Revolutionize and modernize your data protection solution

How next-gen SaaS backup strategies help grow business faster

metallic | ▦ Microsoft Azure

Let's face it, by this time in the cloud revolution, data protection should be simple, fast, unlimited, scalable, and versatile. And don't forget affordable.

The cloud revolution promised all those things, and yet still, with many solutions, businesses of all sizes are struggling with data security and recovery. With 84% of companies reporting malicious attacks like ransomware in 2019 at an average downtime cost of $250,000 per hour,[1] no one can afford anything less than virtually instant recovery of data.

And that's just one of the reasons the industry is ready for SaaS gen 2.0 cloud backup and recovery technology.

Many data backup and recovery systems such as Druva were developed during gen 1.0 of the cloud data revolution. They are limited by their origins as AWS-only endpoint security tools and have struggled to evolve with the pace of the cloud.

We've created this e-book to help you move past these limitations. We'll be sharing the latest thinking from Commvault's Metallic team and Microsoft on what you can do to modernize your data protection capabilities.

Envisioning the future, rather than fixing the past

In the case of data protection, it's important that any software-as-a-Service solutions solve for some of the critical challenges presented by earlier offerings, such as:

The data footprint explosion expanding the attack surface too fast for effective coverage

With data consumption predicted to double every three years for the foreseeable future, data management and storage will continue its exponential rise in complexity.

Uninterrupted operations require the ability to identify, back up, and restore data wherever it's been stashed from a single management pane, including on-prem, multiple clouds (AWS and Azure), with coverage for VMs, file servers, SQL databases, and SaaS applications such as Office 365 and more.

Previous gen (1.0) SaaS offerings are scrambling to cobble together multiple products to support these data sources that have magnified the complexity for the backup admins. A single interface such as Metallic can help reduce and manage "tool sprawl."

Recovery and backup speeds that just aren't cutting it

When each second can cost hundreds of dollars, speed isn't just a number, it's a lifeline. If you're waiting for non-local copies of data to restore, you're losing time just when you can't afford it. Even on the backup side, without built-in functionality such as deduplication, anomaly detection, compression, and bandwidth optimization to back up quickly, you could be losing money. Storing backup copies in AWS for Office 365 data as Druva does increases RTO and still might not meet organizations' objectives.

Mitigation of ransomware risks

The increasing dangers of ransomware mean you need some way to detect and prevent attacks. It's becoming essential that any data protection system utilizes built-in anomaly detection as it manages data tasks and is flexible enough to respond to attacks. Once it detects an attack, a solution like Metallic has the granular recovery and sophisticated global index to find and restore just what you need—to where you need it—fast.

Let's talk about improving your backup and recovery strategies.

5 keys to a pro-business-growth backup and recovery strategy

You do not have to be stuck with a sub-optimal first-gen solution and can easily modernize your data protection solution to leading SaaS gen 2.0 (Metallic) offerings that have vastly simplified the onboarding process and can provide value very quickly.

The following are 5 key considerations for a solution that promotes speed and business growth.

1. Plan for backup and recovery across applications and environments with a single, unified product

First-gen (1.0) solutions like Druva require customers to acquire and manage multiple products to support various data sources, resulting in complexities such as policy management, dashboards, and reporting. Multi-cloud plans clearly call for more versatility than that.

When planning new projects, include careful backup and recovery considerations like this for all new applications your organization is considering, even those managed within lines of business. And make sure your plan covers everything, so you are not scrambling for additional solutions to protect non-AWS environment, or the latest flavor of file or database servers, VMs, endpoints, and Office 365 data.

The latest generation of SaaS solutions provide compelling value here.

> **In short:** Don't limit your backup and recovery capabilities right out of the gate. Make sure your solution covers all the environments you may need, with a single interface.

2. Optimize everything

From the main data center to endpoint devices, backup can seem to take ages. And you can't afford to just stop and do it later when you have the time.

To solve for that, some backup and recovery solutions like Metallic have advanced deduplication and compression technology to reduce the size of the data before it's sent across the network. They also enable local backup copies for fastest recovery of workloads on-prem.

This means your backups can complete, even if you're bandwidth-challenged. If you're running a legacy backup product, this is one big reason to modernize your solution.

> **In short:** Proven network optimization is a key part of modern underlying backup and recovery technology. Don't back up without it.

3. Leave an "air gap" between data and backup

If the system that gets attacked is the same system doing the recovery, you've got a problem. Backup systems and services need to be physically and logically separate from the impacted systems. (We call this an "air gap.")

By running SaaS backup and recovery with a service hosted in the cloud, you can create secondary data copies in resilient cloud storage that are safe from ransomware attacks. Next-gen data protection solutions such as Metallic offer multi-location copies of data to be able to recover quickly and securely.

> **In short:** Your SaaS backup and recovery solution should be able to create secondary data copies in resilient cloud storage. This way, your backups will be ready to access, even if ransomware hits.

4. Don't pay for the backup mistakes of the past.

Data protection decisions made years ago can leave you with solutions that are not tailored for the modern clouds. But there's an easy way to fix the past: work with the business owner of each application to select the backup parameters such as RPO, RTO, compliance regulations, and best practices. Modernize and refresh your data protection environment using SaaS gen 2.0 solutions such as Metallic, which allow transparent pricing, and fast deployments providing business value within minutes. (Druva's cost becomes unpredictable with BET pricing and readjustments due to deduplication and retention assumptions.)

In addition, when selecting a backup solution, make sure it indexes data so it's quick and easy to find at the granular level, for when you need to clean house.

> **In short:** Work with the internal data owners to define RPO, RTO, and compliance objectives—it can save you big time.

5. Include backup and recovery in your security plans.

Say a ransomware attack gets past your defenses. Your backup solution's probably just going to sit there as your data is being locked down and corrupted under your nose. But it doesn't have to. Your backup solution should include anomaly detection powered by machine learning, granular recovery capabilities—standard—and not just at the endpoints: throughout your system.

> **In short:** Select a backup provider that includes both anomaly detection and data indexing for granular recovery.

What modern backup and recovery looks like now—not 12 months ago.

There has been tremendous innovation in the data protection industry. As you consider next steps to modernize your capabilities, you'll want to be aware of some key functionalities that products like Metallic now include.

SaaS simplicity and visibility just keep improving

From the minute you begin, the latest backup and recovery systems reveal huge improvements over previous paradigms.

For instance, products like Metallic include onboarding wizards that can get you up and running in 15 minutes with pre-configured setups for best outcomes, dramatically shrinking operationalizing and deriving value from the solution—without disrupting ongoing work.

Right away, you get an instant view of your entire data protection estate through a customizable dashboard that quantifies and shows improvements and changes in your service-level agreements, such as Recovery Point Objective (RPO) and Recovery Time Objective (RTO).

You're no longer shackled by data storage location

Using the latest SaaS backup and recovery models, you can either use the provider's storage or bring your own storage. You can also store backup copies both in the cloud and on-prem for the fastest recovery, whereas Druva is hamstrung by providing recovery only from AWS storage or simple local cache.

Recovery has become unbelievably fast and reliable

New solutions like Metallic have greatly increased backup and recovery speeds. SaaS solutions now apply the latest deduplication, anomaly detection, compression technology, and bandwidth optimization that dramatically shorten backup times while improving accuracy.

Granular and file-level restore and the option to keep local copies on-prem make restoring data far faster and easier than ever before on any platform.

Administrators can easily and quickly manage backup policies and execute restore operations as well as daily backup administration, leaving them more time for strategic and rewarding tasks.

SaaS has cracked the code on future-proof technology

Whether on-prem, in the cloud, or hybrid, and not limited to one cloud provider, modern SaaS backup and recovery handles a larger number of users in more environments than ever before. Metallic has set the bar in its ability to deliver what's needed now, and has hedged against any advances to come—no matter how your business grows.

From 1 terabyte to 10,000 or more, it is now faster than previously imaginable to back up and recover all kinds of data.

Are backup and recovery holding up your business growth?

A 7-question self-assessment for business and IT leaders.

It can be difficult to make a direct connection between backup and recovery systems and business performance. To give yourself and other stakeholders a better sense of how your organization is doing, ask yourself and your users the following seven questions. If the answer to any of them is "yes," you should consider modernizing your backup and recovery strategies.

1. Are your backup and recovery measures limited when it comes to storage options and does your solution cover cloud cache data only, with no active on-prem copy for fast recovery to on-prem sources?

2. Is your solution made up of multiple tools that are not yet merged completely for easy, unified management (such as Phoenix and CloudRanger)?

3. Are you limited to local cache snapshots over a limited period of time that impact your retention and recovery capabilities?

4. Do you have to pay for a premium plan to access AI-driven detection of unusual data at all endpoints?

5. Does your backup and recovery solution simplify deployment and start delivering immediate value with comprehensive, live dashboards?

6. Does your provider exclude Azure support for data backup?

7. Does your solution force you to backup core business app data from Office 365 to another cloud, increasing RTO?

The backup and recovery revolution has arrived

Metallic and Microsoft have changed the game. Now every business has access to proven, enterprise-grade backup and recovery technology, with a simple SaaS delivery. Metallic is built on Commvault's industry-leading core technology, with 20 years of customer insights and best practices baked in, and is based on technology with more than 800 patents.

It only takes a few minutes to experience proven scale and innovation—whether it's our global data index, network bandwidth optimization, or anomaly detection—while benefitting from the most flexible SaaS solution on the market. Go on, give it a try.

Got 15 minutes? We'll rock your backup and recovery world.

Take it for a spin

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