neverfail®
PREDICT · PROTECT · PERFORM

Neverfail for Microsoft® SQL Server
Keeping your SQL Server Going 24x7

The most important consideration in protecting your Microsoft SQL Server environment is creating a real-time, duplicate copy of your SQL data. Neverfail Heartbeat sits at the core of Neverfail's suite of affordable, "cluster-class" solutions, replicating data from your active to your passive server, whether they reside in the same server room, or across the globe.

With new databases being created, data being appended, changed, deleted and more, SQL Server environments never stand still— they're subject to constant change. Neverfail for SQL Server proactively monitors your SQL Server application, including all system and data tables, looking for just such changes. It then reconfigures itself accordingly to ensure any and all changes are included in its replication set.

In addition to monitoring the SQL application, Neverfail for SQL Server is the only cluster-class, high availability solution to proactively monitor the health of your entire SQL environment, including: physical server hardware, network infrastructure and operating system. If any problem occurs, Neverfail can take a variety of preemptive, corrective actions without resorting to a full system failover. In extreme cases, a graceful switchover to your secondary server can occur automatically, ensuring continuous SQL availability.

Neverfail Benefits

- ‣ Dynamically identifies and includes specific application components
- ‣ Avoid planned and unplanned downtime
- ‣ Protect against hardware and configuration failures
- ‣ Leverage Neverfail Tertiary™ for Multi-tier HA and DR
- ‣ Fail over in less than two minutes
- ‣ Fail back without service interruption
- ‣ Self configuration with no scripting
- ‣ Automated monitoring for improved reliability
- ‣ Requires no SAN or Cluster technology
- ‣ Supports LAN and WAN deployments
- ‣ Eliminate bandwidth barriers using Neverfail WANSmart™
- ‣ Rapid implementation
- ‣ Monitor SQL Server Components
- ‣ Part of Neverfail's end-to-end collaboration protection suite

Avoiding A Single Point of Failure

With data activity dependent on SQL Server it's important to understand the implications of failure. What happens when the SQL Server fails? What happens when the server needs to be shut down for maintenance? What happens when there is an unplanned outage? In short, business stops.

The SQL Server is the vital link between corporate data and enterprise applications. With compliance and regulatory implications, as well as business disruption, keeping data up-to-date and flowing 24x7 has to be the goal.

The benefits of databases are clear, so loss of a facility has severe cost and productivity implications. It is simply not an option to lose data or have a database down. Employing the Neverfail high availability, disaster recovery and data protection solution will ensure you have no single point of failure.

Keeping Users Connected

Too often the distributed nature of IT systems results in business disruption at many levels. For example the reconfiguration after failure may result in disconnects between users, applications and the server unless systems are rebooted or users re-connect. And in many cases the disconnect isn't found until users complain.

Only Neverfail delivers a solution designed from the ground up to keep users working through any type of IT outage. Neverfail's state-of-the art replication technology ensures there is always a complete, consistent and up-to-date copy of the SQL Server available on a secondary server. If anything goes wrong, applications and users are seamlessly connected -- without interruption -- to the secondary server, while our persistent connection layer means applications and users continue working without any delay.

Business continues.

Built-in Reliability

With SQL Server a potential single point of failure, it is important to take steps to prevent it from failing in the first place. Neverfail provides predictive technology that can be used to carry out periodic health checks or continuously monitor the state of the server. Neverfail SCOPE (Server Check, Optimization, and Performance Evaluation) is designed to evaluate the stability and reliability of the hardware, software, network and configuration that underpins SQL Server. SCOPE allows you to be confident that you have the best practice in place to avoid outages wherever possible.

When Neverfail detects an IT condition that is likely to result in an outage, the software can take a variety of pre-emptive measures to fix the source of the problem (such as attempting to restart a service).

No Recovery Required

Delivering continuous availability means there is no time to rely on traditional backup/recovery techniques, or even continuous data protection. Traditional protection strategies will require a recovery; databases will need to be rebuilt, configurations checked, users notified of the outage. Today's companies cannot afford to have downtime of their business critical applications.
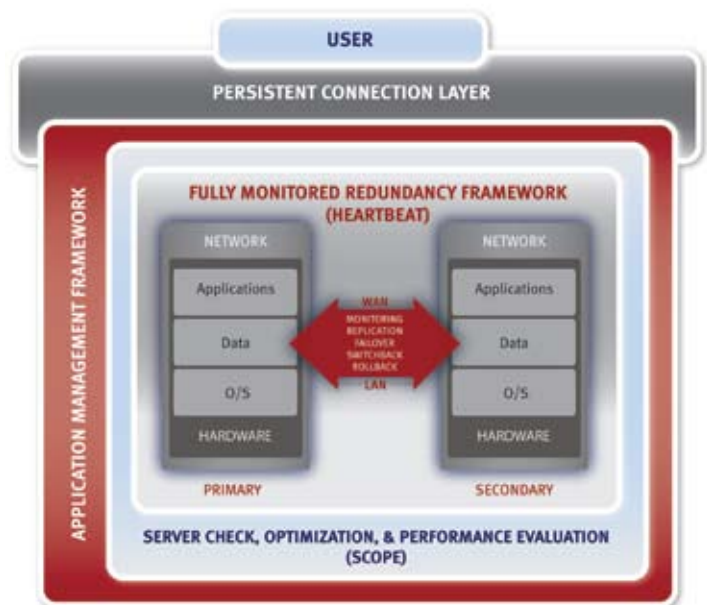
Neverfail maintains a complete, consistent and up-to-date copy of the SQL databases and configuration. This is more than just a copy of the data. Neverfail provides a complete, ready-to-go clone of the server, including any configuration changes that may have been applied since the SQL server was first installed.

If there is an availability threat, an administrator can fail over from the primary to the secondary server at the click of a button, or Neverfail can automate the whole process based on user-defined criteria. Administrators with limited knowledge of a SQL Server installation can easily fail over using best practice knowledge already embedded into Neverfail's product architecture.

Hurricane, Flood, Fire - Business Continues

Keeping your business running through natural and man-made disasters can literally be a matter of life or death. That's why the Neverfail architecture is designed to allow remote deployment of the secondary server. Neverfail's secondary server can be located in the same room, the same building or in a different part of the world. To further simplify the process, Neverfail makes sure the WAN doesn't get in the way by using compression to optimize replication, even when bandwidth is an issue and data volumes need to be reduced.

Protection Out-Of-The-Box

Embedded within Neverfail for SQL Server is all the knowledge to make continuous availability a reality. Data locations, registry entries and databases are all cloned automatically. Failure detection is embedded. Complex fail over processes are a thing of the past.

Protecting the SQL Servers

Without continuous availability of databases, data and applications, the people that use the applications cannot perform their mission critical functions. If the SQL Servers fail, the impact is the same. Productivity dies, decisions are not made, business stops.

This is why the same Neverfail architecture provides continuous availability for a range of products such as, Microsoft Exchange® and Lotus Domino®, BlackBerry® Enterprise Server, SharePoint®, RightFax Server®, IIS®, File Server® and SQL Server®.

With Neverfail, business can rely on their SQL Server implementation.

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