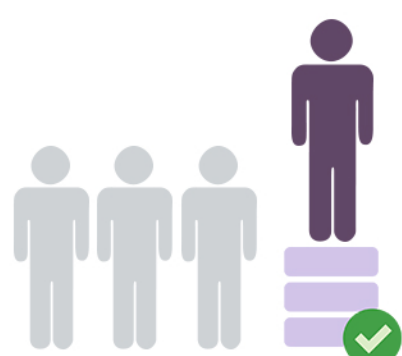# Why SMBs Need Something Better
to Protect Their VMs

Organizations of all sizes are embracing virtualization as a means of increasing server agility and longevity. But many struggle with how to reliably protect and ensure the rapid recovery of their virtual machines (VMs). Large enterprises often have diverse tools and deep experts on staff. But small and midsized businesses (SMBs) need their virtualization protection solution to be "right sized" in cost/complexity—while providing the same reliability and flexibility that enterprises enjoy.

1 OUT OF 4 surveyed SMBs cited **improving data backup and recovery** as a top IT priority in 2016.

And the surveyed organizations cited backup and increased use of server virtualization within one percentage point of each other as important priorities for their 2016 IT plans. **Simply put, when you modernize production, you must modernize protection.**

BACKUP + **SERVER VIRTUALIZATION**

83% of SMB servers are virtualized, according to ESG's recent *Trends in Protecting Highly Virtualized Environments* research report.

ⓘ With so many servers running in virtual environments, legacy tools still used for protecting the remaining physical servers may be seen as "outliers." The VM protection/recovery solution is often now the "main" backup product.
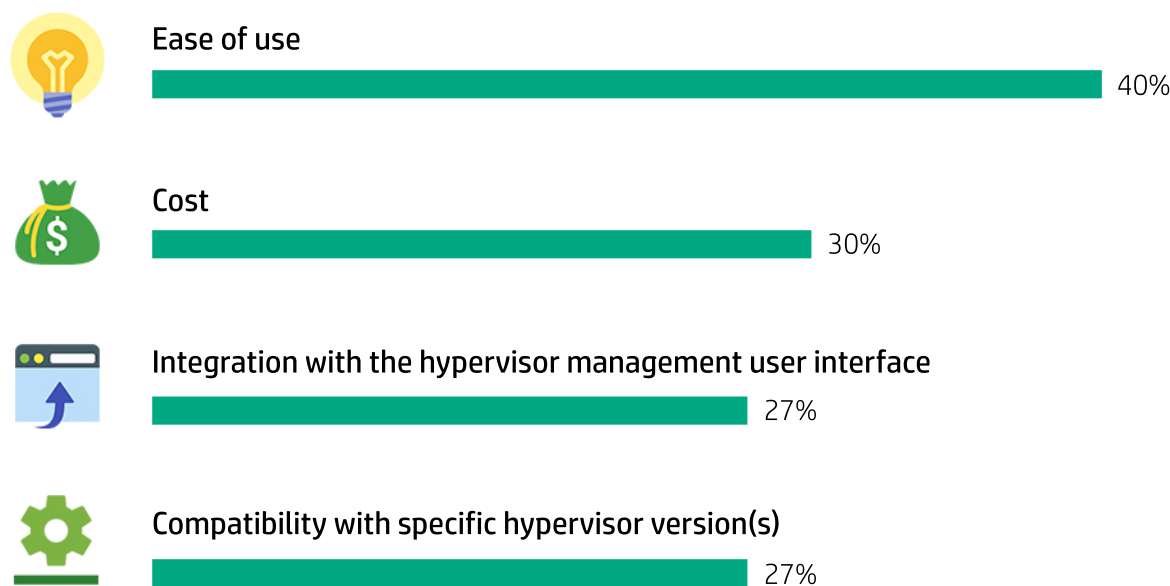
RELIABILITY + **VISIBILITY**

The top challenges for SMBs in protecting their virtual environments are **reliability and visibility.**

ⓘ The top challenge is recoverability of data, reported by 42% of respondents. The next band of challenges, seen among 32% to 37% of respondents, relate to validating recovery success, predictability, and troubleshooting. Said another way, although virtualization makes many things easier for IT, the abstraction of resources makes it harder to observe what is going on and thus ensure reliable protection or rapid recovery of data.

6 out of 7 respondents are not confident that they can meet their SLAs.

The four most often-cited priorities for VM protection:

Ease of use — 40%

Cost — 30%

Integration with the hypervisor management user interface — 27%

Compatibility with specific hypervisor version(s) — 27%

ⓘ Although the specific priorities between VMware SMBs and Hyper-V SMBs may vary slightly, the top four capabilities are the same across both sets of small/midsized business users.

The Bigger Truth

SMBs need the same kind of reliability that enterprises require from their virtualization protection solution, but they don't need the associated cost and complexity. SMBs should look for "right sized" virtualization-optimized protection solutions that support both VMware and Hyper-V, with easy-to-use and contextually aware instrumentation to ensure that the SMB can focus on being successful in its business instead of worrying about its IT environment.

One option to consider is VM Explorer from HPE. According to HPE, VM Explorer is a low-cost, easy-to-use, reliable backup solution for VMware vSphere and Microsoft Hyper-V environments. Offering choice of backup targets to disk, tape, and cloud, fast VM and granular restore, built-in replication, encryption, and verification, VM Explorer delivers advanced capabilities to drive resiliency, efficiency, and agility.

Download a free trial:
http://hpsw.co/HPEVMX

Learn more:
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