



# Backup Express

## Success Story: Westdeutscher Rundfunk

Germany's WDR Secures Heterogeneous, Multi-Node Environment with Backup Express

### Organizational Profile

- Largest TV and radio broadcaster in Germany

### Business Needs

- Ability to back up multiple terabytes of data
- Support for a heterogeneous environment
- Novell support
- Windows and Netware clustering support

### Environment

- Windows 2003 master servers
- UNIX, Linux, NetWare, Solaris, and Windows operating systems
- 28 tape libraries with 8 to 60 slots each
- GroupWise, Oracle and SQL databases

### Benefits

- Provides an enterprise-wide data protection solution and supports a fully heterogeneous environment
- Streamlined NDMP management options
- Clustering support
- Superior Novell support
- Easily scales to accommodate new technologies and additions to the enterprise

### WDR Protects Critical Systems With Help from Backup Express While Competing in Highly Challenging Media Marketplace

#### The Challenge:

Headquartered in Cologne, Germany, one of Europe's vibrant media capitals, the multimedia broadcasting giant Westdeutscher Rundfunk (WDR) has been in operation since 1956. WDR has a daily output of approximately 144 hours of radio and 35 hours of TV. Additionally, the broadcaster's multi-page site, wdr.de, is a much-visited hub of information on music programming, TV schedules, weather, news and sports.

There are 10,000 users on the broadcaster's system of networks constantly accessing a variety of applications and generating high volumes of new data. According to Service Center Infrastructure Technician Andreas Stuemmel, ten terabytes of data are currently backed up per week at WDR. Projected data growth in the next six months is 25% to 45%. Business Information Manager Rainer Birkendorf estimates that those numbers will double over the next year or so.

Fortunately, things work efficiently at WDR's IT department—but such was not always the case, especially on the NetWare front. Andreas Stuemmel and his team kept experiencing backup failures with ArcServe, something which caused endless headaches given WDR's heavy investment in Novell servers. Rainer Birkendorf came to the conclusion that what they needed was a product that would not only provide support for Novell, but for a fully heterogeneous environment as well. This meant support for UNIX, Linux, Windows, and Solaris operating systems, SANs and NAS. It was also critical that a new enterprise data protection solution provide NetWare and Windows clustering support, and very important—excellent vendor technical assistance.

Rainer Birkendorf and Andreas Stuemmel then brought in reseller DIDAS to help them research possible solutions. Among the software products first reviewed were IBM's TSM, Veritas's Backup Executive, and Syncsort's Backup Express. It was soon established however, that neither IBM or Veritas could provide the critical Novell support WDR needed. Backup Express was chosen for a second and more rigorous phase of evaluation, and implemented in a lab environment with the help of Syncsort and DIDAS experts. After successful completion of the testing procedures, WDR licensed the Backup Express.

#### The Solution:

Backup Express currently runs on Windows 2003 master servers and backs data up over the Gigabit Ethernet LAN to a mix of 28 ADIC and HP tape libraries, explains Andreas Stuemmel. The libraries feature anywhere from 8 to 60 slots with LTO1 and LTO2 tape drives. There are 30 NetWare, eight UNIX, eight Linux and four Windows device servers attached to the libraries. Full backups are conducted once every 14 days with a backup window of 8 p.m. to 6 a.m., with incrementals filling in the rest of the schedule on a daily basis. Full backups run up to eight terabytes, and incrementals approximate two terabytes.



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Most of the weekly backups include Web files, file and print, GroupWise email and video test files. Tapes from the bi-monthly fulls are vaulted onsite at specialized storage facilities, and then kept for one year. In this manner, data is easily and quickly retrievable for special restore requests or instances of disaster.

### The Benefits:

Because WDR's online presence is such an integral part of operations, Stuemmel and his staff find it advantageous to back up a large portion of the Web content to two EMC (NAS) filers using the streamlined Backup Express NDMP option.

Presently in the initial deployment stages are an eight-node mixed NetWare, Linux and OES cluster, and a two-node Windows cluster. The excellent Novell support was one of the big reasons why Syncsort's product was chosen in the first place, as Rainer Birkendorf pointed out earlier. Now the staff can rely on Backup Express's automatic failover for both active/ passive and active/active clusters. Job management is also simplified tremendously because the GUI is cluster-aware, displaying all shared resources as one virtual entity. This ensures that data is not backed up multiple times.

Birkendorf has also been impressed by Backup Express's ability to scale up and accommodate changes and additions. This scalability is especially important now that an ADIC Pathlight virtual tape library is being installed, enabling WDR to perform disk-based backups while creating the necessary tapes for export and storage. But the most important benefit gained from having Backup Express in place, is WDR's ability to compete in the highly challenging media market by ensuring data and applications are always available.

### About Backup Express:

Backup Express is a high-performance enterprise data protection solution with innovative technology and manageability for UNIX, Windows, Linux, NetWare, OES and MAC environments. Backup Express is the only solution that integrates heterogeneous snapshot, image and rapid recovery options, supports any combination of UNIX, Windows, NetWare, OES, Linux, MAC and NDMP/NAS in a SAN, performs backup of all data directly across the Fibre network, dynamically shares all drives, supports all NDMP incrementals, and controls this entire enterprise environment with a single catalog and browser-based GUI. Backup Express's distributed architecture allows it to utilize any storage device in the network regardless of platform. For more information, call 201-930-8200 or visit [www.syncsort.com](http://www.syncsort.com).