



VOLUME SNAPSHOTS

RisingTide's optional volume snapshot feature provides an additional level of data protection and the means to improve production data utilization. Volume snapshots enable time and space shifting of entire volumes: Nonproduction, backup or analysis servers can operate on up-to-date copies of production data while the production data remains online.

Snapshots enable transparent time and space shifting of production volumes. They allow non-stop processing as they sandbox data for operations such as backup, data mining/analysis and business replay.

Volume snapshots are especially useful in operations requiring instant data copies. Snapshot images are fast and efficient, with essentially no service disruption to the user. Cooperative applications can checkpoint their state before the snapshot is created to provide end-to-end coherence.

A snapshot volume is a point-in-time image of a storage volume. It is the logical equivalent of a complete physical copy, but it is created faster and more space efficiently.

Snapshot volumes function just like regular storage volumes. They are host-addressable and can be accessed like production volumes.

They have the same high-availability characteristics as standard storage volumes, such as RAID protection and redundant path failover.

As the snapshot function is concealed in the storage system, it maximizes performance while transparently ensuring data continuity: server processing can continue without interruption.

Copy-on-write Snapshots

Preserve data in its original form in the snapshot repository. They require minimal commitment of storage capacity, enabling it to generate several snapshots within the space required for a single mirror.

Redirect-on-write Snapshots

Ensure maximum performance for more write-intensive transactional data. They also provide inherent thin provisioning, as the volume grows with new blocks.

DATA CONTINUITY

Coherent backups from snapshot volumes allow production processes to continue seamlessly. Snapshots can dynamically be moved to backup servers anywhere on the SAN.

DATA RESILIENCY

Quick and easy restoration of data; multiple images between backup procedures; added protection in the event of user error or data corruption.

TIME AND SPACE SHIFTING

Data can coherently be moved, mirrored or preserved for alternate processing environments (more efficient than a full volume-copy with only 10% to 20% of disk space requirement).

BUSINESS REPLAY SOLUTIONS

Snapshots in combination with virtualization allow coherent checkpoints and replays of complete application stacks.

DATA MINING

One data set for heavy analysis, another "sanitized" data set with all sensitive data removed.

YOUR DATA. DELIVERED.

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VOLUME SNAPSHOTS

OPERATING ENVIRONMENTS

Microsoft

Windows Server 2003/2008/R2
Windows 7 / Vista / XP

Apple

OS/X (with 3rd party initiator)

Unix

Solaris 10 (x86 / SPARC)
OpenSolaris
HP-UX

Linux

Red Hat RHEL 4.x / 5.x
SuSe SLES 10.3 / 11
Red Hat Client

Virtual Machines

VMware ESX 4.0 / vSphere
Windows Virtual PC
KVM / Qemu
Oracle xVM / VirtualBox
Xen

Technical Specifications

Capacity

Virtually unlimited number of snapshots per LUN and/or iSCSI and FCoE target.

Placement

Snapshots can be dynamically moved to any host on the network.

This allows time and space shifting of production data and fully delineated usage scenarios.

Command Line Interface

Seamless integration into the RisingTide CLI – scripting allows virtually unlimited scalability.

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