



# Eliminate Tape Everywhere with an Offsite ExaGrid® System

There are many reasons to keep a complete set of backups at an offsite location. This can be accomplished by making offsite tape sets or by replicating data from the primary site disk-based backup system to a second site disk-based backup system. As more and more organizations turn away from tape to disk as their primary backup media, however, a significant portion of them will not only seek to eliminate tape for on-site retention, but for their off-site retention as well.

## Four Reasons to Do Offsite Backups with ExaGrid

### 1. Industry-Leading Data Deduplication

A system's deduplication rate is the determining factor in the amount of data that is reduced and the amount of disk that is required. But deduplication rate also impacts the amount of bandwidth that is needed to maintain a second site, for a given backup window, since it is only the data that has changed that is sent over a WAN to an offsite system. The poorer the deduplication rate, the more data must be sent to maintain the offsite backup, the more bandwidth is required, for a given backup window. Deduplication rates can vary greatly, and ExaGrid achieves the highest deduplication rates and requires the lowest bandwidth to maintain an offsite system.

### 2. Post-Processing Architecture for Fast Restores for Disaster Recovery

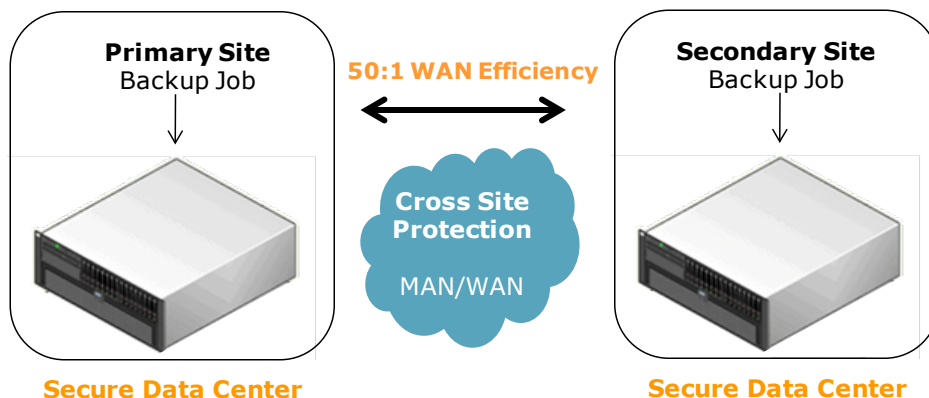
In addition to looking at the deduplication rate, it is also important to note whether the offsite system stores only deduplicated data or whether it stores some form of already rehydrated data in order to offer quick disaster recovery restores. Any system that does inline deduplication only stores the deduplicated data and therefore results in slower disaster recovery (DR) times. In contrast, ExaGrid performs post-process deduplication, which makes the most recent backup available in its complete form. And as an ExaGrid appliance performs replication to an offsite ExaGrid appliance, that most recent backup is also maintained in its complete form on the offsite system as well. The result is that the data is ready to quickly restore from either the local or the remote system.

### 3. Protection against Primary Site Data Loss

Fast restores are important, but the ability to rapidly restore your data from an offsite system in the case of a disaster is perhaps more important. With an offsite ExaGrid system, the data that is replicated to that system can also be used to restore any lost or corrupted data on the primary site. ExaGrid owns the patent for this technology such that if anything happened to any of the backup data at the primary site the offsite system can be used to restore or replace the lost or corrupted data. This creates an added level of safety.

### 4. Dedicated Auditing Function

While the ability to restore data in the case of a disaster or other cause of data loss is indeed comforting, ExaGrid provides further confidence with a dedicated function that allows you to demonstrate DR restores for an internal or external audit. This gives you a way to prove that your DR process works, before an actual disaster.



- Optimizes most recent backup for "Instant DR"
- Avoids delays from restoring from tape
- Restores faster from full copy vs "rehydrating" data

# ExaGrid® Offsite Disk-Based Backup

## Getting Started

It's a simple process to install an offsite ExaGrid system and connect it to your existing system for replication:

### Step 1: Initialize the offsite ExaGrid appliance

Install a new ExaGrid appliance at the offsite location and initialize the new ExaGrid as a 'spoke' (your existing primary site ExaGrid can serve as the 'hub'); enter the IP address of the hub site (your current single-site system) to which the spoke is to be joined.

### Step 2: Point your original, single-site ExaGrid to your new offsite ExaGrid

Go to your primary site 'hub' system and point to the offsite 'spoke' system simply by entering the IP address of the offsite ExaGrid appliance.

### Step 3: Replicate your data

You can now replicate data from your hub ExaGrid to your 'spoke' site (and vice versa, if desired), and gain all of the benefits of an offsite ExaGrid system!

