Protecting Oneself: Backing up, Archiving and Restoring Data

Allen Hancock & Seth hollier

Mac Consulting Group, Inc.

macconsultinggroup.com

Watchman monitoring Inc.

watchmanmonitoring.com

MACTECH BOOTCAMP 2011

Dallas, Texas

Mac CONSULTING group

 Authorized Service Provider

WATCHMAN MONITORING

What is backup?

- Backup is what we can restore in a crisis

- Backup is not having to say "I'm sorry"

- Backup is feeling safe at night

- Backup is a way to protect your investment of time in a project.

- Backup is not Archive

Backup vs Archive

- Backup is all about what we can restore when we were planning on having to.

- Archive is being able to go back to old work we weren't sure we were going to need, or wasn't worth keeping in our live systems.

- The kicker? you must backup your archives.

Restoration

- When disaster strikes, how far back in time are you willing to travel?

- How much time will rebuilding the system take?

- How much will the restoration downtime cost?

- Schedule a monthly restore test. Discuss the results with your clients.

Planning the Backup

- Data Source

- Backup Destination

- Transport Medium (Software)

- Backup Frequency

- Defining layers of protection

- Method &speed of restoration

The case for backup

- "Can you afford to lose everything you've done since your last backup?"

- Focus on the restoration when discussing options with clients.

- Let the client imagine the alternatives to backup, while trying not to resort to scare tactics.

- When a client doesn't seem open to the idea, draw out the real reason why.

- Will a hold harmless agreement work?

What to back up?

- Bootable or user data only?

- Databases will have to be addressed specially

- Consider how you are backing up your large files, IE Entourage Databases and Virtual Machines.

- How to keep track of your backup status.

Where to backup to?

- Disk based media
  - plain hard drives
  - Drive cartridges

- Tape drives / libraries

- Network Attached Storage

- Storage Area Network

- Online solutions

- Backing up the backups

- Encrypting the backup media

Encrypted drive options

- Apricorn Aegis Padlock

- Data Locker

- LaCie SAFE hard drives

- MXI Stealth Bio hard drives and flash drives

- RadTech's Impact enclosures

- RocStor's Rocbit FXKT and Rocsafe MX drives

- SecureDisk enclosures

- any drive with full disk encryption - PGP, Truecrypt, WinMagic & others

Credit Adam Engst, Take Control Books

The backup software

- Time Machine

- Carbon Copy Cloner / SuperDuper!

- Crashplan

- Presstore

- Retrospect 8

- Rsync & other scripted solutions

Monitoring the backups

- Why wait until the monthly restore test?

- Built in email notification

- Monitoring Products

- Client Education

Testing the Restore

- Document the restore process as a part of the backup planning.

- Schedule the test restores in your calendar, make that a repeating task.

- Great for client education & empowerment

- Talking about the results, good and bad will foster a deeper sense of trust.