

EMC VIPR SRM: VAPP BACKUP AND RESTORE USING SYMANTEC NETBACKUP™

ABSTRACT

This white paper provides a working example of how to back up and restore an EMC ViPR SRM vApp using Symantec NetBackup.

October, 2015

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Purpose and Goals

This white paper describes a working example of how to back up EMC ViPR SRM vApp-based deployments using the Symantec NetBackup™ 7.6.0.1. While this document specifically covers ViPR SRM 1-VM and 4-VM vApp deployments, the guidelines apply to larger deployments as well.

Prerequisites

- Symantec NetBackup is installed. NetBackup Master and Media Servers should be reachable from the SRM vApp appliances.
- Reverse DNS lookup should work between all hosts participating in backup and restore.
- The Media Server should have enough space to hold backup images. Space can be allocated based on backup frequency and the type of backup policy configured.
- The NetBackup Client and SYMCquiesce utilities should be installed on the target backup hosts. Refer to the *Symantec NetBackup™ for VMware Administrator's Guide Release 7.6*.
- Make sure the NetBackup daemon processes are running on all associated hosts.
- Firewalls should be turned off to avoid connection errors. All firewall ports between the NetBackup processes on backup client/server should be configured to ensure connectivity. If you experience problems configuring the firewalls, turn them off. Refer to NetBackup documentation for more information:
https://support.symantec.com/en_US/article.TECH136090.html.

ViPR SRM Pre-Backup Checks

Do the following:

- Verify and document the current environment before starting the backup process.
- Refer to EMC documentation on managing ViPR SRM system health for details about verifying the health of your system.
- Look for blank reports and graphs. Determine if there are any blank reports caused by collection errors. Resolve any issues or document them for later follow up.
- Look for broken links. Resolve any issues or document them for later follow up.
- Validate that the end-to-end topology is working. Resolve any issues found.

Add vCenter Details

Add vCenter credentials to NetBackup to allow discovery of the VMs. Proper privileges are required for performing backup and restore using vCenter.

Adding vCenter Details

1. From the NetBackup admin console, navigate to **Media and Device Management** → **Credentials** → **Virtual Machine Server**.
2. Right click and select **New**. Fill in the required details. Select **Virtual Machine Server** type as **VMware Virtual Center Server**.

Refer to the following Symantec article for more information:

<http://www.symantec.com/business/support/index?page=content&id=TECH130493>

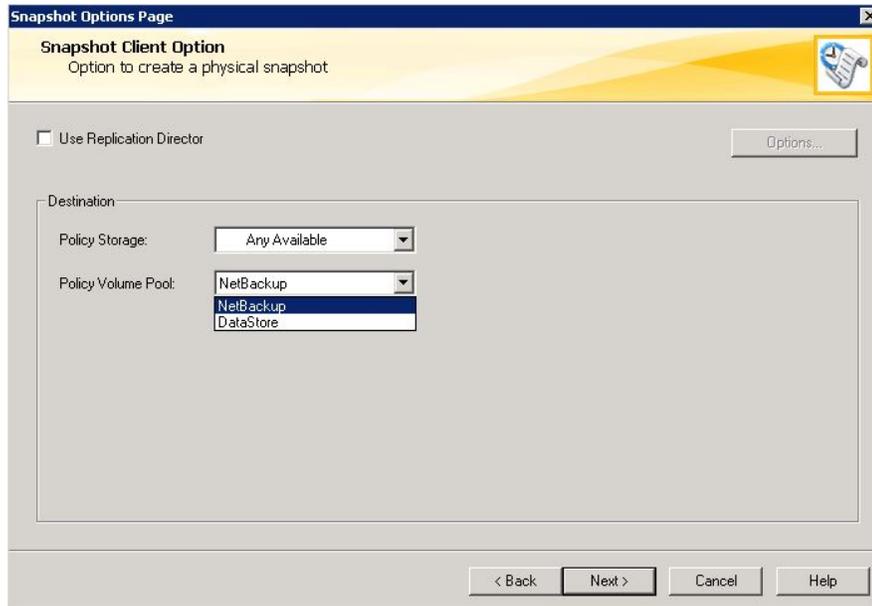
SRM vApp Image Backup

1-VM vApp Image Backup

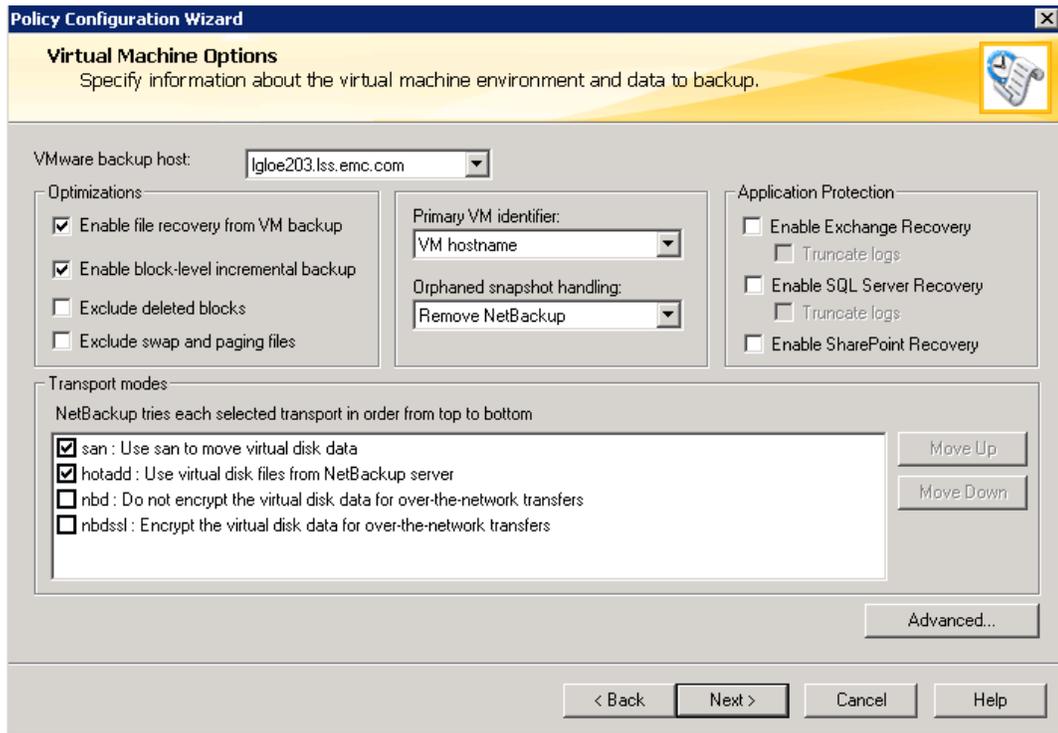
Create Backup Policies

Follow these instructions to create image backup policies for the ViPR SRM 1-VM vApp.

1. In the NetBackup Administration Console, in the left pane, click **NetBackup Management**.
2. In the right pane, right-click **Policies** and select **New Policy**. Provide a name for the policy, and select **Use Policy Configuration Wizard**.
3. On the Create a Backup Policy for window, select **VMWare and Hyper-V**.
4. On the Select Client window, select Virtual Machine type as **VMware**.
5. From Snapshot options page, select the **Policy Storage** and **Policy Volume Pool**.



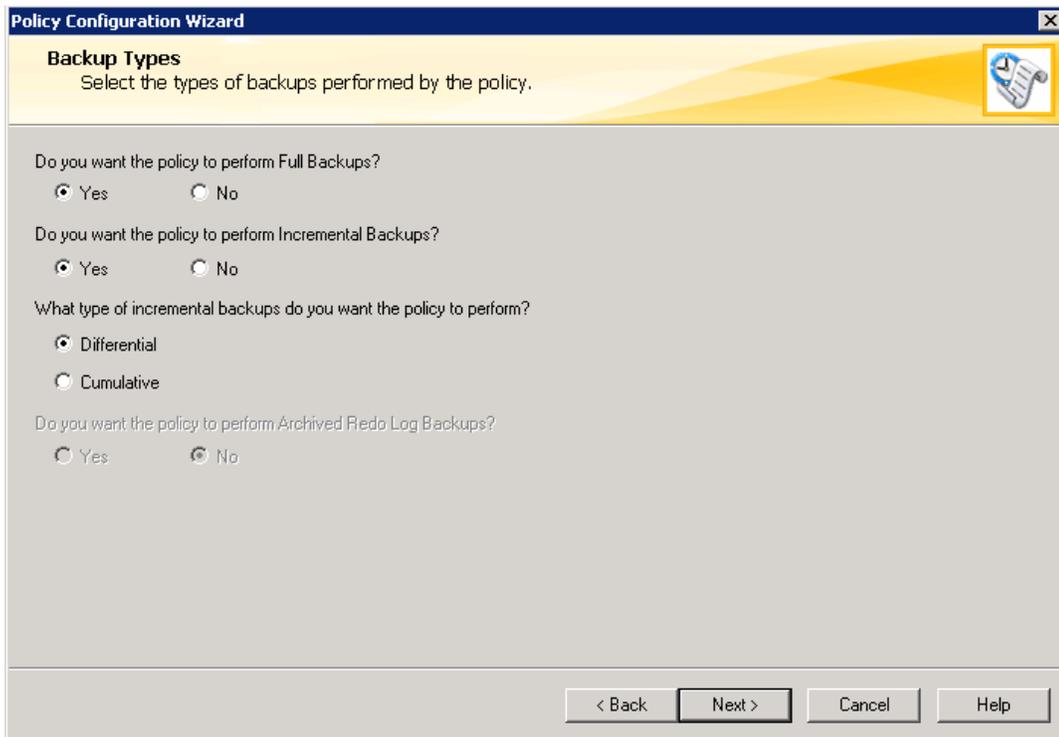
6. Supply the options for the policy shown in the following screen.



- o Select the **VMware backup host** based on the current system configuration.
- o Uncheck **Exclude deleted blocks** if checked. VMware backups with the **Exclude unused and deleted blocks** option enabled may be slow, especially if the virtual machine being backed up has fragmented free space or a large number of very small files. Restores of these backups may also be very slow. Although enabling this option has no impact on the successful backup and restore of ViPR SRM vApps, avoid it due to performance constraints.
- o **Exclude swap and paging files**. While backup and restore with paging files works properly on ViPR SRM vApps, avoid this option due to performance constraints.
- o Select the **Transport Modes** depending upon the current configuration. ViPR SRM vApps backup/restore works with both the **SAN** and **HOTADD** modes. You can select both; NetBackup tries the second mode if fails to connect with the first.
- o Keep the rest of the options as shown in the above screen shot.

You can discover and add the vApps manually or through a query. If it is a small-scale environment or the location of VMs is well known, then selection can be done manually. Otherwise create a query to find the VMs and select them from the search results.

7. Select the type of backup to be performed. All types of backup are supported for SRM VMs. EMC recommends weekly full backups combined with daily incremental differential backups. The type of incremental backup should be based upon your requirements. The advantage of an incremental differential backup is that it takes less time to restore.



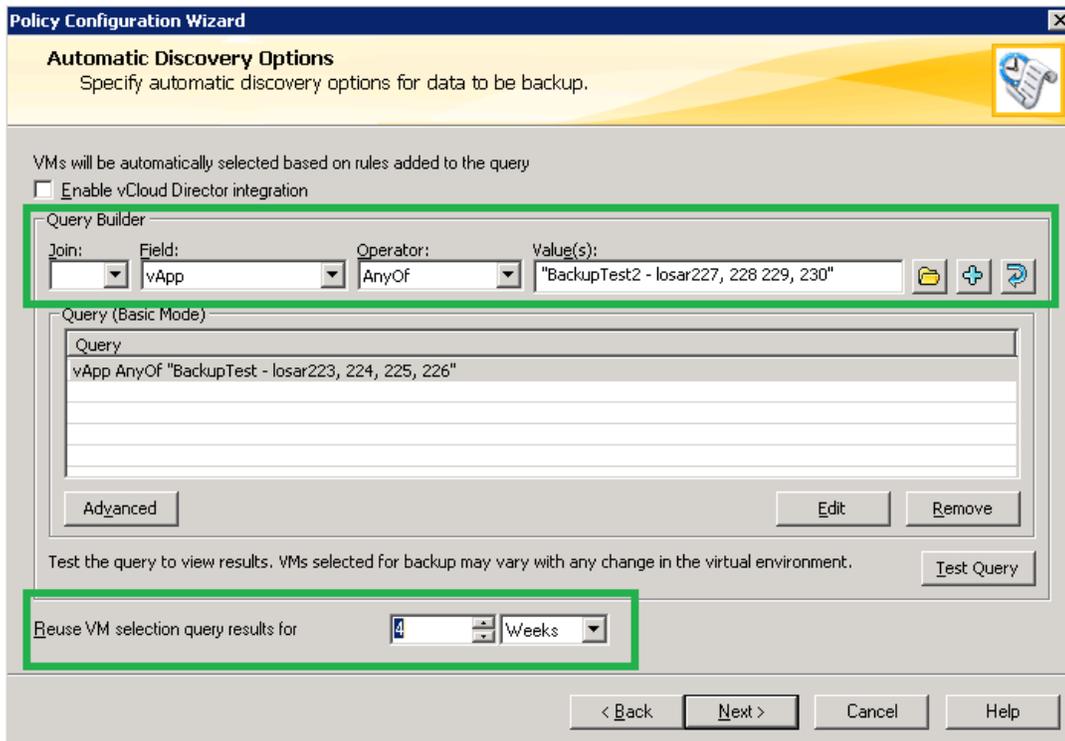
8. Next, schedule the frequency of backup. The frequency of backup and retention period depends on the business requirement and associated risk. Verify the policy terms, and a process is created to trigger the backup at the scheduled intervals.

4-VM vApp Image Backup

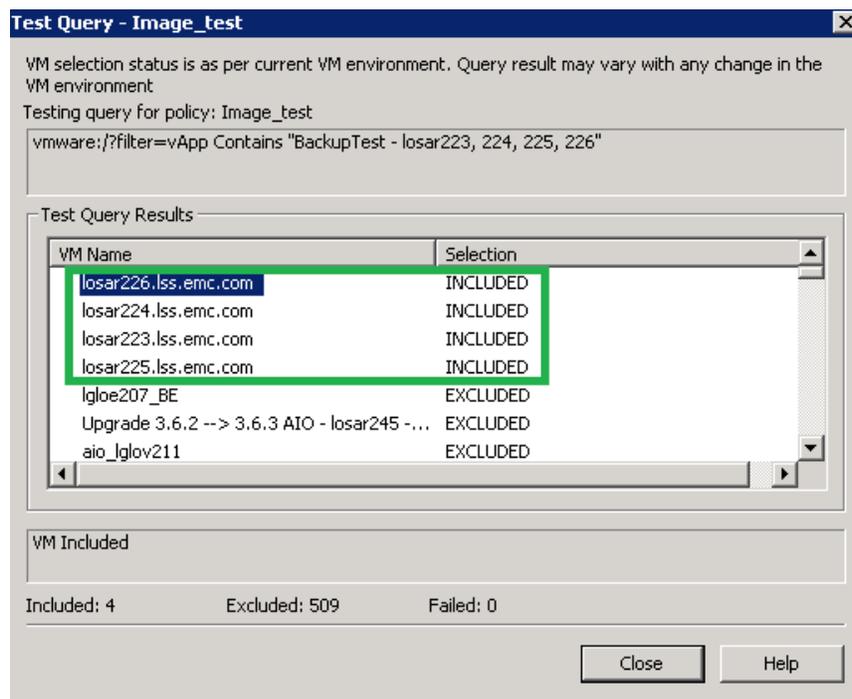
Create Backup Policies

Follow the instructions to create image backup policies for the ViPR SRM 4-VM vApps.

1. Complete [steps 1 through 5](#) from the 1-vApp VM procedure.
2. Add all VMs in the vApp using a query. From the virtual machine selection dropdown, select **automatically through query**. Confirm the selection and in the next window select the **Master Server** for performing the VM selection.
3. A query selection window opens. Set the **Field** to **vApp** and fill in the other query building attributes appropriately.



4. If you re-run the query at a future time, set the **Reuse VM selection query results for** field according to your requirements.
5. Test the query to verify that all VMs under the selected vApp have been included successfully.



You can discover and add the VMs in the vApp manually as well.

- Next, schedule the frequency of backup. The frequency of backup and retention period depends on the business requirement and associated risk. Verify the policy terms, and a process is created to trigger the backup at the scheduled intervals.

SRM vApp File Backup

Prerequisite

The NetBackup client software must be installed on the hosts to be backed up. Refer to the appropriate version of the Symantec NetBackup Installation Guide for detailed instructions. For example, the *Symantec NetBackup 7.6 Installation Guide* can be downloaded from:

https://support.symantec.com/en_US/article.DOC6447.html

1 VM vApp File Backup

Create Backup Policies

Follow the instructions to create file backup policies for ViPR SRM single VM.

- Launch **Policy Creation** from the NetBackup Administration Console and name the policy.
- On the next window create a backup policy for **File system, database, and application**.
- On the next window select the **Policy type** as **Standard** and click **Next**.

Policy Configuration Wizard

Policy Name and Type
Specify the policy name and policy type.

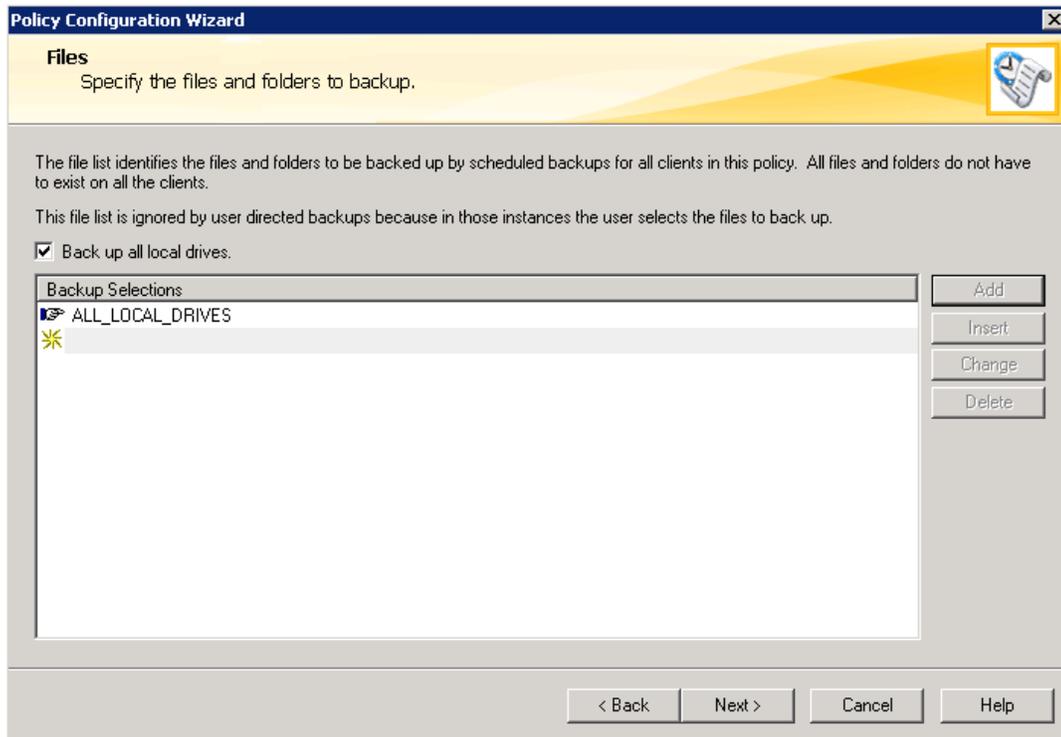
Policy name:

The policy type determines the types of clients that can be backed up by this policy or the type of backups that this policy will perform on those clients.

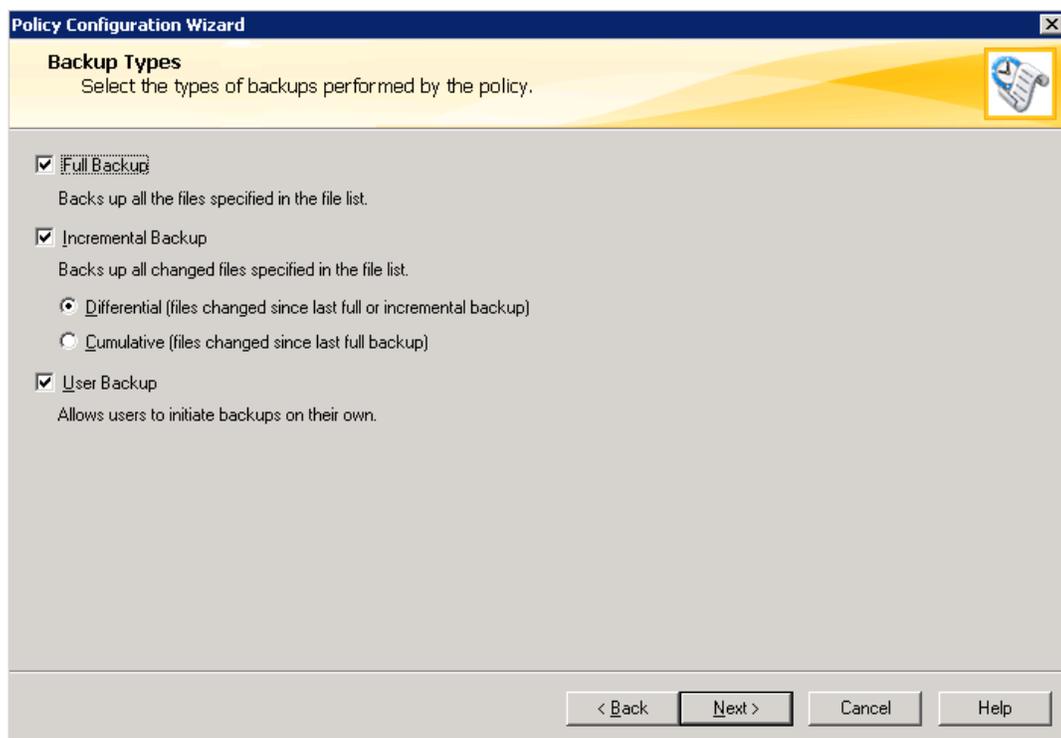
Select the policy type:

< Back Next > Cancel Help

- Add the name of the client and click **Next**. The OS type is determined automatically.
- On the **Files** screen, add the specific directories/files for backup or select **Backup all local drives**, based on the requirement. For SRM VMs, back up all local drives.



6. On the **Backup Types** dialog, select **Full Backup**, **Incremental Backup**, and **Differential**. The user has an option to initiate the backup by selecting the **User Backup** option.



7. Next, schedule the frequency of backups based on your business requirements. Verify the policy terms, and a process is created to trigger the backup at scheduled intervals.

4-VM vApp File Backup

Create Backup Policies

Follow the instructions to create file backup policies for ViPR SRM 4-VM vApp.

1. Launch **Policy Creation** from the NetBackup Administration Console and name the policy.
2. On the next window create a backup policy for **File system, database, and application**.
3. On the next window select the **Policy type** as **Standard** and click **Next**.

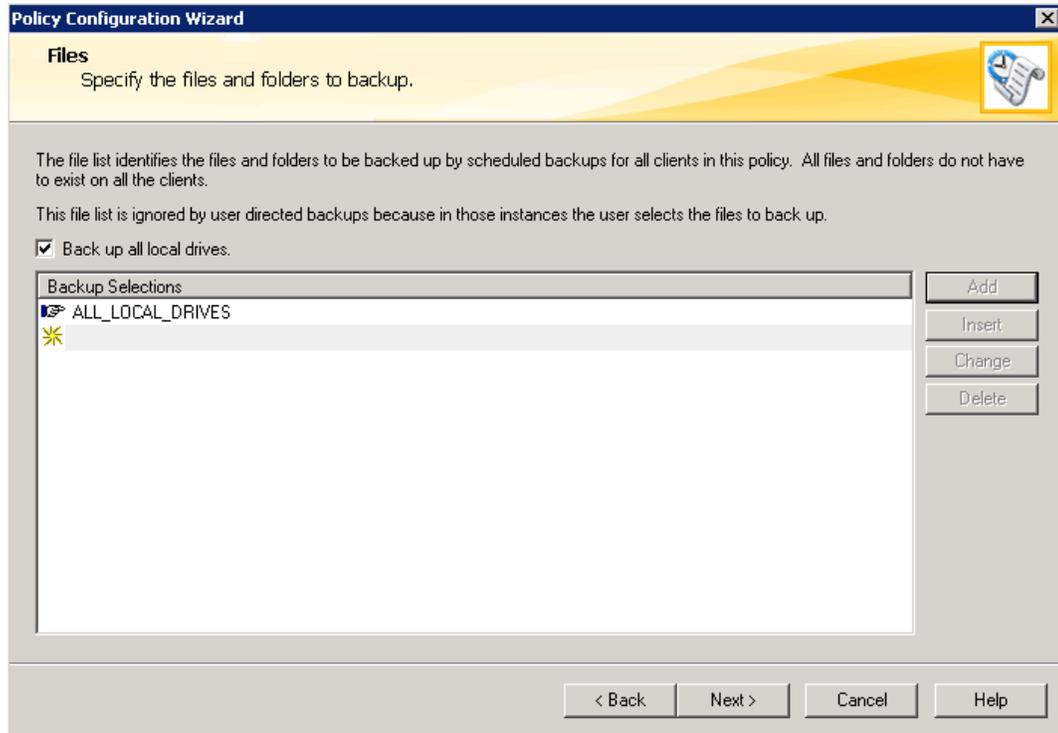
The screenshot shows the 'Policy Configuration Wizard' window, specifically the 'Policy Name and Type' step. The title bar reads 'Policy Configuration Wizard'. The main heading is 'Policy Name and Type' with the instruction 'Specify the policy name and policy type.' Below this, there is a text input field for 'Policy name:' containing the text 'File_backup_1VM'. A descriptive paragraph follows: 'The policy type determines the types of clients that can be backed up by this policy or the type of backups that this policy will perform on those clients.' Below the paragraph is a label 'Select the policy type.' and a dropdown menu currently set to 'Standard'. At the bottom of the window are four buttons: '< Back', 'Next >', 'Cancel', and 'Help'.

4. You can add multiple clients on the **Client List** dialog and all backup drives added in are included for these clients.

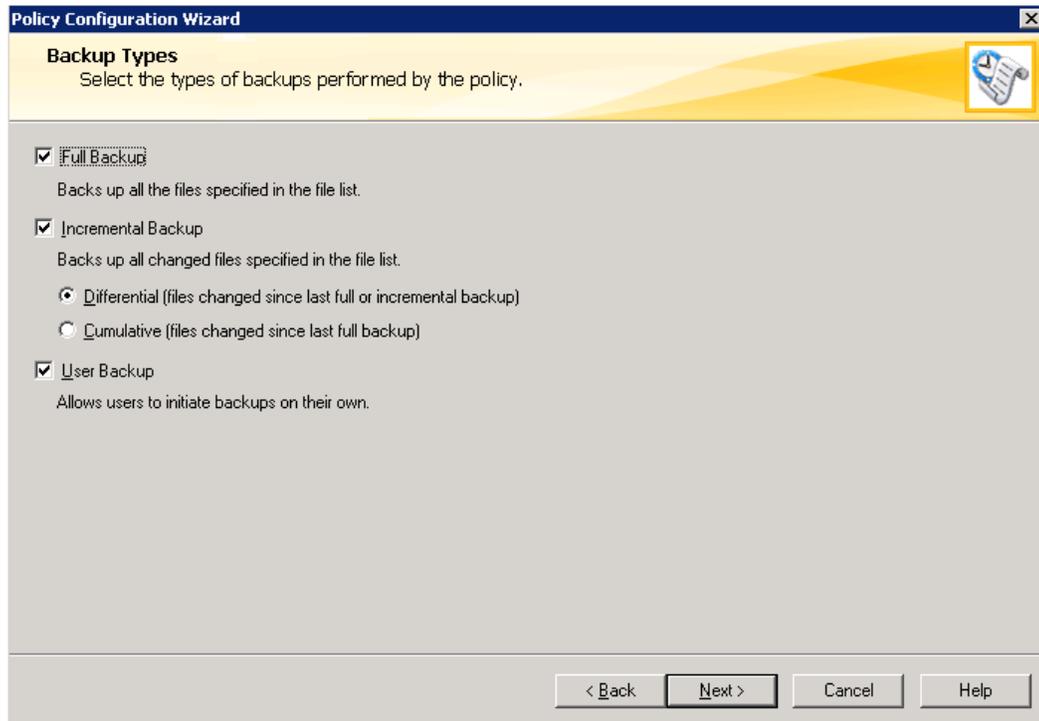
The screenshot shows the 'Policy Configuration Wizard' window, specifically the 'Client List' step. The title bar reads 'Policy Configuration Wizard'. The main heading is 'Client List' with the instruction 'Specify clients for this policy.' Below this, there is explanatory text: 'NetBackup will back up these clients according to the file list, schedules, and attributes for the policy. NetBackup clients can be in more than one policy. For easier management, fill the client list with clients that have similar configurations and perform the same type of work.' Below the text is a table with three columns: 'Name', 'Hardware', and 'Operating System'. The table contains four rows of client data. To the right of the table are four buttons: 'Add', 'Change', 'Delete', and 'Properties'. At the bottom of the window, there is a checkbox labeled 'Detect operating system when adding or changing a client.' with a note '(This is successful only on Windows platforms.)'. At the very bottom are four buttons: '< Back', 'Next >', 'Cancel', and 'Help'.

Name	Hardware	Operating System
lgld184	Linux	SuSE2.6.16
lgld178	Linux	SuSE2.6.16
lgloe198	Linux	SuSE2.6.16
losar237	Linux	SuSE2.6.16

5. On the **Files** screen, add the specific directories/files for backup or select **Backup all local drives**, based on the requirement. For SRM VMs, back up all local drives.



6. On the **Backup Types** dialog, select **Full Backup**, **Incremental Backup**, and **Differential**. The user has an option to initiate the backup by selecting the **User Backup** option.

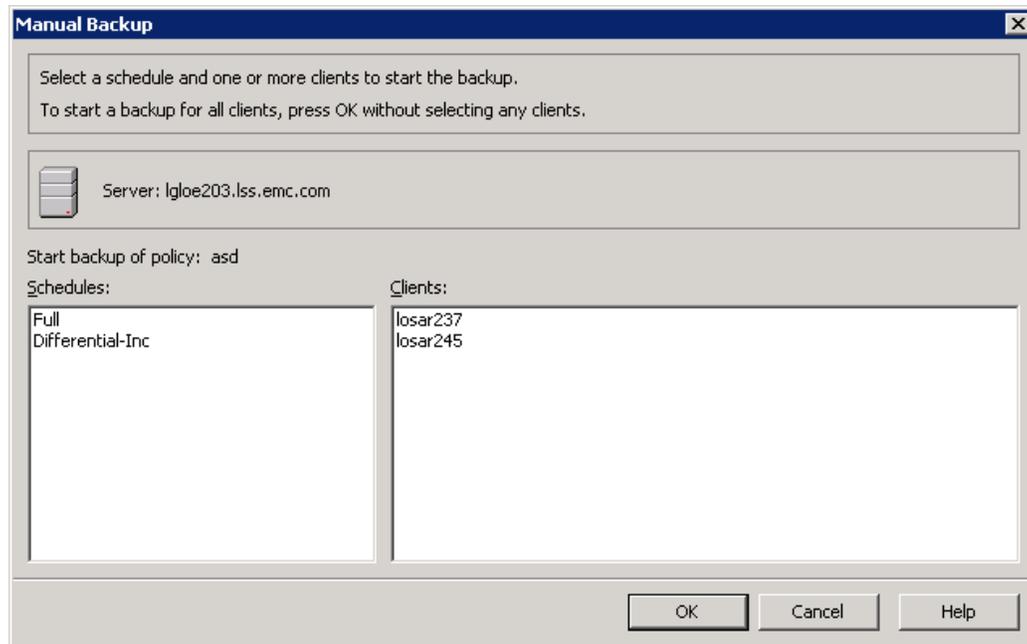


7. Next, schedule the frequency of backups based on your business requirements. Verify the policy terms, and a process is created to trigger the backup at scheduled intervals.

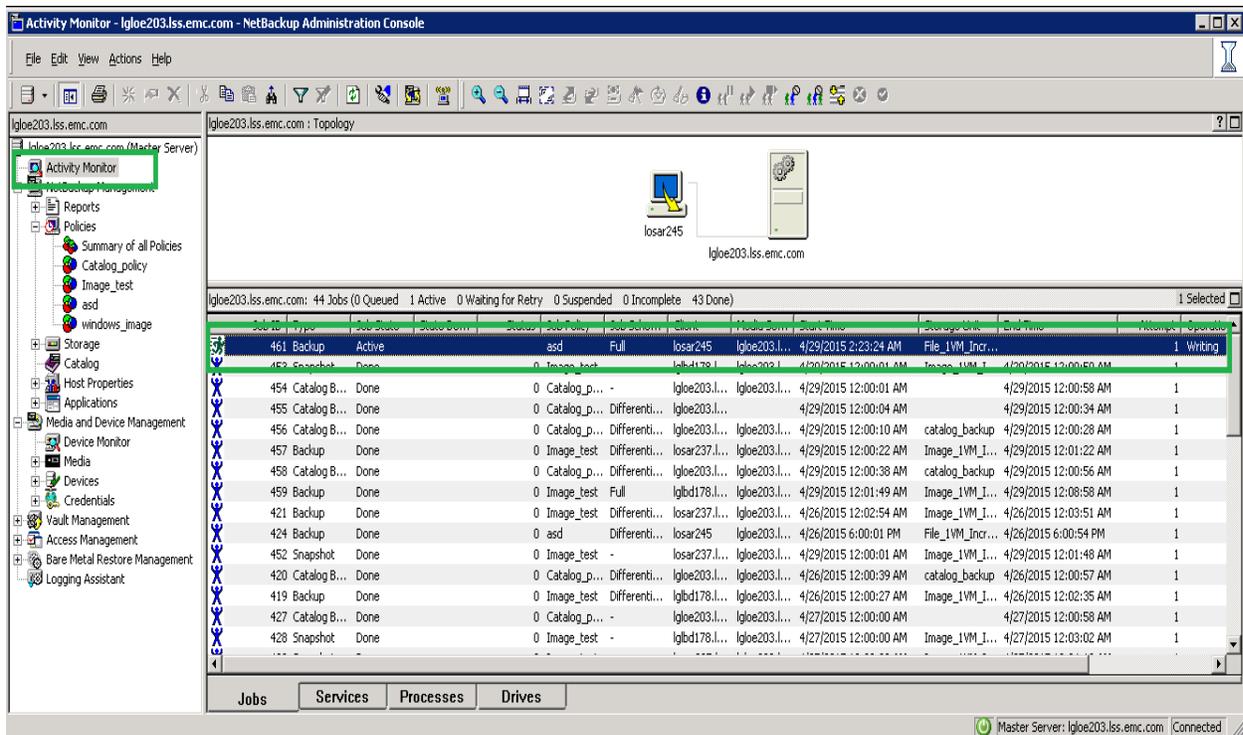
Initiate Manual Backup

You can initiate the backup manually, apart from the scheduled backup created during policy creation.

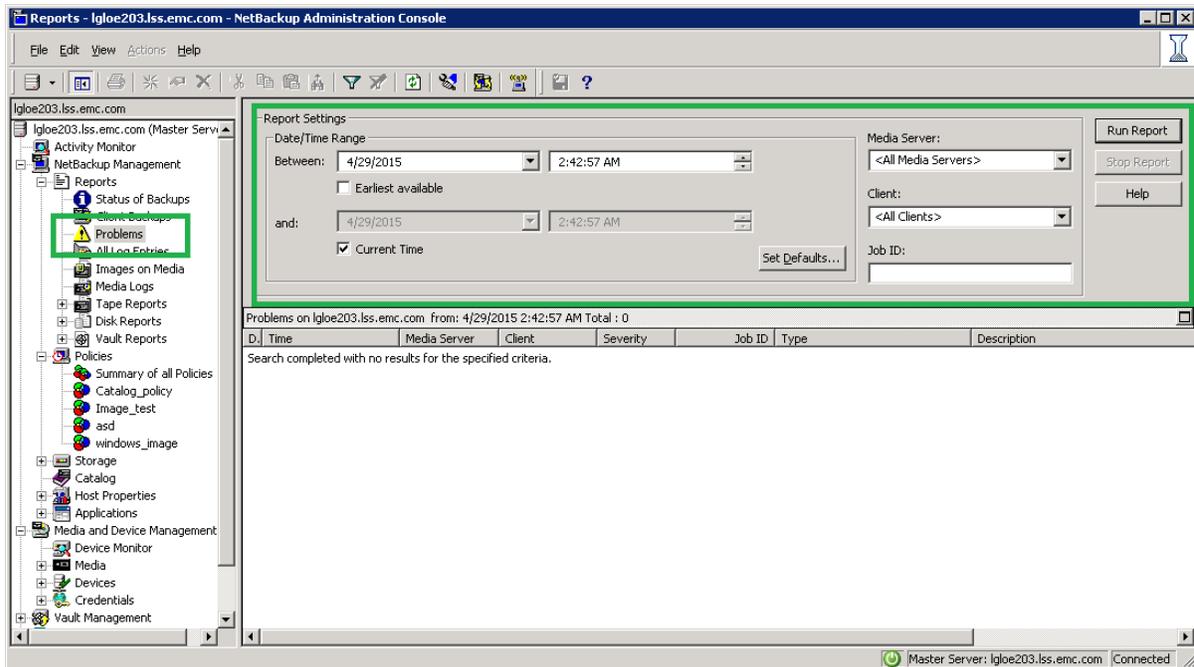
- Select the policy from the **Policies** tree in the NetBackup Administration Console, right click and select **manual backup**. Select the type of backup and VMs according to the policy setup and initiate the backup.



- Monitor the progress using the **Activity Monitor**. This displays the type of backup, start time, end time, how much data has been backed up, and so on.



- Monitor any issues encountered during the backup using the **Problems** window, where you can generate reports based on a filter.

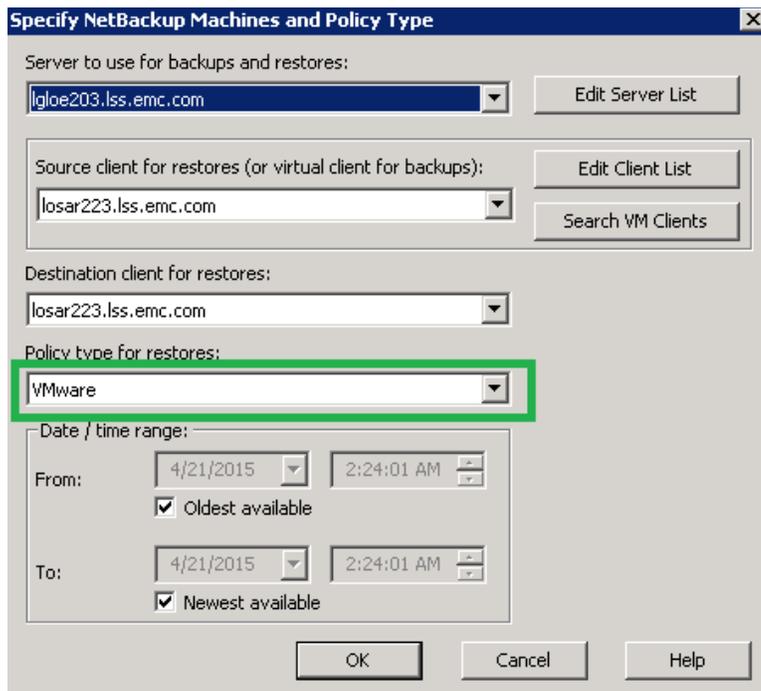


SRM vApp Image Restore

The VM image restore procedure is essentially the same for 1-VM vApps and 4-VM vApps, differing only when you are restoring images to an alternate destination. Complete the procedure below to start the process of restoring images.

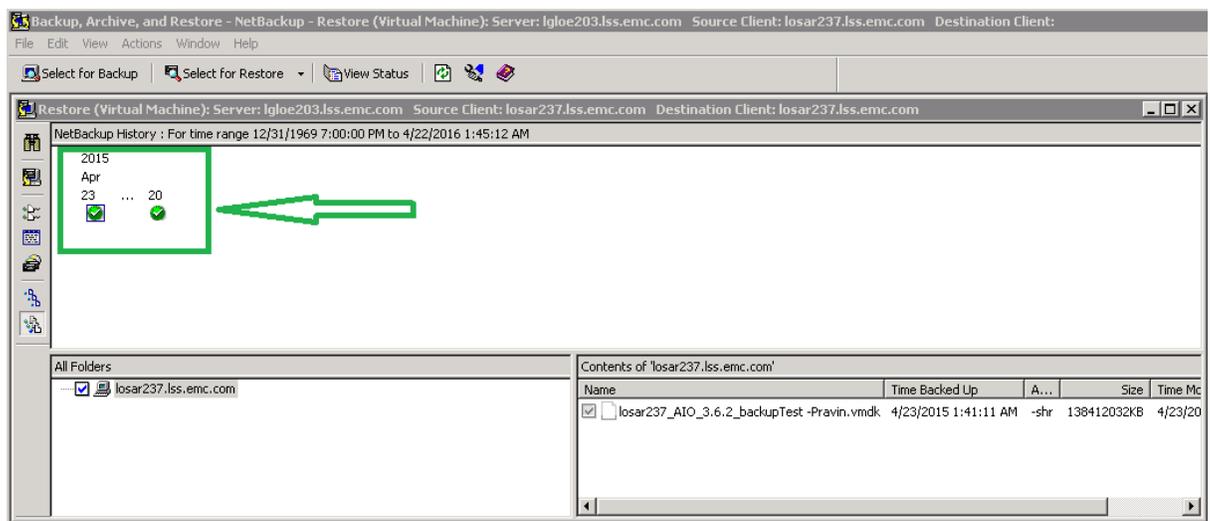
Image Restore for Both 1-VM and 4-VM vApps

1. Launch the NetBackup **Backup, Archive, and Restore** console from the Toolbar menu (it is also available via the **Administration Console**).
2. Navigate to **File → Specify NetBackup Machine and Policy Type**.
 - a. In the **Policy** dialog, select the **Master Server** for **Server to use for backup and restores**.
 - b. Search/add VM clients and set the targeted VM for the restore as **Source client for restores (or virtual client for backup)**.
 - c. Make the destination client the same as the source client.
 - d. Set the **Policy Type for restores** to **VMware**.
 - e. Choose a date and time range to get the images from the image repository and click **OK**.



3. Navigate to **File** → **Select files and folders to Restore** → **from Virtual Machine Backup**.

4. Select the image to restore and select **Action** → **Restore...**



You can restore the image to the same location or select an alternate location. The SRM vApp can be restored selecting any of the options. Continue with [Recovery Destination](#).

Recovery Destination

You can restore to the original location or to an alternate location. The following list identifies the advantage and disadvantages of each method.

Original Location

- Advantages

- The recovery can be done without making any changes to the image properties.
- The restored SRM vApp image does not lose its IP configuration and along with APG services everything comes up smoothly. The data collection also works properly and no user intervention is required once restored.
- Disadvantages
 - The restored images delete the existing SRM vApp from vCenter.
 - Deleting the vApp from vCenter removes all associated snapshots.

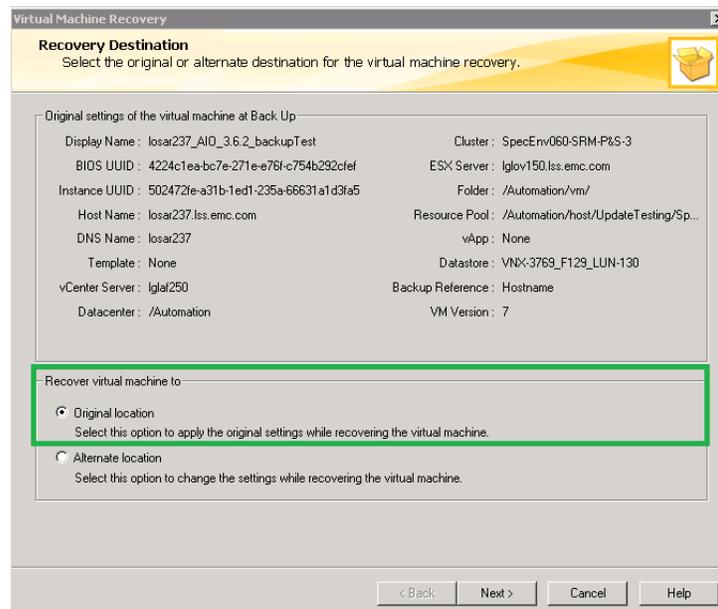
Alternate Location

- Advantages
 - Many customizations are allowed, including placing the VM in an entirely different environment.
 - You can change the ESX server, display name, resource pool, datastore, or folder name. Be careful while making changes here, The resources should be available and need to be under one umbrella (for example. you cannot assign an ESX server that has no connection to the specified datastore).
- Disadvantages
 - The IP configuration is lost.
 - Assigning a different IP address and host name is not allowed because the SolutionPacks were registered with the respective host names and IP address, and do not work with a different IP configuration.

Restore to Original Location

This procedure continues the [Image Restore for both 1-VM and 4-VM vApps](#) procedure. The procedure is the same for both 1-VM and 4-VM vApps.

1. On the **Recovery Destination** dialog, set **Recovery Virtual Machine to** to **Original location** and click **Next**.



2. Click **Next** on the **Recovery Options** dialog. Recovering to the original location keeps all VM settings intact and maintains the default settings.

The screenshot shows the 'Virtual Machine Recovery' dialog box with the 'Recovery Options' tab selected. The dialog has a yellow header bar with the title 'Virtual Machine Recovery' and a close button. Below the header, the 'Recovery Options' section contains the instruction 'Select the recovery host, transport mode and other options.' and a yellow box icon. The main area is divided into three sections: 'Destination settings', 'NetBackup Recovery Host', and 'Transport modes'. The 'Destination settings' section contains a grid of fields with the following values: Display Name: losar237_AIO_3.6.2_backupTest, BIOS UUID: 4224c1ea-bc7e-271e-e76f-c754b292cfe, Instance UUID: 502472fe-a31b-1ed1-235a-66631a1d3fa5, Host Name: losar237.lss.emc.com, DNS Name: losar237, Template: None, vCenter Server: lglaf250, Cluster: SpecEnv060-SRM-P&S-3, ESX Server: lglov150.lss.emc.com, Folder: /Automation/vm/, Resource Pool: /Automation/host/UpdateTesting/Sp..., vApp: None, Datastore: VNX-3769_F129_LUN-130, and Datacenter: /Automation. The 'NetBackup Recovery Host' section has a dropdown menu set to 'lgloe203.lss.emc.com'. The 'Transport modes' section has a list of four options with checkboxes: 'san' (checked), 'hotadd' (checked), 'nbd' (unchecked), and 'nbdsst' (unchecked). To the right of the list are 'Move Up' and 'Move Down' buttons. At the bottom of the dialog are four buttons: '< Back', 'Next >', 'Cancel', and 'Help'.

Virtual Machine Recovery

Recovery Options
Select the recovery host, transport mode and other options.

Destination settings

Display Name : losar237_AIO_3.6.2_backupTest	Cluster : SpecEnv060-SRM-P&S-3
BIOS UUID : 4224c1ea-bc7e-271e-e76f-c754b292cfe	ESX Server : lglov150.lss.emc.com
Instance UUID : 502472fe-a31b-1ed1-235a-66631a1d3fa5	Folder : /Automation/vm/
Host Name : losar237.lss.emc.com	Resource Pool : /Automation/host/UpdateTesting/Sp...
DNS Name : losar237	vApp : None
Template : None	Datastore : VNX-3769_F129_LUN-130
vCenter Server : lglaf250	Datacenter : /Automation

NetBackup Recovery Host :

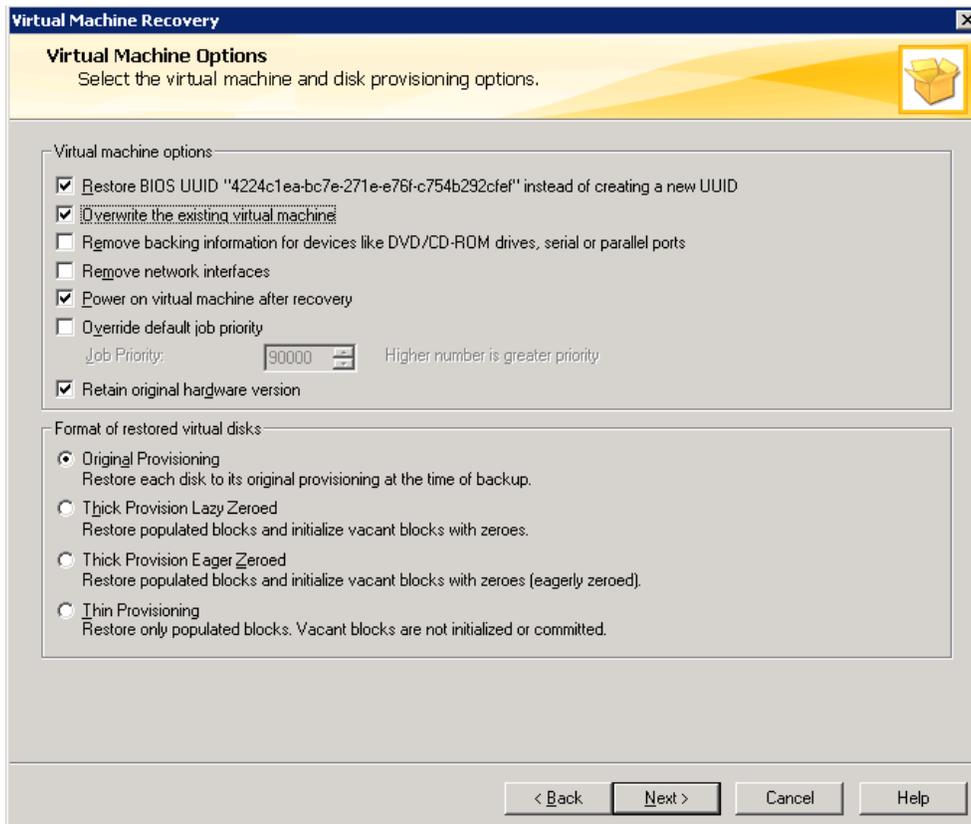
Transport modes
NetBackup tries each selected transport in order from top to bottom

- san : Use san to move virtual disk data
- hotadd : Use virtual disk files from NetBackup server
- nbd : Do not encrypt the virtual disk data for over-the-network trans...
- nbdsst : Encrypt the virtual disk data for over-the-network transfers

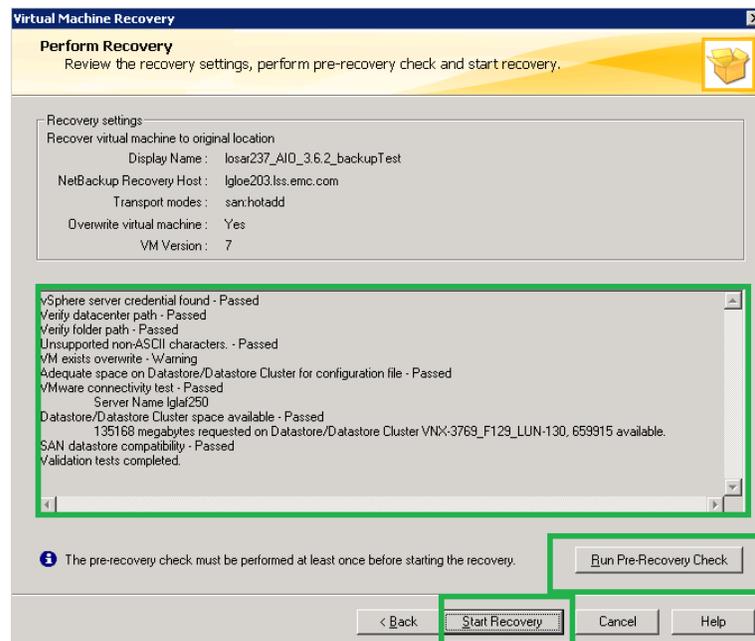
Move Up
Move Down

< Back Next > Cancel Help

3. Set the **Virtual Machine Options** according to the screen below. Keep the original provisioning choice and retain the original hardware version and BIOS UUID. **Overwrite the existing virtual machine** must be enabled in case the VM is already in place because creating two VMs with the same name in same vCenter is not allowed. Check **Power on the virtual machine after recovery**. Click **Next**.



4. On the **Perform Recovery** dialog, select **Run Pre-recovery Check**. When the pre-recovery check completes successfully, select **Start Recovery**.



5. After starting the restore, a pop-up appears offering to view the progress. Alternately you may select **View Status** from the Restore Console to watch the restore progress.

Restore to an Alternate Location

This procedure continues the [Image Restore for both 1-VM and 4-VM vApps](#) procedure. While this procedure applies to both 1-VM and 4-VM vApps, note the differences in step 2.

1. On the **Recovery Destination** dialog, set **Recovery Virtual Machine to** to **Alternate location** and click **Next**.

Virtual Machine Recovery

Recovery Destination
Select the original or alternate destination for the virtual machine recovery.

Original settings of the virtual machine at Back Up

Display Name : losar237_AIO_3.6.2_backupTest	Cluster : SpecEnv060-SRM-P&S-3
BIOS UUID : 4224c1ea-bc7e-271e-e76f-c754b292cfef	ESX Server : lglov150.lss.emc.com
Instance UUID : 502472fe-a31b-1ed1-235a-66631a1d3fa5	Folder : /Automation/vm/
Host Name : losar237.lss.emc.com	Resource Pool : /Automation/host/UpdateTesting/Sp...
DNS Name : losar237	vApp : None
Template : None	Datastore : VNX-3769_F129_LUN-130
vCenter Server : lgla250	Backup Reference : Hostname
Datacenter : /Automation	VM Version : 7

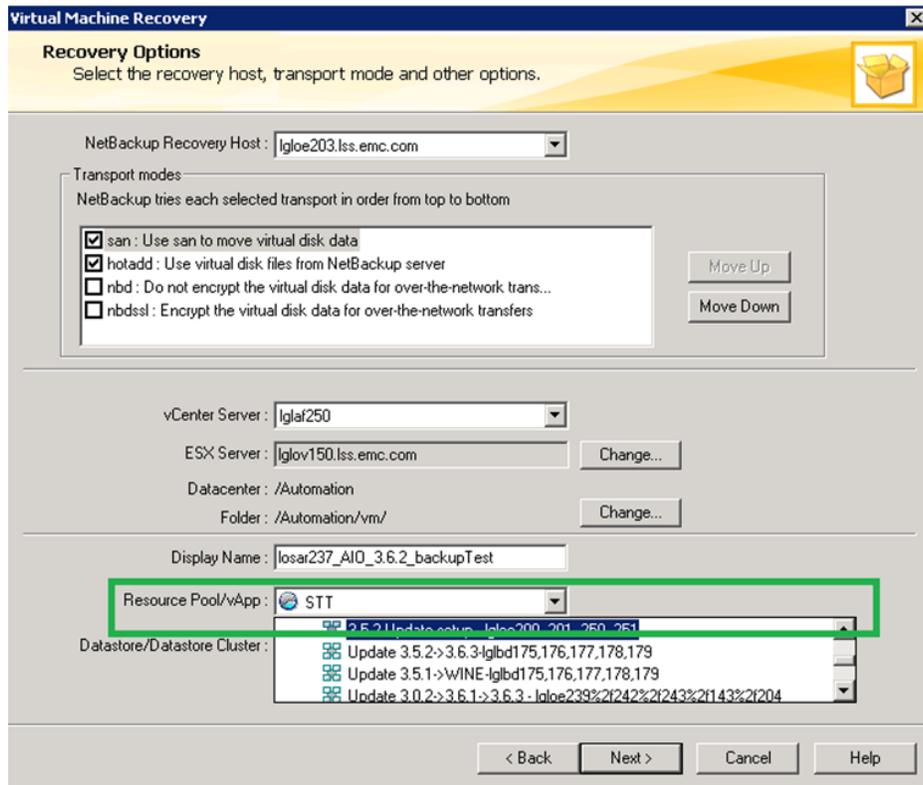
Recover virtual machine to

- Original location
Select this option to apply the original settings while recovering the virtual machine.
- Alternate location
Select this option to change the settings while recovering the virtual machine.

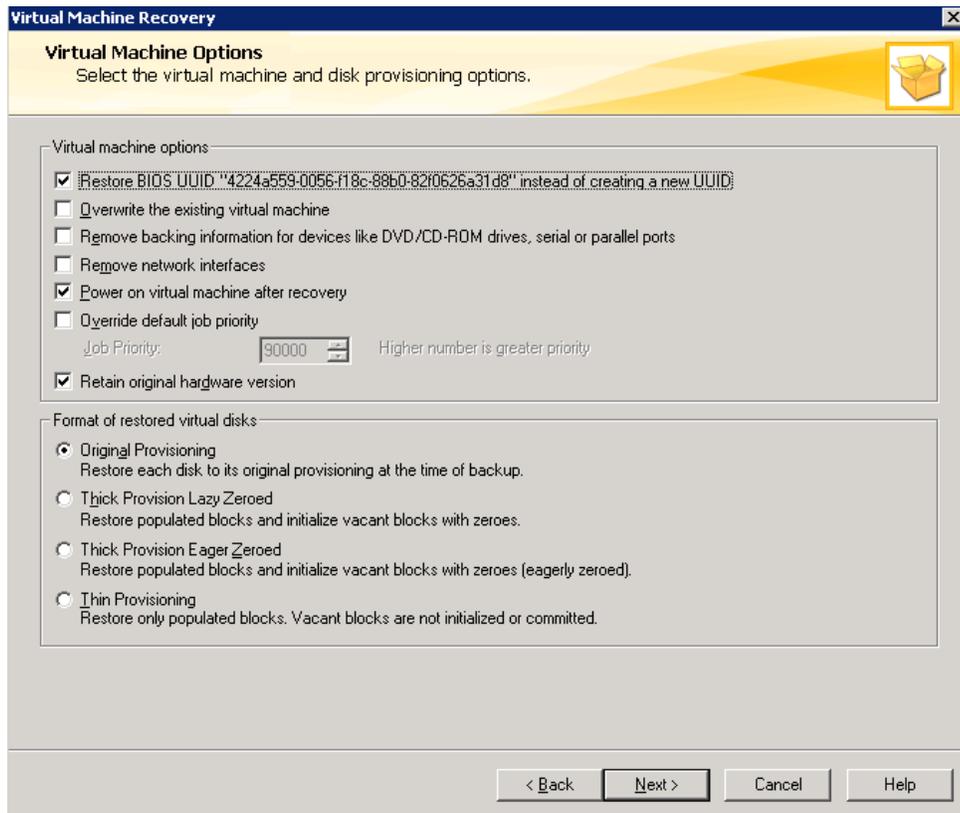
< Back Next > Cancel Help

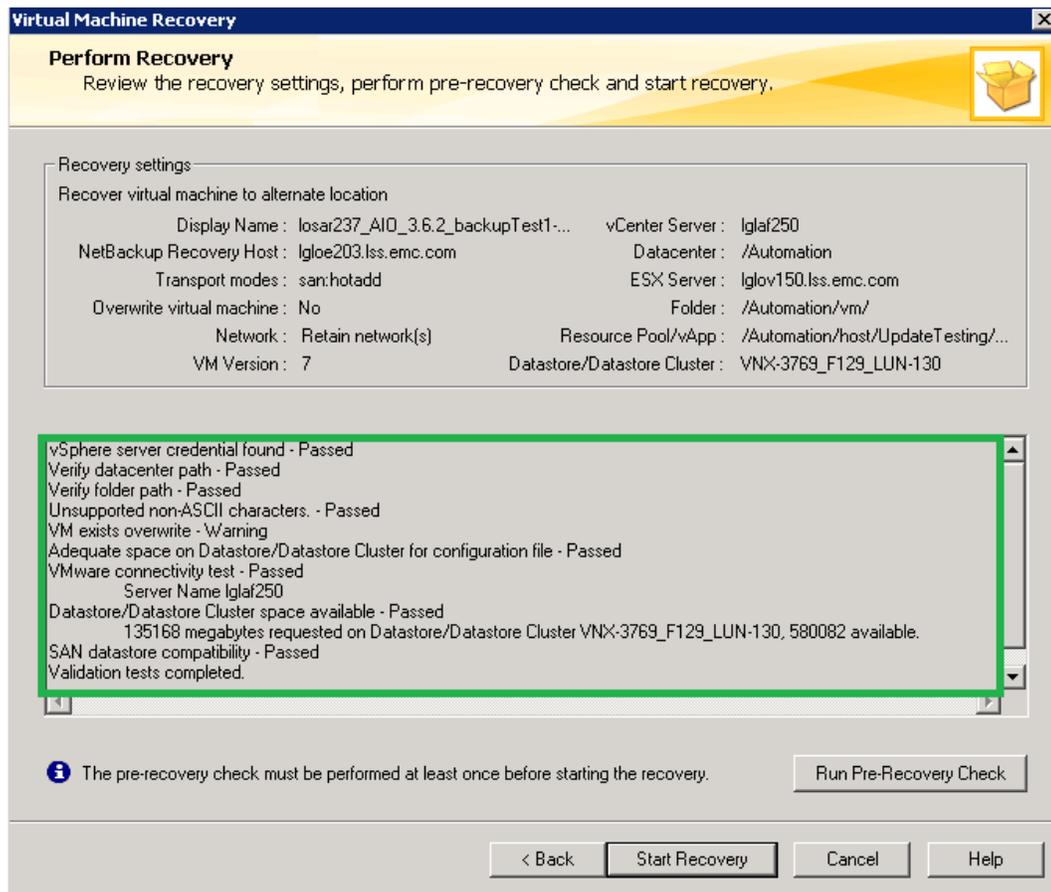
2. On the **Recovery Options** dialog, set the **Transport modes** to **san** or **hotadd** (or select both).
 - o Do not use **nbd** and **nbdssl** to avoid the performance overhead for data manipulation.
 - o Change the display name of the VM if the restore will be placed in the same location as the original VM.
 - o You can change the datastore and other fields as well.

The restore procedure for a 4-VM vApp is the same the procedures for a 1-VM vApp. Simply choose the **Resource pool/vApp** for the respective VM. The snapshot below shows how to specify the VM to restore under a specific vApp.



3. On the **Virtual Machine Options** dialog, select **Restore BIOS UUID**, **Power on VM after recovery**, **Retain original hardware**, and **Original provisioning**. Keep the other options unselected.





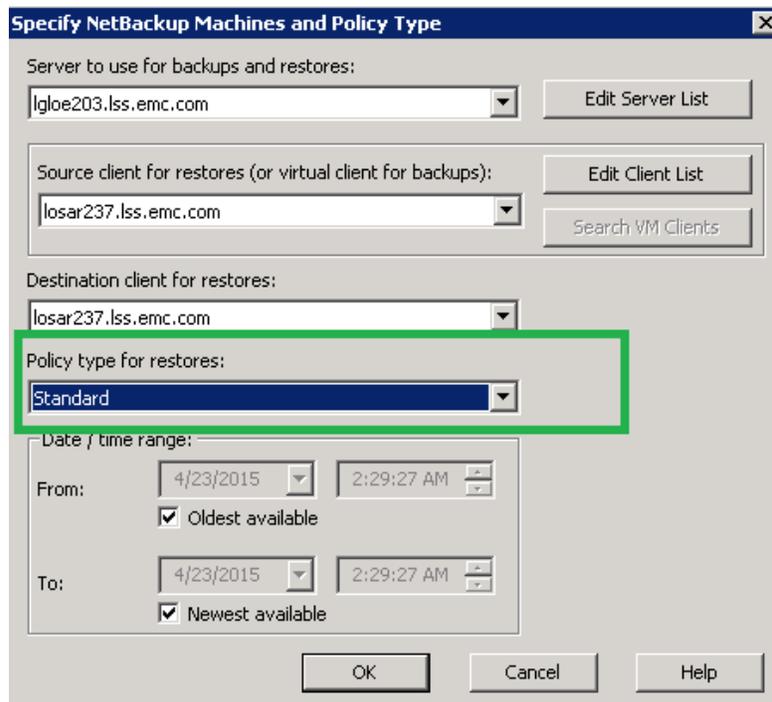
7. After starting the restore, a pop-up appears offering to show the progress. Alternately you can select **View Status** from the Restore Console to watch the restore progress.

SRM vApp File Restore

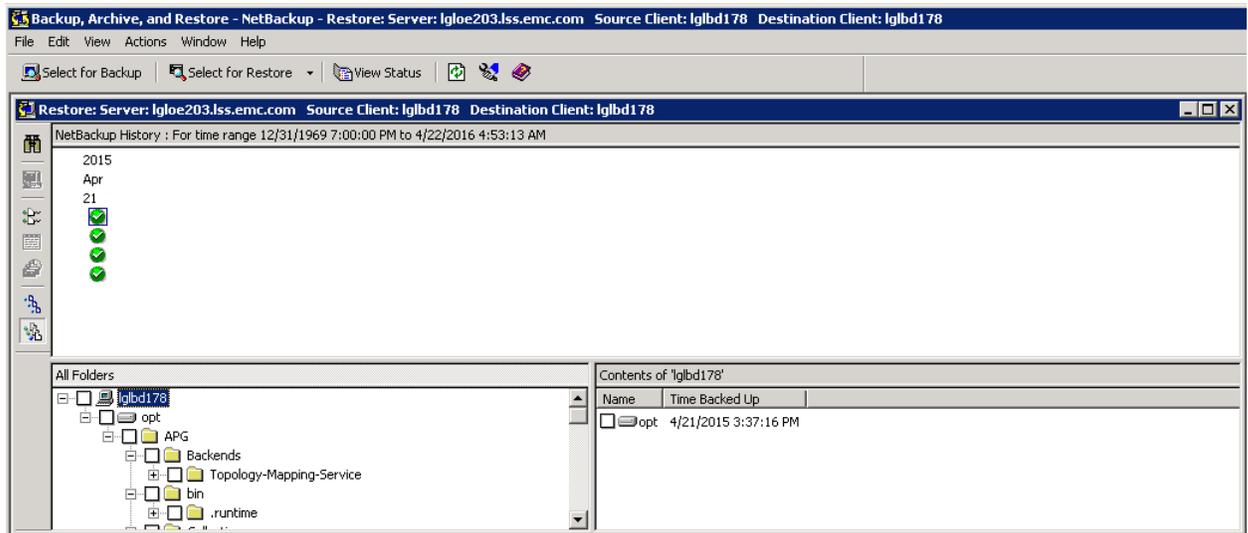
1-VM vApp File Restore

1. Launch the NetBackup **Backup, Archive, and Restore** console. You can also launch this from the **Toolbar** menu of the Administration Console.
2. Navigate to **File** → **Specify NetBackup Machine and Policy Type**.
3. In the **Policy** dialog, select the **Master Server** for **Server to use for backup and restores**.
4. Search/add the VM clients and set the targeted VM to restore as **Source client for restores (or virtual client for backup)**.
5. Make the destination client the same as the source client.
6. Set **Policy Type for restores** to **Standard**.

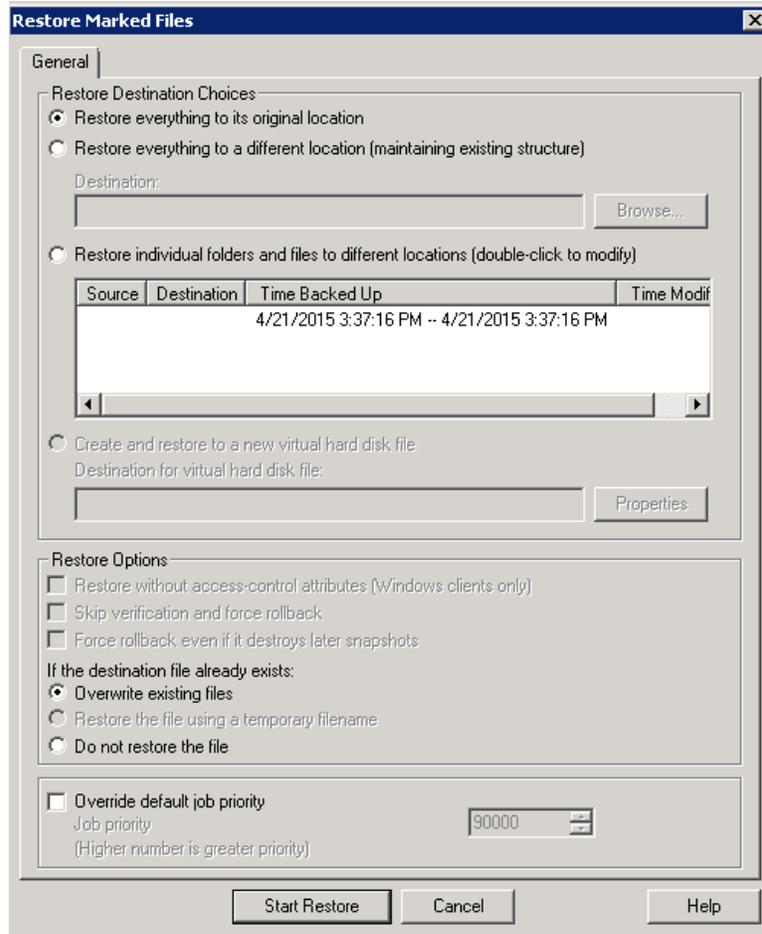
7. Choose a date and time range to see the available images in the image repository and click **OK**.



8. Navigate to **File → Select files and folders to Restore → from Normal Backup**.
9. Select the files to restore. Directories are listed with the date and time of the backup. Select **Action → Restore...**



10. Maintain the settings on the **Restore Marked Files** dialog, and click **Start Restore** to initiate restore.



4-VM vApp File Restore

The 4-VM vApp file restore procedure is the same as the 1-VM vApp procedure. Restore each VM individually.

Verify Operational Status

Do the following:

- Ensure that the VIPR SRM VM launches successfully with all of the APG services in a running state.
- Look for broken links. Resolve issues or document them for later follow up.
- Validate that the end-to-end topology is working. Resolve any issues.