of Microsoft or Google data centres. Investing in cloud backup solutions is crucial, especially as more businesses transition to cloud-based storage and collaboration platforms.

Backing up On-Premises Solutions

On-premises solutions, such as servers or network-attached storage (NAS), also require robust backup strategies. It is essential to establish backup solutions that minimise human error. Relying on manual processes, such as swapping backup drives, is not ideal due to potential risks like the responsible person being unavailable or drives not being taken off-site for safekeeping. For on-premises servers and NAS, automate backup processes wherever possible to ensure consistent and reliable data protection

Securing Virtual Servers and Machines

If your business utilises **Virtual Servers** or **machines**, such as Azure virtual machines, it is equally important to implement backup measures. Follow similar principles as with on-premises solutions by minimising human involvement and establishing automated backup processes. Consult with your IT support or cloud service provider to determine the most effective backup strategy for your virtual infrastructure. Or give **Iconology** a call and one of our friendly team members would be happy to help.

The Three-Two-One-One-Zero Rule

When it comes to **Backup** best practices, it is worth mentioning the **Three-Two-One-One-Zero rule**. This rule serves as a guideline for backups of on-premises and virtual servers. It emphasizes having three copies of your data, stored on two different media types, with one copy kept off-site or in the cloud, and employing a zero-error approach to ensure data integrity. This only touches the surface of the **Three-Two-One-Zero rule**, we will cover it in more detail in a future article.

Creating a Disaster Recovery Plan

Lastly, having a comprehensive **Disaster Recovery Plan** is crucial. Consult with your IT company to develop a plan tailored to your business's needs. A disaster recovery plan outlines the steps to be taken in the event of data loss or system failure, including data restoration procedures, estimated recovery times, and contact information for relevant parties. It may also include contingency plans for temporary work arrangements or alternative platforms. Your IT company will be instrumental in guiding you through the creation and implementation of an effective **Disaster Recovery Plan.**

Conclusion

In conclusion, **Backups** play a vital role in protecting your business's IT infrastructure and data. Whether it's cloud services, on-premises solutions, or virtual servers, establishing reliable backup strategies is essential. By investing in backup solutions and disaster recovery planning, you can ensure the safety and availability of your valuable business data. Reach out to your IT support company or contact Iconology for further assistance and advice in implementing robust backup solutions.

Remember, safeguarding your data is not a luxury but a **necessity** in today's technology-driven world.

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