

Hercules and Online Hot Database Backups...24 x 7 winners!

by Pat Fitzsimmons

Databases...it seems they multiply like rabbits and get as big as elephants! The instances of Domino, Oracle, MS SQL Servers and Universal Database Servers are growing by leaps and bounds. They give the Database Administrators what seems like a Herculean task even before his hair was cut, "Back this puppy up and by the way...don't take it down either"! 24 x 7 becomes a real challenge when the tools, methods or disciplines are not in place.

But I have no time for 24 x 7

Despite the variety of uses for this data, the distributed databases seem to have a common theme; they aren't being adequately backed up! As these mission critical databases grow, the backup window is shrinking as many sites are turning to 24 x 7 operations and don't have the luxury of taking applications offline to perform a backup. Reducing downtime is the stated goal and as DBAs seek the means to accomplish this task, look into their tool kit and lament, "OK, who forgot to order the 24 x 7 kit"? Many DBA are not taking advantage of "Hot" or open backups because they aren't comfortable with them and why not...because they are not familiar with them. As the database capacity continues to explode and the backup windows shrink, the database administrators must learn to trust "Hot" backups and become more familiar and comfortable for the technology. It will help them meet their goals and make their job easier and in the end help the organization meet the corporate goal. It's analogous to 20 years ago when storage administrators didn't trust incremental backup, but now it's the defacto standard.

You've got MAIL

Exchange & Notes...Email servers are just another kind of database used for messaging and housing the monmouth task of being the Postmaster General for all corporate email communications. They maintain hundreds of thousands of email accounts, where as we know nobody EVER deletes anything! And as corporations throughout the world have learned, you WILL need to perform backups AND restores of this electronic communication information.

Innovation Data Processing can help the database administrator make the jump toward online "Hot" backups more comfortable with FDR/UPSTREAM. UPSTREAM provides a robust solution for the protection of many distributed databases and messaging systems.

FDR/UPSTREAM provides comprehensive support for Lotus Notes and Domino information, enabling online backups of Lotus Notes and Domino R5 databases without disrupting user productivity. The benefit of FDR/UPSTREAM online support using the Lotus Domino Notes backup API's are incremental backups. These are JUST backups of Notes transaction logs without having to shut anything down! The Domino agent affords UPSTREAM the ability to perform on-line full as well as incremental backups with flexible scheduling that permits database tasks to be rotated. UPSTREAM provides the ability to quiese databases, and can also be used to recover a database in a disaster recovery as well as a point in time recovery.

FDR/UPSTREAM also expands this support thru its FDR/UPSTREAM OS/390 UNIX facility that provides support for Notes R5 Domino servers for OS/390 UNIX Systems Services.

Notes and Exchange and Oracle too

FDR/UPSTREAM contains a Microsoft Exchange database agent program that combines the hierarchical structures in the DS and MDB database into a single hierarchical structure and backs it up as though it were a file system. This new functionality allows the individual objects, mailboxes and folders to be backed up as a hierarchy of individual entities that can then be restored either individually or as a group.

Innovation Data Processing is a member of the Oracle BSP (Backup Solutions Program) program and through this participation FDR/UPSTREAM can operate as an Oracle Media Manager Library product. FDR/UPSTREAM supports and can be used either with Oracle Recovery Manager (RMAN) or Oracle Enterprise Backup Utility (EBU). FDR/UPSTREAM also offers an alternative backup management suite for

Oracle databases that include a platform independent Backup Management tool. Platform dependent command line utilities are provided that include an extremely unique load balancing facility, scheduling utility, and backup and restore utility. The UPSTREAM backup management suite for Oracle databases primarily targets databases running in ARCHIVELOG mode and can take full advantage of FDR/UPSTREAM backup suite options, like ONLINE (hot) backups, incremental backups of REDO logs, and perform full database and tablespace media recovery.

Complex tasks completed in time!

In today's competitive environment and global economy with an emphasis on availability and 24 x 7 processing, an organization must learn to use all the tools and facilities available if they are going to succeed and survive. So DBAs take the Hercules challenge that will make your job easier and contribute to more profits for your company! By reducing downtime and learning to manage a 24 x 7 database, the rewards will go to the creative Database administrators and their companies who seek out and use "Online" backup tools like FDR/UPSTREAM.

For more information on FDR/UPSTREAM and the complete family of FDR storage management products, contact **Innovation Data Processing at (973) 890-7300**, or visit us at <http://www.innovationdp.fdr.com> ●

