



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

DataGuardian™ VMware Plug-In

1. What is the VMware Plug-In?

The DATAGUARDIAN *VMware Plug-In* provides

- 1) file level protection of ESX Servers
- 2) "hot" DR protection of the entire virtual machine including all guest systems and applications

The *VMware Plug-In* is installed at the ESX Server OS level.

2. Why do customers need this and how will they benefit?

As the market for virtual server technology continues to grow, customers need to have a reliable data protection solution for their virtual environments.

DATAGUARDIAN is the first software-as-a-service solution providing complete DR protection for VMware.

DATAGUARDIAN provides companies with a reliable and easy-to-use solution for protecting their VMware ESX server-based virtual environments, automatically providing hot backups and faster restores of virtual machines without impacting existing resources to meet specific disaster recovery planning and regulatory compliance requirements.

3. What exactly does the DATAGUARDIAN VMware Plug-In do?

The DATAGUARDIAN *VMware Plug-In* provides two distinct benefits. At the ESX level the *Plug-In* protects the customization of the VMware ESX server-based environments for disaster recovery purposes. In the event a disaster strikes, the server configurations are available for quick recovery.

At the Guest Operating System level, the *Plug-In* enables "hot" backups and faster restores of virtual machines without affecting other day-to-day operations. Virtual machines can be quickly restored at anytime to any location.

4. Does the VMware Plug-In support all ESX versions?

Yes, the DATAGUARDIAN *VMware Plug-In* supports all three versions

- **Starter** - small businesses, branch offices
- **Standard** - enterprise class
- **Enterprise** - data center class

5. Will an agent on the server adversely impact performance of my virtual environment?

No, IPR deploys a variety of agents and *Plug-In's* that have been tested and verified to maximize performance and ensure day-to-day operations are never compromised.

DATAGUARDIAN delta technology maximizes the performance of the ESX servers by compressing data at the block level to dramatically decrease the backup window and lower the overall storage footprint.

6. If I want more granularity within the virtual applications, then what do I need to do?

It's recommended that DATAGUARDIAN application specific *Plug-In's* are installed on the virtual machine. For example, if you want granular level SQL protection, you would utilize the DATAGUARDIAN *VMware Plug-In*, the DATAGUARDIAN Agent for Windows and the DATAGUARDIAN *SQL Plug-In*.

IPR International, LLC

8 Tower Bridge

161 Washington St • Ste 800

Conshohocken, PA 19428

PH 484.533.6800

www.iprintl.com

email: sales@iprintl.com

7. Do existing customers who purchase the DATAGUARDIAN VMware Plug-In need to reseed?

No, customers that are using application *Plug-In's* can continue to use them and each new backup will be a Delta. The **DATAGUARDIAN VMware** is viewed as an add-on product to our customers' existing environment. The first *VMware Plug-In* backup will be an initial seed of the entire server, and subsequent backups will be Deltas.

8. Is there a max limit to how many virtual sessions that DATAGUARDIAN can support (or that VMware recommends)?

The limitation will be related to the amount of data that can be backed up, rather than the number of systems. The *Plug-In* does not have a limit of how many VMs can be protected. In QA environment on a relatively small Dual CPU 2GHz system a Delta backup of 13 VMs with ~130GB (original) averages between 50 minutes and 4 hours.

9. If you restore your VMware to a different location is the registration done automatically or we have to manually register the VMware server to ESX server?

There are two options:

- 1) To restore VMs to an alternate ESX Server in the same VMware Infrastructure: Use the "restore from another computer" workflow, select the ESX Server as destination and they would register the VM automatically.
- 2) To restore the VMs to a different VMFS storage group or to change something about the VM: Select to "restore the VM files for alternate location" without registering the VM.

10. Does DATAGUARDIAN offer VCB capabilities?

Our *VMware Plug-In* is designed for customers who want an easy-to-use, reliable, centralized, hot backup solution for each of their virtual environments.

Support for VCB is not included in this release however our solution offers the following benefits for VMware customers:

- Support for all editions of the VMware Infrastructure 3
- Uses existing resources without requiring additional hardware
- Doesn't require additional VMware licenses
- Integrates with applications such as Exchange, SQL Server or Oracle
- Supports file level restores on both Windows, Linux, NetWare and other virtual machines
- Supports virtual machines hosted on raw partitions

11. How does it work?

