

# Inside Perspective

Helping you unleash the full power of MEDITECH

JJWild

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## **New Replication Advances Can Improve Your Backup, Recovery, and Healthcare Operational Continuance Profile.**

*JJWild Product Management Group*

Starting a new year gives us an opportunity to pause and reflect on the changes we've encountered in the past and to look forward to new ways to improve how we do things. Protecting healthcare data has been on the forefront of many of our clients' strategic planning efforts, and over 200 MEDITECH hospitals have adopted some form of Integrated Serverless Backup (ISB) and/or Integrated Disaster Recovery (IDR) technology over the past three years.

Let's take a quick look at some of the new advances in ISB and IDR that you should be aware of as you plan to protect your critical MEDITECH applications.

### **Wide-Area IDR—IDR communication via TCP-IP**

BridgeHead Software has announced new IDR functionality, where data to be replicated is read by BridgeHead on the local backup server, then packaged and delivered to a remote backup server via a standard TCP-IP network connection—LAN, WAN, or MAN. This functionality includes the ability for incremental replication through the creation of a baseline local replica of disk volumes that is updated by only those blocks of data that have changed since the previous update. Through checksums and redundancy checks, BridgeHead's software ensures that the incremental changes that are made on the local volume are also applied to the remote replica of the data, thereby assuring synchronization between the local and remote replicas of that data.

In creating Self-Hosted (SHDR) or Fully Managed (JSite) Disaster Recovery solutions for our customers, we are often challenged to replicate significant quantities of backup information to remote sites. For SHDR designs, this has mostly limited us to Gigabit-speed interconnects and greater, and for JSite, to tape-based recovery. Wide-Area IDR from BridgeHead gives us a tool to help customers build "fiber-quality" remote replication solutions over lower cost, lower bandwidth links. While still meeting MEDITECH's need for a full backup, we can reduce the need for bandwidth through incremental updates driven from a local IDR baseline. These solutions often leverage existing WAN infrastructure without the need for costly FC/IP routers, and as another benefit, the local IDR copies which serve as a baseline allow for swift operational recovery when needed. Wide-Area IDR works with all MEDITECH-certified SAN Platforms.

### **IDR—"Snapshot" Supplement to Replication**

BridgeHead and EMC are working together to create a solution that allows the ISB volume to serve as the source of a point-in-time "snapshot." This alternative to a full IDR disk replica may be a useful tool for fast local operational recovery, or for creating a test

data set to be managed offline from your live applications. Snapshots only reflect the changes to a disk volume over a time period and are only a fraction of the size of the full IDR replica—and therefore take only a fraction of the time to complete. The limitation of this option is that snapshots depend on the SAN and reference copies to be fully functional if they are to be available.

### **New Support for EVA SSSU 6.0**

HP and JJWild are working diligently with MEDITECH and BridgeHead to improve the functionality and range of supported recovery scenarios for ISB/IDR on the HP EVA SAN platforms. Official MEDITECH support of SSSU 6.0 will be tested soon, along with a full scalability test of the EVA 8000. This will allow our technology consultants and design engineers to help customers craft increasingly elegant disaster recovery solutions leveraging the power of EVA's virtualization engine and Continuous Access mirror technology.

### **Update on IBM SAN Platforms**

JWILD, MEDITECH, BridgeHead, and IBM have been working together for nearly a year to resolve performance and compatibility issues of IBM's core FlashCopy Application on the DS4000 and DS8000 series of SAN platforms. We are happy to announce that recent work led to MEDITECH's certification of the IBM DS8300 for 70 connected SAN hosts using ISB/IDR, as well as to the final certification of FlashCopy on the DS4000 series. JJWild's technology consultants, project managers, and engineers are currently collaborating with Inland Northwest Health Systems to roll out the single largest SHDR solution at any MEDITECH MAGIC/OSAL site on the DS8300 series. (Editors Note – You can read more about this initiative in the December issue of *Healthcare Executive* magazine.)

### **EMC Networker Module for MEDITECH (NMM)**

EMC Software has recently announced support for MEDITECH ISB and IDR functionality through a new Networker module. Networker Module for MEDITECH's (NMM) first version supports MAGIC/OSAL and CLARiiON platforms. NMM supports ISB, In-Frame IDR, and Out-of-Frame IDR as described above, as well as Wide-Area IDR scenarios (incremental and full IDR) that leverages FC/IP routers for IDR over TCP/IP. JJWild is testing NMM with EMC in our solutions and certification lab in real time, and currently discussing rollout plans with a limited number of early adopters.

New year, new choices. As always, we are here to help you sort things out.

*Have questions or comments for JJWild's Product Management Group? Email them at [editor@jjwild.com](mailto:editor@jjwild.com).*