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**RE: The top 5 changes between Symantec's Backup Exec Ver.11 and Ver. 12.**

By Kevin Curley



**Summary:** Even though our products work with a variety of back-up software, we have found that most of our customers use Symantec's Backup Exec. This program provides a wide variety of set-up options which will cover most personal and business back up requirements. The latest version of this program is 12D, but we have noticed that quite a few customers are still using older versions. This document will cover the top five changes between version 11 and version 12D, what they are, and how they affect your High-Rely system.

### **1. Support for Microsoft windows server 2008**

Symantec's BE12D was designed to work with Winserv2008 and Vista. We have tested it and have found no problem's when using these operating systems with High-Rely equipment. For those using Winserv2000 or 2003, 2000 Pro or XP Pro on their workstations we recommend using Symantec's Backup Exec Ver.11d.0.7107

An updated Ver. of 11d can be found at <http://support.veritas.com/docs/2879397>

Please remember that your High-Rely systems are **NOT** affected by changing your operating systems but the supporting software is!

### **2. GRT (Granular Recovery Technology)**

This allows the user to recover single files from a full back-up. IE... individual mailboxes, mail messages and public folders. GRT was available in Both Ver10 and Ver. 11, but Ver.11 did have some problems with disk storage vs. the disk or disk space reserve being filled up with IMG folders before the oldest over writeable IMG folder was recycled. This was corrected in the updated ver11d.0.7107

<http://support.veritas.com/docs/2879397>

As this is a disk only function your high-rely is

allowing you to access this feature and have faster backups and smaller storage files.

As more and more companies are switching over to exclusive disk back up because of the speed and dependability of disk over tape this feature will start to become prevalent in more software.

### **3. Cascades**

Also called Spanning, overflow and "spill and fill", Cascading is simply setting up a disk to "catch" any data that may be lost when a primary disk is filled to capacity during a backup. Ver. 9.1 and Ver. 10D have a similar set-up that can "emulate" cascading but we have found with Ver.11 and 12D this feature works best. This option was a major change in Ver. 11 as it came with its own tab for setup---Ver. 12D does not have this as a separate option and tab but is now part of the media management function. The new layout will make it faster and easier to configure your system. With businesses expanding with newer technologies and offices depending more and more on their backups this feature is a must for growing businesses these days. Even our new 3TB Raid Pac is not large enough for some backups and only through cascading can it cover a complete backup.

<http://www.gizmowatch.com/entry/backup-storages-muscle-power-3tb-raidpac/>

### **4. Simplified installation wizard**

This is exactly what it says, an easier set up guide.

For those who are familiar with BE it will make setting up your "son, father and grandfather" back-up one simple step. And for new users it make the complicated task of set up easy and fool proof. Customers using our Slimline or premier lines have reported set-ups completed in less that 5 minutes and those using our 5 bay RAID frame

have reported set up times in less than **15 min**—this includes installing daily, weekly and monthly backups!

[http://www.byteandswitch.com/document.asp?doc\\_id=149625&WT.svl=news2\\_5](http://www.byteandswitch.com/document.asp?doc_id=149625&WT.svl=news2_5)

### **5. History of operations on each media**

This allows the user to keep track of how often and how long each piece of media is lasting and how many errors are occurring.

This is a feature we have been waiting for. Many customers are using this feature to track tape VS. Disk functions and errors and they are finding that our disk storage is lasting longer and providing fewer errors than with tape. While this feature doesn't really effect you or your High-Rely it does show just how much more reliable disk back-up is compared to Tape back-up.

**Conclusion:** With an estimated 3.5 million copies Of Symantec's BE12 D expected to be sold this year and the support it offers Winserv2008 and Vista we believe that BE12D will be the new standard in Backup software. And with a large portion of our customers using older versions (9.1 thru 11D.0.7107) and liking it, we believe most will buy BE12D when they upgrade their servers. The ease of programming and flexible agent add on's make it a great program for the soho business user to the corporate office.