

EMC HOMEBASE

Server recovery, configuration, migration, and provisioning

ESSENTIALS

- A platform-independent server provisioning, migration, and recovery solution
- Accurate, fast, and repeatable production-server configuration recoveries across dissimilar servers for higher levels of protection and comprehensive disaster recovery
- Able to move server configurations offsite for disaster recovery scenarios through remote replication capability

Today's enterprises are continuously challenged with server downtime that compromises data availability and productivity. EMC® HomeBase™ offers an industry-leading solution with a proven history of delivering planned server migration and server recovery for heterogeneous platforms.

SERVER RECOVERY AND MIGRATION MADE EASY

EMC HomeBase is a proven software solution that performs platform-independent server protection, migration, and recovery for physical and virtual environments. HomeBase automatically captures critical point-in-time snapshots of the server-system state on a scheduled basis. Each snapshot contains detailed server-system configuration information and is stored as a server-specific, point-in-time profile. At the time of recovery, HomeBase applies a source server's profile to the new target server hardware. This process eliminates the time-consuming and costly effort of having to reconfigure systems and applications in the event of hardware migration, failure, or disaster. HomeBase automatically accounts for hardware variances between the source and new target server.

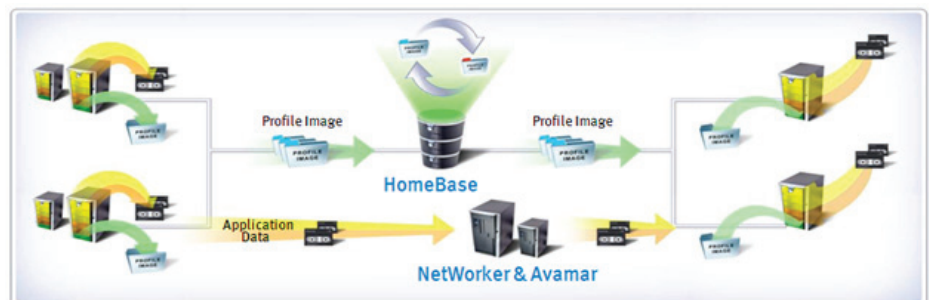


Figure 1. How EMC HomeBase, Avamar, and NetWorker work to achieve operational and disaster recovery

EMC HOMEBASE INTEGRATION WITH EMC NETWORKER AND EMC AVAMAR

EMC HomeBase is complementary to EMC NetWorker® and EMC Avamar® solutions. HomeBase provides protection for server-system state using a unique profiling feature. This means that in the event of a server failure—the result of a failed hardware component, for example—the server image can be quickly restored using HomeBase.

NetWorker and Avamar provide protection for user and application data. In combination with HomeBase, even higher levels of protection are delivered by enabling fast, comprehensive server recovery. This is made possible by integrated agents and schedules for triggering both a server profile creation as well as data backup.

How HomeBase works to deliver server protection and recovery:

Step 1.

HomeBase starts by creating production-server configuration profiles on a scheduled basis, ensuring the smallest of changes are automatically captured.

Step 2.

These profiles are encrypted and automatically sent to the HomeBase Server where they are securely stored.

Step 3.

During a recovery, HomeBase compares the production and recovery target server profiles and automatically generates an optimum server configuration, accounting for differences in hardware. HomeBase then applies the new profile to automatically configure all security, storage, networking, software, and other configuration settings on the recovery server, readying it for immediate operations. HomeBase can be used to recover many servers in parallel.

Step 4.

A profile of the newly recovered system can then be taken and used for protection, completing the recovery cycle.

Integration with NetWorker and Avamar also enables “one click” recoveries for Microsoft Windows environments, further reducing mean time to recovery. HomeBase manages the deployment of the operating systems and client software, and pulls needed restore data from NetWorker and Avamar, performing any necessary reboots. The new “one click” recovery using HomeBase, NetWorker, and Avamar provides the business resilience to protect critical data and completely recover the server, storage, and application configurations to dissimilar hardware in a fast, fully automated way.

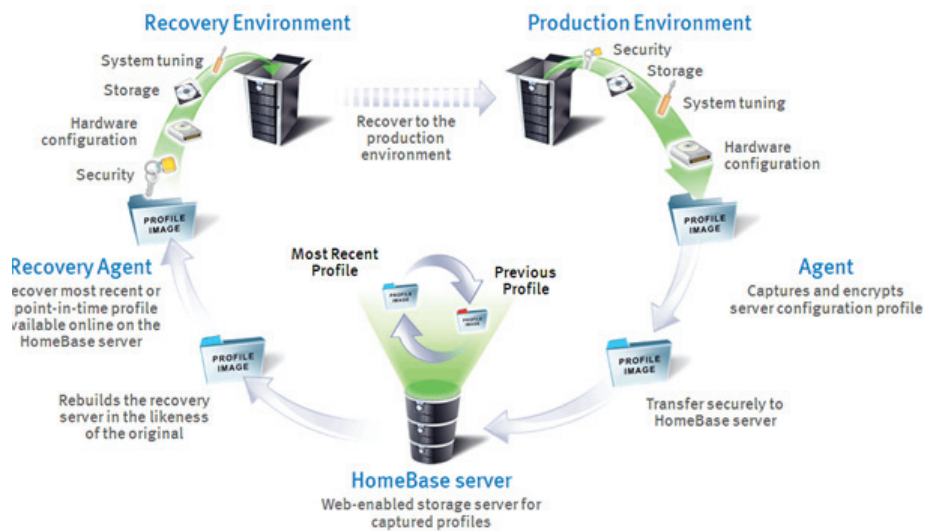


Figure 2. Steps HomeBase takes to capture and store profiles of server-system states in a recovery or migration event

HOMEBASE: AN INNOVATIVE APPROACH TO SERVER RECOVERY, MIGRATION, AND MANAGEMENT

Enhanced Server Provisioning—HomeBase Enhanced Server Provisioning supports the deployment of multiple types of operating systems from a single unified interface. Deployment templates, prepared in advance, enable rapid redeployment of a common operating system build, including the operating system, device drivers, and software. An individual server can be associated with a deployment session that manages the deployment process from start to finish. Deployment to a physical or virtual server can happen through an industry-standard PXE boot request, bootable CD/DVD, or USB boot device. Enhanced Server Provisioning supports the deployment of supported Microsoft Windows, Red Hat Enterprise Linux (RHEL), VMware® ESX®, and VMware ESXi operating systems. In addition, Enhanced Server Provisioning supports scripted installations of third-party applications on Windows and RHEL.

Platform-independent recovery—HomeBase is a platform-independent, server protection, migration, and recovery solution for heterogeneous environments. It ensures fast and repeatable production-server configuration recoveries across dissimilar servers. Through a single user interface, HomeBase can recover many servers in parallel to dissimilar servers.

Non-intrusive, easy to deploy and use—HomeBase seamlessly integrates with existing backup recovery workflow, leveraging your existing backup infrastructure investment. Traditional image-based BMR solutions introduce a new workflow, requiring that a new system image be created periodically for system recovery.

New Capabilities with EMC HomeBase 6.6

- VMware vSphere VM creation automated as part of the recovery
- Red Hat Enhanced Server Recovery with Avamar and NetWorker
- Service provider security for multi-tenanted recoveries
- Server Provisioning:
 - Windows Image (WIM)
 - Windows 7 N, K, KN
 - ESXi 5
 - Red Hat Enterprise Linux 6
- Upload of Windows OS media in ISO format
- Faster and lighter registry profiling

Cost-effective protection—HomeBase profiles only system-state-related data, allowing more frequent capture, and ensures even the smallest changes are obtained for reliable recoveries. Image-based Enhanced Server Recovery product-profile images are usually very large, making it cost-prohibitive to create them every day for a large number of servers. However, not creating them every day reduces protection. With smaller profiles, HomeBase can protect hundreds of servers at a fraction of the typical cost.

Remote server recovery—HomeBase facilitates faster and repeatable disaster recovery testing by providing server-recovery automation. Replication can be used to create another copy on the remote side for automating server recovery in a disaster-recovery situation.

Asset monitoring and reporting—HomeBase offers unparalleled flexibility to manage server farms. Business-specific policies and rules can be defined within the HomeBase Server to ensure that protected servers remain in compliance with policies and rules, disaster recovery plans, or server migration strategy. The HomeBase Server continuously monitors changes in servers, on a scheduled basis, against the predefined policies and rules thereby reducing recovery failure.

HomeBase provides detailed reporting on the configuration of systems, including disk and partitions, SMB/NFS shares, network interfaces and IP addressing, services, installed software, hardware specifications, and more. The reporting functionality can create differences reports which highlight the difference in system configurations between either one system at different points in time, or between two separate systems. Also, because HomeBase, by default, keeps profiles going back up to 10 years, the differences reporting functionality can highlight system changes over a period of time.

With just a few clicks, standard and custom detailed and component-level reports can be generated that identify commonalities, differences, and changes that have occurred over any two points in time throughout the lifecycle of servers. Reports can be generated in a web browser or exported as PDF, Excel, CSV, or XML files for business reporting.

CONTACT US

To find out more about how you can fully protect your servers with EMC HomeBase, visit us online at www.EMC.com.

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