

## Challenges Implementing DR

Because of the high risk and costly effects of downtime, most CIOs have put testable DR solutions in their "Top 10" list of priorities. However, organizations have faced many challenges implementing workable Disaster Recovery for their IT systems:

- Legacy DR solutions are complicated and slow to implement
- Legacy DR solutions are difficult or impossible to fully test
- Implementing DR often requires specialized skill sets
- Not all organizations have a second DR site or data center
- Not all organizations have 24x7 "ready staff" for failover tasks
- Legacy DR solutions are too costly for many organizations

## The Solution: IT Xpress DRaaS for VMware

FusionStorm developed *IT Xpress DRaaS for VMware* to address the DR needs of Enterprises of all sizes. It is an "always on", hosted, Disaster-Recovery-as-a-Service solution which protects production IT environments running on VMware vSphere.

Unlike legacy DR solutions, *IT Xpress DRaaS* is less complex, faster to implement and more affordable, making it perfect for customers of all sizes and types. Provided completely as a service, there is no hardware or software to purchase, no data center space to acquire and no special skill sets required. It is compatible with most applications running on VMware vSphere and is especially well-suited to customers who do not have a second data center for disaster recovery.

## IT Xpress DRaaS Features

**VMware vCloud Powered.** Based on VMware vCenter Site Recovery Manager 5 (SRM 5) and vSphere Replication, IT Xpress DRaaS delivers simple, efficient and cost-effective replication of VMs that works with any underlying storage technology in use on the Protected Site (heterogeneous storage across sites). The built-in vSphere Replication feature is ideal for most customer environments, but the Service also supports the use of approved third-party replication technologies including SAN-based and Array-based replication to meet specific needs.

**Hosted in DR-safe data centers.** FusionStorm hosts IT Xpress DRaaS in multiple, disaster-safe, highly-secure data centers the U.S. and in Europe which feature local 24x7 security staff, biometric controlled access, video surveillance other physical security features. FusionStorm is also an audited SAS-70 Type II certified service provider.

**Provider monitored and managed.** The service is provisioned, monitored and managed on a 24x7 by FusionStorm's staff of IT experts.

**Bi-annual, DR failover testing.** IT Xpress DRaaS provides for bi-annual, scheduled testing of the DR Solution, including optional failback testing if required. FusionStorm provides an optional Designated Consulting Engineer (DCE) to assist with the scheduled failover testing process.

**Customizable RPO and RTO.** The service is customizable to meet almost any RPO (Recovery Point Objective), RTO (Recovery Time Objective) or business requirement. Using built-in vSphere Replication, the replication schedule can range from every 15 minutes to every 24 hours. When using supported third-party replication solutions, almost any RPO/RTO requirement can be achieved.



FusionStorm IT Xpress DRaaS is a  
VMware vCLOUD POWERED Service



Delivered completely as a Service – nothing to purchase

Hosting in DR-safe, SAS-70-II certified secure, high-availability data centers in the U.S. and Europe

Based on VMware vCenter Site Recovery Manager 5

Includes built-in data replication using vSphere Replication

Supports most applications running on VMware

Automated creation and maintenance of Recovery Plans

Includes bi-annual DR testing

Supports non-disruptive testing of Recovery Plans

Provides easy scalability to expand the DR environment

Customizable SLAs for all services

24x7 support provided by FusionStorm's Service Desk staffed with certified support experts

Optional Designated Consulting Engineer (DCE) for ongoing consulting and support for the DR solution

Simple, affordable monthly pricing

**Automated creation and maintenance of Recovery Plans.** Traditional recovery plans are complex to set up. They are usually captured in manual runbooks, which are error-prone and quickly fall out of sync with configuration changes. With IT Xpress DRaaS for VMware, the SRM 5 software enables the creation and maintenance of recovery plans by automatically coordinating most of the manual steps required with legacy DR solutions.

**Application-consistent failover.** Depending on the type of data replication selected, the IT Xpress DRaaS provides application-level consistency for failover. For example, when used with the built-in vSphere Replication technology, SRM 5 provides file-consistent recovery.

**Automated failback.** The Service also provides automated failback by “reversing” the data replication process from the Recovery Site to the Protected Site and executing the original recovery plan original in the reverse direction.

**Non-disruptive testing of recovery plans.** IT Xpress DRaaS supports testing of Recovery Plans without disrupting production systems, and includes a detailed report of the test outcomes, including the RTO achieved. With this information, organizations gain confidence that their disaster protection will meet their business objectives. Testing results can be saved and used to demonstrate compliance with disaster recovery requirements.

### IT Xpress DRaaS Solution Choices

IT Xpress DRaaS is available in two versions making it easy for customers to order the solution that best fits their needs: **Standard** and **Advanced**.

#### IT Xpress DRaaS - Standard (Shared VMs)

- Isolated, secure, multi-tenant environment for individual VMs in the Recovery Site
- Provider-managed (no customer access to the SRM console)
- Support for vSphere Replication only (included)
- Ideal for small to medium sized environments up to 75 VMs

#### IT Xpress DRaaS - Advanced (Dedicated vSphere Cluster)

- Customer-Dedicated vSphere Server(s) in the Recovery Site
- Provider-managed with limited Customer access to the SRM console
- Supports built-in vSphere Replication (included) and optional, supported third party replication solutions (must be purchased separately)
- Ideal for any size environment

### Recovery Site High-Availability Infrastructure

IT Xpress DRaaS is delivered using high-availability enterprise-class infrastructure hardware and software from Cisco, EMC, VMware and other top-tier vendors.

- Enterprise-class compute, storage and network hardware
- High-availability, multi-path, no single point of failure
- 10 Gbps Ethernet network, 4/8 Gbps Fibre Channel SAN
- VMware vSphere virtualization technology including VMware High Availability (HA) to minimize outages in the event of hardware failures in the Recovery Site

### System Requirements

- **Protected Site:** The Protected Site must be running VMware vSphere 5 on all servers hosting protected VMs. A single VM is required for running the SRM Manager Service (the license for the Protected-side SRM Manager Service is included with IT Xpress DRaaS).

**NOTE:** As a Premiere VMware Certified Partner, FusionStorm can also provide on-site upgrades to vSphere 5 for Customer environments. These services are available separately.

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