CCS Technologies

"Local Support • Personal Service • Since 1976"   www.ccstech.net   *"Relax...we're on IT"*

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Another Backup Concern

by Ryan McMillen

We've been hearing this a lot from our customers and it concerns us.
"We assume our individual computers are backed up like the server." Unless you pay for a desktop backup service, this couldn't be farther from the truth. The reason workstation PC's are not normally backed up is because organizations use the server as a single point of failure. If everything is stored on one server, and that server is backed up to multiple locations, then all the important data should be included in that single backup. If data is spread across multiple machines with Quickbooks here and spreadsheets there…that is a dangerous situation. You have multiple points of failure. For example, here's a theory that illustrates what we're talking about:

Every PC has a hard drive. Every hard drive will crash someday. Therefore, every PC will crash someday.

That means that all the data that is on your PC will be gone someday. You won't know when, but it will happen at some point. This is why we save data like the Quickbooks company file or your databases on a central server. Should your PC crash, all that needs to be done after getting a replacement PC is to reinstall the programs, point towards the data on the server and you are on your way.

But many people are surprised at what they also lose when they lose their desktop PC. Those little autocompletes in the "To" field of your Outlook that you use to send e-mails to instead of saving them as contacts…<u>GONE</u>. All of your mail in all of your folders in Outlook (if you have POP mail)…<u>GONE</u>. Items on your desktop…Personal Photos…Shortcuts in your browser…All <u>GONE</u>…**PERMANENTLY**!

So as long as you are aware of what you will actually lose, you are now equipped with some knowledge about how long it will actually take to get your computer restored to something resembling your original computer. If all of this sounds extremely inconvenient (it is) then you may want to consider a desktop backup solution for your most critically important PC's. Luckily, it's not expensive.

If you have one of our Datto or Replibit devices already backing up your server, you can simply add a workstation or two to those backup devices for a relatively low cost. We just add some licenses and you are on your way. AND they are backed up in the cloud for added protection!

We also have a software solution called ShadowProtect that can backup desktop computers to a Central network drive that costs less than $300 with licenses starting at $120 each. You can even add offsite secure backups for just .56 cents per GB.

Lastly, if you are one of our ProVent clients, this already robust piece of software has the ability to backup an entire PC (up to 100GB) for only $30 a month!

So, if you have business-critical desktops such as shipping computers, accounting computers or maybe your President's computer (and you know that losing that PC results in lots of loss due to downtime), now you know you have options! Just call one of our technicians and…

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Over 350 Local Businesses Trust *CCS Technologies* with Their Computer and Network Support