CA ARCserve® D2D r15 Stands Head & Shoulders Above Acronis Backup & Recovery 10

Category & Weight (%)	CA ARCserve® D2D r15	Acronis Backup & Recovery 10
Backup and Restore (30%)	A	B
Performance (30%)	A	B
Ease of Use (10%)	A	C
Reports (10%)	A	A –
Deployment (10%)	A –	C
Documentation (10%)	A	B
Overall Score	A	C+

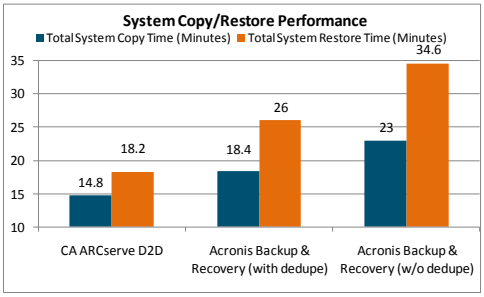
Network Testing Labs Independent Review Shows:

- ARCserve D2D provides **faster performance**, **more efficient use of disk** space, **frugal use of resources, pricing, scalability, ease of use, outstanding features, reliability** and **technological superiority** over Acronis Backup and Recovery 10**.**
- ARCserve D2D is **undoubtedly the best data backup tool** on the market.
- ARCserve D2D performs **bare metal restores** to dissimilar hardware **with remarkable ease.**
- ARCserve D2D's **unique Web 2.0 interface** is **intuitive and responsive**— and its **Synthetic Full Backup** (I^2 technology) not only **gives full backups on any date** but **eliminates the hours of time spent managing archived full backups** with Acronis.
- With ARCserve D2D, **server migrations are almost child's play**.

*Excerpts taken from NTL Report.

20% Faster Backup and Over 30% Faster Recovery Speed

With ARCserve D2D's **patent pending Infinite Incremental technology**, the data administrator need **only perform a full backup once**. Thereafter, CA ARCserve D2D stores incremental backups that, on demand, automatically turn into full backups based on whatever date and time you specify. The **Acronis administrator has to be constantly aware** of the full/incremental data cycle - deleting old backups and managing volume capacities to hold multiple full backups.



This chart contrasts the time that ARCserve D2D and Backup & Recovery (with and without deduplication) each took, on average, to do system copy/ restore operations over a simulated one month time period. (Note that Acronis' Deduplication feature is a separately-licensed option.) Clearly, **Synthetic Full Backup made ARCserve D2D much quicker**, with ARCserve D2D **needing only 14.8 minutes for a system copy**. Backup & Recovery with deduplication needed 18.4 minutes to move the same data. Similarly, an **ARCserve D2D restore operation took only 18.2 minutes**, while **Backup & Recovery with deduplication took 26.0 minutes**. Without deduplication, Backup & Recovery labored for 23.0 minutes and 34.6 minutes (respectively) to copy and restore data.

Easier to Use with Web 2.0 interface

In our tests, **ARCserve D2D was far easier to use**, **far more intuitive to navigate** and **far more responsive** than Acronis Backup & Recovery.

ARCserve D2D's Web 2.0 interface gave us the ability to remotely access all our protected servers, change configuration settings, check the status of our backups and restores, initiate backup jobs and launch remote recoveries – **all via the Internet.**

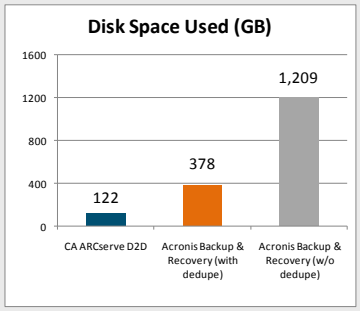
ARCserve D2D makes easy work of server migrations. With ARCserve D2D, the **migration was flawless and amazingly quick**. In contrast, **Backup & Recovery's BMR was slower** than ARCserve D2D's and **much more difficult to use**.

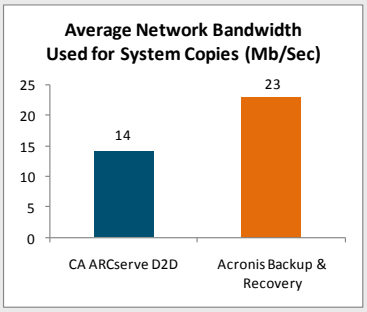
Remote Recovery is a breeze via ARCserve D2D's Web-based interface, and it always **worked exactly as we expected**—easily recovering data to the original source machine or to another computer. **Acronis Backup & Recovery restored files and folders to the remote computer we were operating**, not the original source machine - to restore files to the original source machine, you can't use the Remote Recovery feature—you'll have to physically visit the source machine.

Save Over 2/3 the Disk Space With Nearly 1/3 less Bandwidth

The left chart illustrates how **ARCserve D2D used considerably less disk space** than Backup & Recovery, both with and without Acronis' Deduplication feature in place— which is a separately-licensed option. After just four weeks of simulated backups of multiple servers and clients, **ARCserve D2D used just 122 GB** to store a full backup plus incrementals, but **Backup & Recovery needed 378 GB**. Without deduplication, **Backup & Recovery ate up a whopping 1,209 GB of storage!**

CA ARCserve D2D's Infinite Incremental technology gave another significant advantage – because it didn't have to copy gigabytes and gigabytes of data to make periodic full backups, **ARCserve D2D used far less network bandwidth.** ARCserve D2D recreated the full backups from its store of incremental backups. The chart on the right below graphically depicts the bandwidth requirements - **Backup & Recovery consumed 23 Mb/Sec of bandwidth** to do the same work that **ARCserve D2D needed only 14 Mb/Sec to accomplish**.





CA's ARCserve D2D outperformed Acronis' Backup & Recovery in every category. We attributed ARCserve D2D's faster performance to its greater maturity and, of course, CA's Synthetic Full Backup technology.

Microsoft Exchange backup is done just once with ARCserve D2D and we could restore files, folders or the entire Exchange database. We also noted that **Acronis inexplicably – and disappointingly – needed to process the server data twice**, once to backup the server itself and once to separately backup just the Microsoft Exchange data. This carries risks **as well as being time-consuming and resource-intensive.** If the Active Directory backup is out of synchronization with the Exchange backup, **some people could lose their mailboxes.** To add insult to injury, **Acronis customers have to purchase two different products for their Exchange servers**.

Source: Independent review from Network Testing Labs Published, September 2010. *To view the full review, visit www.arcserve.com

The Fine Print

Testbed and Methodology

Virtually all testing took place across 512 kb/s frame relay, T1 and T3 WAN links. The testbed network consisted of six Fast Ethernet subnet domains routed by Cisco routers. The lab's 150 clients consisted of computing platforms that included Windows 2000/2003/XP/Vista/Win7 and Red Hat Linux (both server and workstation editions).

The relational databases on the network were Oracle 8i, IBM DB2 Universal Database, Sybase Adaptive Server 12.5 and Microsoft SQL Server 2005. The network also contained three Web servers (Microsoft IIS, Netscape Enterprise Server and Apache), three e-mail servers (Exchange, Notes and Sendmail) and several file servers (Windows 2003 Server).

The virtual computing environments consisted of VMware and Microsoft Hyper-V.

A Compaq Proliant ML570 computer with four 900 Mhz CPUs, 2G bytes RAM and 1.3 T bytes hard disks, running Windows 2000 Advanced Server, Windows 2003 Advanced Server and, at other times, Red Hat Enterprise Linux, was the test platform for all the products' server components. We also used a Dell PowerEdge R810 in our server migration tests.

About Network Testing Labs

Network Testing Labs performs independent technology research and product evaluations. Its network laboratory connects myriads of types of computers and virtually every kind of network device in an ever-changing variety of ways. Its authors are networking experts who write clearly and plainly about complex technologies and products.

Network Testing Labs' experts have written hardware and software product reviews, state-of-the-art analyses, feature articles, in-depth technology workshops, cover stories, buyer's guides and in-depth technology outlooks. Our experts have spoken on a number of topics at Comdex, PC Expo and other venues. In addition, they've created industry standard network benchmark software, database benchmark software and network diagnostic utilities.

About the Author

Barry Nance is a networking expert, magazine columnist, book author and application architect. He has more than 29 years experience with IT technologies, methodologies and products. Over the past dozen years, working on behalf of Network Testing Labs, he has evaluated thousands of hardware and software products for ComputerWorld, BYTE Magazine, Government Computer News, PC Magazine, Network Computing, Network World and many other publications. He's authored thousands of magazine articles as well as popular books such as *Introduction to Networking (4th Edition)*, *Network Programming in C* and *Client/Server LAN Programming*.

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