

FEATURE GUIDE

TimeData™

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Double-Take® TimeData

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Introduction	3
Product Description	3
Protect Your Data	3
Point-in-Time Recovery	3
Simple Deployment	3
Manage Your Data	3
Offline Processing	3
Complete Change History	3
Simplification of Backup and Vaulting	3
Retrieve Your Data	4
Application Data Retrieval	4
Disaster Recovery and Preparedness	4
ArchiveConnect Feature	4
About Double-Take® Software	4

Introduction

Product Description

TimeData is a Windows®-based, cluster-aware application which protects files on NTFS volumes, including data associated with Microsoft® SQL Server® and Microsoft Exchange Server. TimeData provides computing environments with file-based CDP; the CDP-based solution captures events as they happen and records those events to a separate storage device. This means that new information is preserved as it is created. TimeData software monitors file-system activity, captures all changes to protected data, and sends those changes to the TimeData Repository Server for storage. By capturing all changes, TimeData can reconstruct a separate version of a protected object for each change made over time. TimeData can provide accurate and consistent views of all files (including databases) at any point in time. TimeData integrates with existing backup systems to improve data protection while simplifying data management.

Protect Your Data

When you select storage objects for protection, TimeData makes an initial copy of your data set and sends this copy to a separate storage device called the TimeData Repository Server. TimeData monitors file-system activity and records changes to protected data over time. This information is maintained in the repository server according to policies that you set.

Point-in-Time Recovery

Because TimeData transparently and automatically captures and protects all data changes as they occur, it eliminates the risk of data loss that can occur between traditional backups or snapshots. TimeData ensures that no data is ever lost or corrupted.

Simple Deployment

Installation is non-intrusive and does not require server downtime or reboots. TimeData Agents are installed on the servers to be protected and are connected to a standard Windows server configured to be the TimeData Repository. The TimeSpring Management Console is the user interface for configuring and managing the system and retrieving data. You will configure data in Content Groups then TimeData stores an initial image of each in the repository. After initialization, all changes to data on protected servers is sent to the repository. Retrieved data is presented in standard Windows file-system format as an attachable view which can be read or copied. The retrieval process is as simple as point and click.

Manage Your Data

TimeData provides policy-based management which applies to individual files, databases, and email stores. Policies can be separately applied to any group of these objects. These policies define the quantity of data and the times at which data can be recovered. There is no need to manage separate backup devices; retention policies remove data from the repository as it ages.

Offline Processing

Secondary or non-production servers can easily access relevant moment views of data sets for reporting, analytical processing, or testing. For software updates, application testing or failure analysis, data sets are presented to a secondary server without impacting primary operations.

Complete Change History

TimeData maintains a record of every data change, including the associated metadata. The comprehensive nature of the change records may be used by businesses to enhance their business intelligence or data forensics operations, today or at some time in the future.

Simplification of Backup and Vaulting

TimeData can integrate with existing backup systems to improve data protection. Businesses can continue to run full backups to tape and maintain off-side vaulting procedures but eliminate the media costs, complexity and unreliability of incremental or differential backups. Operationally complex snapshot integration can be eliminated while increasing protection levels with TimeData. Backups may be performed on production databases directly, or backup interruption eliminated entirely by backing up from the TimeData Repository. Businesses can quickly, simply, and reliably attach or retrieve any past data moment at the desired level of granularity, such as a single file.

Retrieve Your Data

When you want to access a protected object as it existed at a particular time, simply command TimeData to reconstruct a past version of your data. TimeData reconciles the initial copy of the file from the repository with any changes made up to that time. You can then open the version anywhere within the corporate network or save it to your production data server.

Application Data Retrieval

TimeData mitigates the damage from user error, application error, or security breach by enabling the application to simply and quickly retrieve data from the precise moment before the damage occurred.

Disaster Recovery and Preparedness

When disaster strikes, the survival of a business could depend on how quickly critical applications and data are back online. TimeData makes sure that you have up-to-date and historical data available 24 X 7. TimeData provides maximum flexibility to meet your disaster recovery goals and leverage your IT investment, as TimeData enables you to effectively manage data depending on criticality. TimeData may even be deployed to cross-protect multiple sites.

Server Clustering

Cluster services is a feature available in Windows Server 2003 Enterprise Edition. TimeData supports Windows Server 2003 Enterprise Edition Cluster Services. TimeData protects data on the shared storage resources of a server cluster.

ArchiveConnect Feature

The ArchiveConnect feature provides a cost-effective option for saving and accessing CDP for extended periods of time. The feature is an add-on to fulfill email retention and e-discovery regulatory requirements and is also useful for meeting service level agreements. When a TimeSpring solution is installed, CDP is collected and stored in the TimeData Repository. When the size of the repository reaches the maximum allocated space, the data is archived to a more cost-effective storage at full CDP resolution. Each archived "chunk" is self-contained and can be retrieved individually. After the archival process, data on the repository is thinned to create free space for more CDP storage. When you need to retrieve or restore archived CDP, ArchiveConnect establishes a link between the TimeData Repository and the storage targets where CDP is archived.

The retrieval process extracts data from the archive device and reattaches it to the TimeData Repository. From there, it's as simple as point and click. To access historical data, create a Retrieval View in the TimeSpring Management Console. TimeSpring ArchiveConnect also leverages the deduplication capability of archival devices to dramatically reduce disk consumption of keeping CDP for extended periods of time.

Multiple Archive Device Support

TimeSpring ArchiveConnect supports virtually any VTL (that offers CIFS) and archive products, such as Quantum DXi and Data Domain DD/DDx series. The archival storage targets may be any of the following:

- Removable disk
- NAS share via CIFS
- VTL appliance via CIFS
- SAN disk via FC (requires optional FC HBA)
- SAN disk via iSCSI
- DAS disk (SATA, SAS or SCSI)

About Double-Take® Software

Headquartered in Southborough, Massachusetts, Double-Take® Software (Nasdaq: DBTK) is a leading provider of affordable software for recoverability, including continuous data replication, application availability and system state protection. Double-Take Software products and services enable customers to protect and recover business-critical data and applications such as Microsoft Exchange, SQL, and SharePoint in both physical and virtual environments. With its unparalleled partner programs, technical support, and professional services, Double-Take Software is the solution of choice for more than ten thousand customers worldwide, from SMEs to the Fortune 500. Information about Double-Take Software's products and services can be found at www.doubletake.com.

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