

Five Common SteelEye® DataKeeper™ Deployment Scenarios

SteelEye DataKeeper can be used to solve a multitude of data management problems. Below we describe five of the most common DataKeeper usage scenarios. In essence DataKeeper is a highly flexible software solution that gives users a number of options for configuration and deployment. It is designed to satisfy business continuity requirements associated with managing physical and virtual servers and enabling full-function disaster recovery.

Facilitating Hyper-V Disaster Recovery

Both SteelEye DataKeeper and SteelEye DataKeeper Cluster Edition provide HA and disaster recovery options for Hyper-V virtual machines. When installed in the Windows Server 2008 host, DataKeeper continuously replicates the entire guest Hyper-V VHD files to a Windows Server 2008 standby server for rapid disaster recovery of virtual machines with the highest recovery point objective (RPO) available. Manual activation of the replicated virtual machine is can be accomplished in just a few minutes, making your recovery time objective (RTO) limited only to the time it takes your staff to declare a disaster and push a few buttons to recover the virtual machine.

Enhancing Windows Server Failover Clustering

SteelEye DataKeeper Cluster Edition works in conjunction with Windows Server Failover Clustering (WSFC) and Microsoft Server Cluster Service (MSCS) to enhance the protection of clustered services such as: files servers, application servers and Hyper-V virtual machines. While WSFC ensures your clustered services are highly available in the event of server or application failure, the underlying storage represents a single point of failure (SPOF). SteelEye DataKeeper Cluster Edition eliminates this SPOF by replicating the storage between the cluster nodes. In addition to eliminating the SPOF, SteelEye DataKeeper Cluster Edition enables geographically dispersed clusters by replicating data across WAN links. A combination of WSFC and DataKeeper Cluster Edition provides the highest RPO and RTO available by making the recovery process automated and ensuring the latest data is always available in the event of a disaster.

Branch Office Back-Up

Managing branch office data back-up can be time consuming and prone to fail when left in the hands of "non-IT" folks who may be tasked with making sure back tapes are rotated and sent off site on a regular basis. SteelEye DataKeeper eliminates the need to do

remote office backups by continuously replicating data back to the primary data center, where backups can be done centrally. This not only eliminates the remote office back-up issues but at the same time enhances the RPO by eliminating the data loss that is typically associate with restoring data from nightly back-up routines.

Storage Migration

Migrating data between disparate storage systems has its share of challenges. How do we move a large amount of data as quickly as possible? How do we ensure that the data on storage array A doesn't change before we cut over to storage array B? How can we do this move while minimizing downtime associated with such a large move? How can we deal with NTFS permissions, encrypted files, continuously open files and databases?

SteelEye DataKeeper is the answer to all of these questions. Administrators wishing to move from one storage array to another can utilize SteelEye DataKeeper to move all data (along with NTFS permissions) to a new storage array, without impacting the availability of the data on the original storage array. Once it is time to remove the old storage array and replace it with the new storage array, the administrator simply needs to un-mount the old storage and mount the new storage, reducing the maintenance windows to a matter of minutes.

Data Distribution

Pushing a large data set to remote sites across WAN links can be challenging. By using SteelEye DataKeeper, Administrators can take advantage of efficient block level incremental replication to periodically update remote sites with the most recent data set - whether it be large media files, database files or simply Word and Excel files, SteelEye DataKeeper can handle any data type.

About SteelEye Technology

SteelEye is the leading provider of data and application availability management solutions for business continuity and disaster recovery for Linux and Windows and virtual environments.

The SteelEye family of data replication, high availability clustering and disaster recovery solutions are priced and architected to enable enterprises of all sizes to ensure continuous availability of business-critical applications, servers and data.

To complement its software solutions, SteelEye also provides a full range of high availability consulting and professional services to assist organizations with the assessment, design and implementation of solutions for ensuring High Availability within their environments.

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