

In-Cloud Data Recovery with Veritas Alta Recovery Vault

Disaster Recovery for Storage-as-a-Service.

This paper is designed to highlight the steps customers will need to perform Image Sharing with Veritas Alta™ Recovery Vault (formerly known as NetBackup Recovery Vault).

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Revision History

Version	Date	Changes	Author
1.00	06/2022	Initial Version	Neil Glick
1.01	01/2023	Re-brand	Neil Glick

Introduction

Executive Summary

Veritas Alta Recovery Vault is a cloud-based storage-as-a-service offering that provides a seamless, fully managed secondary storage option for NetBackup customers. Seamlessly integrated with NetBackup, it provides an easy-to-use UI that simplifies provisioning, management, and monitoring of cloud storage resources and retention policies. Most Veritas Alta Recovery Vault customers will want to use Image Sharing, which is a feature in NetBackup that packages a minimal set of metadata with all backup data to make it self-describing. This allows backup data to be restored from a primary location onto a NetBackup primary server in an alternate domain or cloud environment to meet data compliance and governance requirements.

Target Audience

This document is targeted at customers interested in learning about using Veritas Alta Recovery Vault (formerly known as NetBackup Recovery Vault) and Image Sharing to backup data from one site and recover it at another.

Why Veritas Alta Recovery Vault and Image Sharing

Veritas Alta Recovery Vault provides a fully managed cloud data protection tier that is seamlessly integrated with NetBackup to scale protection across any cloud model, while controlling costs. Veritas Alta Recovery Vault can use NetBackup Image Sharing to copy data from a primary site to an alternate site in a different domain or in the cloud. With Veritas Alta Recovery Vault and Image Sharing, you can copy your mission-critical data and restore it using a completely autonomous primary server located off-site. In the event the primary server is compromised, your mission-critical data can be converted to the alternate site to continue to meet data compliance and governance requirements.

Image Sharing and Veritas Alta Recovery Vault Prerequisites and Requirements

Using Image Sharing with Veritas Alta Recovery Vault is simple, but some prerequisites will need to be met for Image Sharing and Veritas Alta Recovery Vault to work together:

1. Image Sharing requires an alternate NetBackup primary server be available on a different domain or cloud environment. This is generally achieved by deploying a NetBackup Cloud Recovery Server, which is an all-in-one node that includes both a primary and media server.
2. The Media Server Deduplication Pool (MSDP) for Image Sharing will need to be created at the alternate site.
3. When creating the MSDP storage server, the alternate primary server must be chosen, which cannot be a media server.
4. The name of the backup volume used at the alternate site must match the name of the volume at the primary site.
5. The Veritas Alta Recovery Vault cloud bucket used for primary backups will need to be used at the alternate site.
6. Veritas Alta Recovery Vault account credentials will need to be available or already in use.

You do not need to make any changes on the primary server as long as the data you wish to copy to the alternate site is located on a Veritas Alta Recovery Vault SaaS MSDP-C disk pool. If you do not have Veritas Alta Recovery Vault, contact your Veritas NetBackup Account Manager for a demonstration and additional documentation on the benefits of the SaaS offering.

Configuring Image Sharing on Your Primary Server With Veritas Alta Recovery Vault

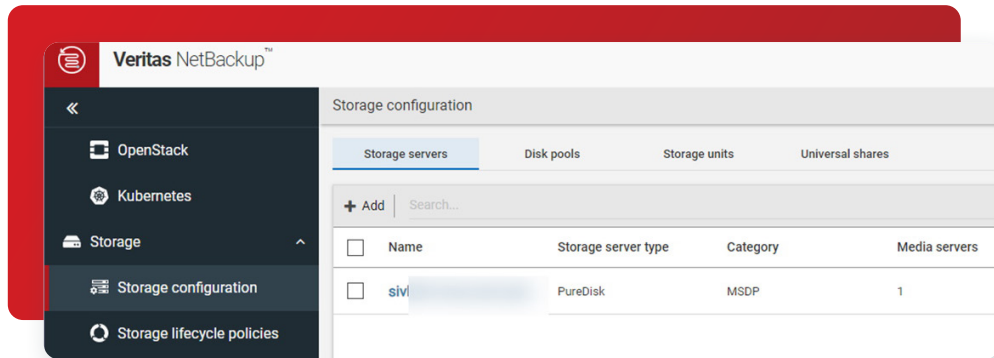
If new to Veritas Alta Recovery Vault you will need to create a disk pool and storage unit to back up the data you wish to copy to an alternate site. If you are already using Veritas Alta Recovery Vault, backed up data can be imported to an alternate site using Image Sharing. The example used in this document connects to Veritas Alta Recovery Vault in an Azure cloud environment. This document assumes the customer already has an MSDP storage server created at the primary site. For more information on how to add a storage

server, see the NetBackup Deduplication Guide:

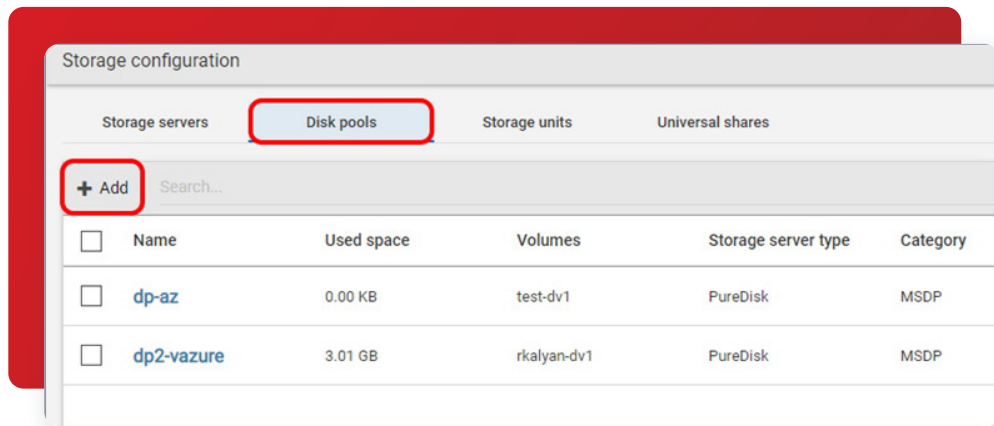
https://www.veritas.com/content/support/en_US/doc/25074086-146020141-0/v24630236-14602014.

1. To get started, from within your NetBackup primary server web UI, navigate to **Storage > Storage configuration**.

You should see your storage server(s) listed.

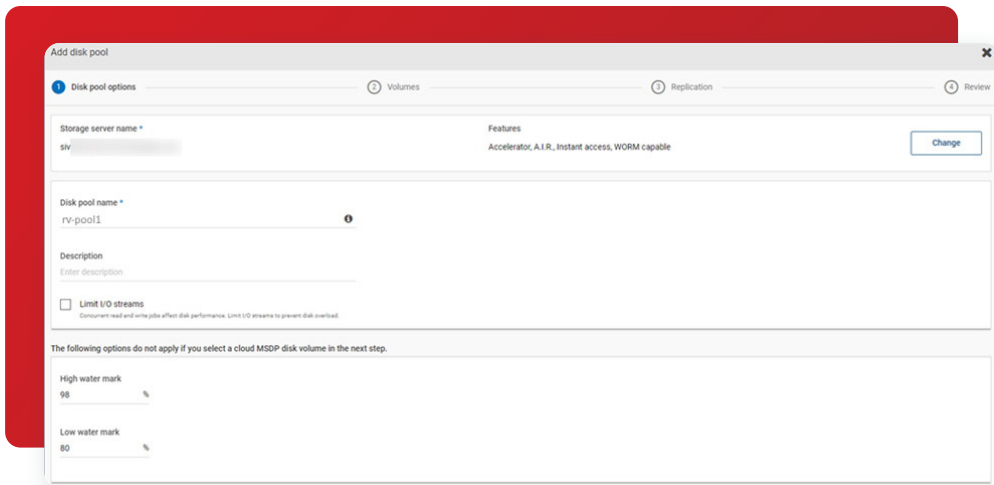


2. Click the **Disk pools** tab and then click **+ Add**.

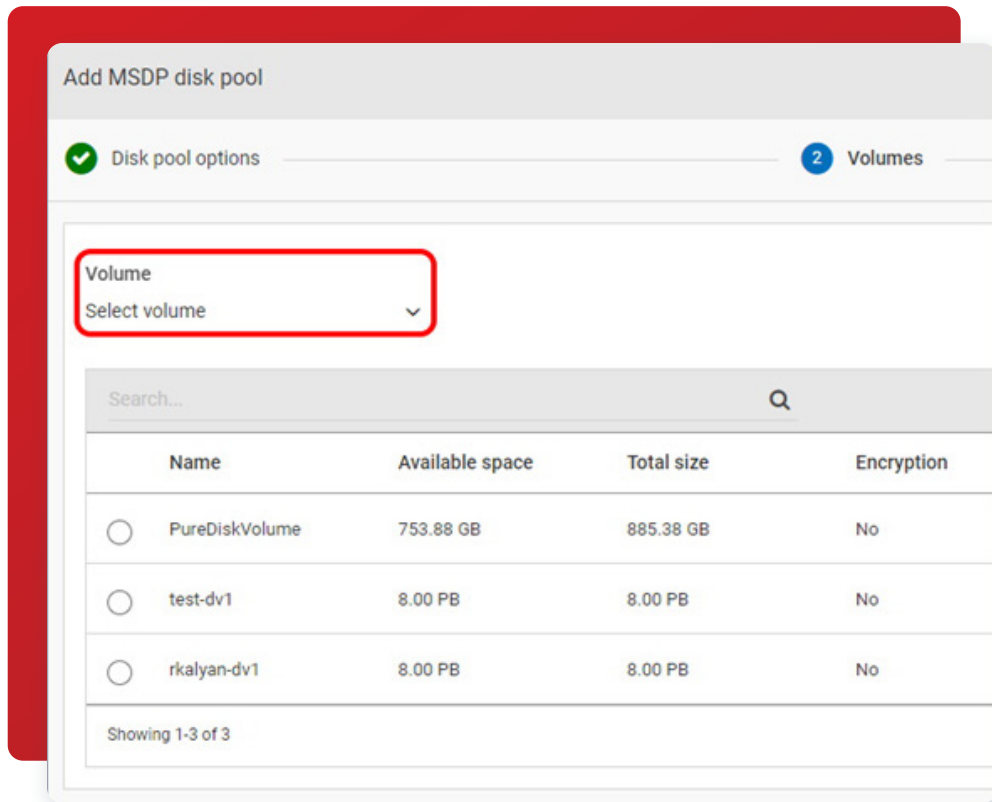


3. From this screen you will set the disk pool options:

- a. Select the **Storage server name** where this disk pool will reside. In this example, we've chosen the storage server listed on the first screen.
- b. Provide a name for the disk pool. We've named it: "**rv-pool1**".
- c. Provide a description of the pool, if needed.
- d. Select **Limit I/O streams**, if desired. This option could help limit disk I/O contention.
- e. Click **Next** at the bottom of the page to continue.



4. Next, you will need to define a new volume. From the Volumes page, you may already have volumes created (in the example screen below, there are three), but you will want to add a new one for Veritas Alta Recovery Vault, so click **Volume> Select volume**.



5. Click **Add volume** to begin the process.

The screenshot shows the 'Add MSDP disk pool' interface. At the top, there are two tabs: 'Disk pool options' (with a green checkmark) and 'Volumes' (with a blue circle containing the number 2). Below the tabs, there is a 'Volume' section with a dropdown menu. The dropdown menu is open, showing 'Select volume' and 'Add volume' (which is highlighted with a red circle). Below the dropdown is a search bar with a magnifying glass icon. Underneath the search bar is a table with the following columns: 'Name', 'Available space', 'Total size', and 'Encryption'. The table contains three rows of data:

Name	Available space	Total size	Encryption
<input type="radio"/> PureDiskVolume	753.88 GB	885.38 GB	No
<input type="radio"/> test-dv1	8.00 PB	8.00 PB	No
<input type="radio"/> rkalyan-dv1	8.00 PB	8.00 PB	No

At the bottom of the table, it says 'Showing 1-3 of 3'.

6. Provide a **Volume name** for the new volume and then click **Cloud storage provider**.

Note: The volume name at the primary site and the volume name at the alternate site must be the same.

The screenshot shows the 'Add MSDP disk pool' interface. At the top, there are two tabs: 'Disk pool options' (with a green checkmark) and 'Volumes' (with a blue circle containing the number 2). Below the tabs, there is a 'Volume' section with a dropdown menu. The dropdown menu is open, showing 'Add volume' (which is highlighted with a red circle). Below the dropdown is a 'Volume name *' field with the text 'rv-vol1' (highlighted with a red circle). To the right of the field is an information icon. Below the 'Volume name' field is a 'Cloud storage provider *' dropdown menu (highlighted with a red circle) with the text 'Select cloud storage provider'. To the right of the dropdown is a 'Storage API type' field with a dropdown arrow.

7. Search for "Veritas Alta Recovery Vault." In this example, we will choose Veritas Alta Recovery Vault Azure.

Add MSDP disk pool

✓ Disk pool options 2 Volumes

Volume
Add volume

Volume name *
ngvolume1

Cloud storage provider *
Veritas Alta Recovery Vault Amazon

Storage API type
Amazon S3

Storage class
Glacier Deep Archive

8. On the Add MSDP disk pool screen, select the appropriate Storage tier and Region to be used.

Note: The region is provided by the Veritas Alta Recovery Vault Provisioning Team.

Add MSDP disk pool

✓ Disk pool options 2 Volumes

Volume
Add volume

Volume name *
ngvolume1

Cloud storage provider *
Veritas Alta Recovery Vault Azure

Storage API type
Microsoft Azure

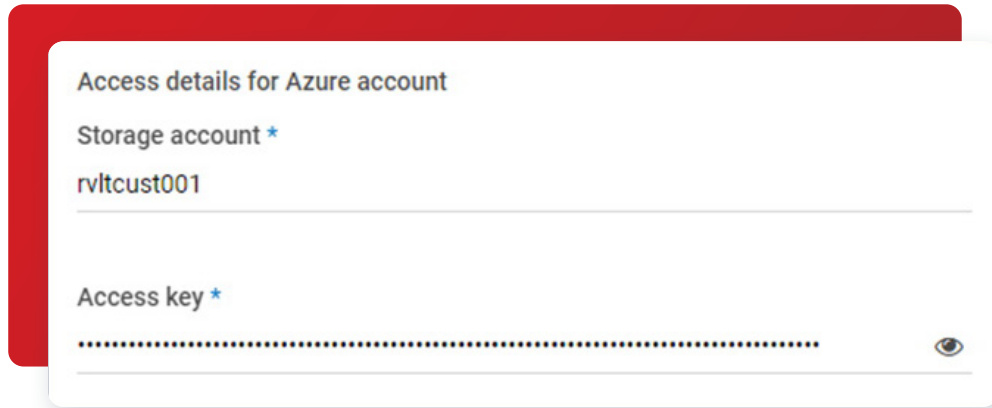
Storage tier
Archive

Archive again after
3 days

Region *
Service host
blob.core.windows.net

9. Next, enter the **Storage account** and **Access key**.

Note: The Veritas Alta Recovery Vault Provisioning Team will provide these.



Access details for Azure account

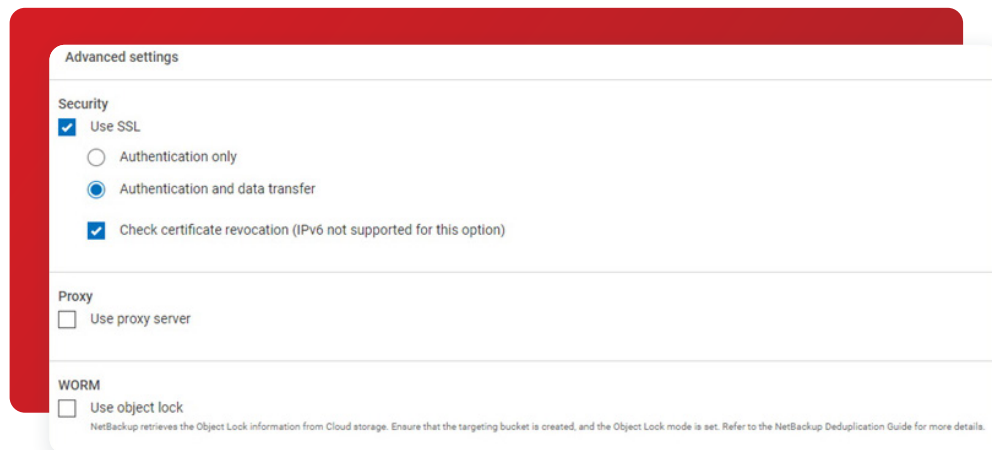
Storage account *

rvlrcust001

Access key *

.....

10. Next, enter the required **Security**, **Proxy**, or **WORM** advanced settings preferences. Below are the default settings:



Advanced settings

Security

Use SSL

Authentication only

Authentication and data transfer

Check certificate revocation (IPv6 not supported for this option)

Proxy

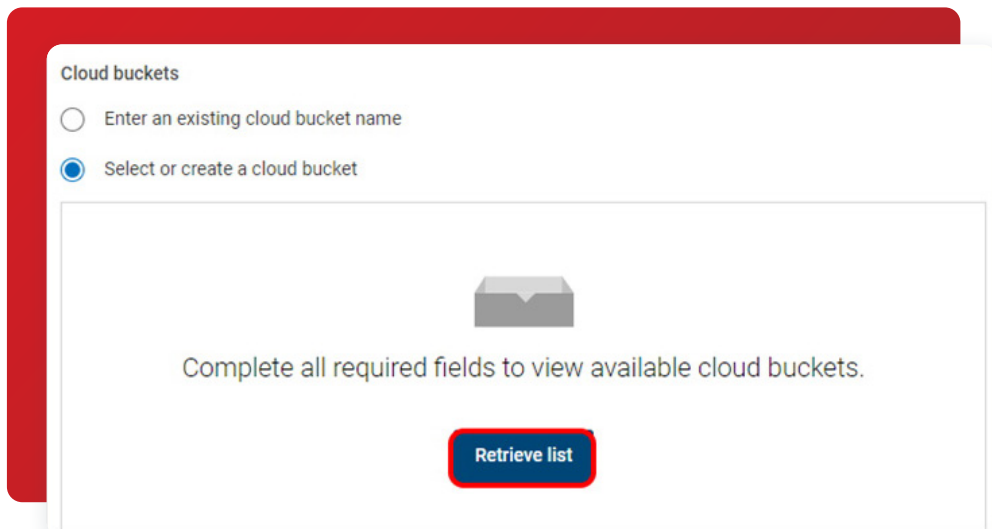
Use proxy server

WORM

Use object lock

NetBackup retrieves the Object Lock information from Cloud storage. Ensure that the targeting bucket is created, and the Object Lock mode is set. Refer to the NetBackup Deduplication Guide for more details.

11. Click **Select or create a cloud bucket** and then click **Retrieve list**. This process logs into your cloud storage provider (in this case Azure) using the credentials entered earlier and displays the new cloud bucket you created (with Microsoft Azure Storage Explorer or equivalent).



Cloud buckets

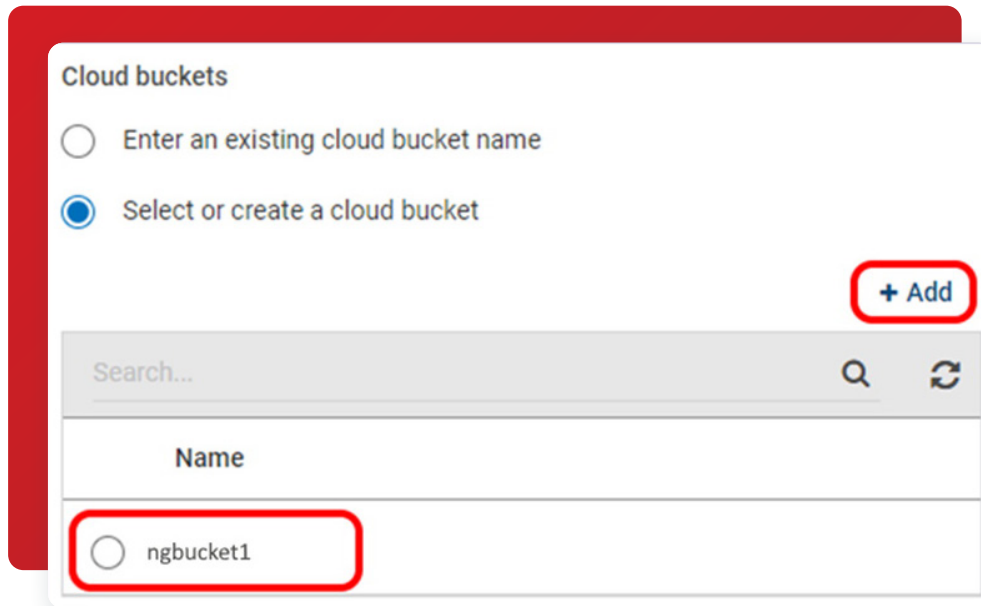
Enter an existing cloud bucket name

Select or create a cloud bucket

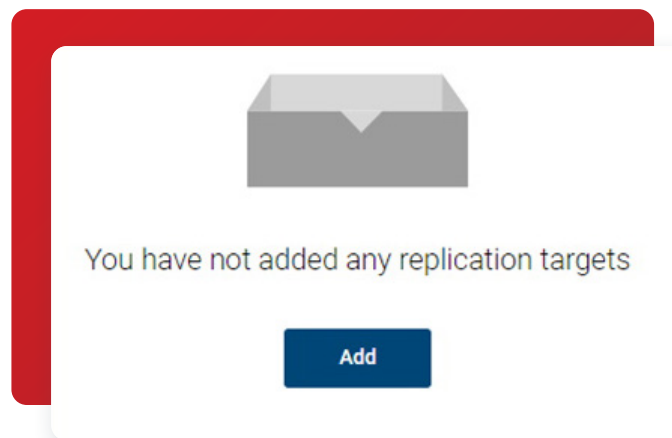
Complete all required fields to view available cloud buckets.

Retrieve list

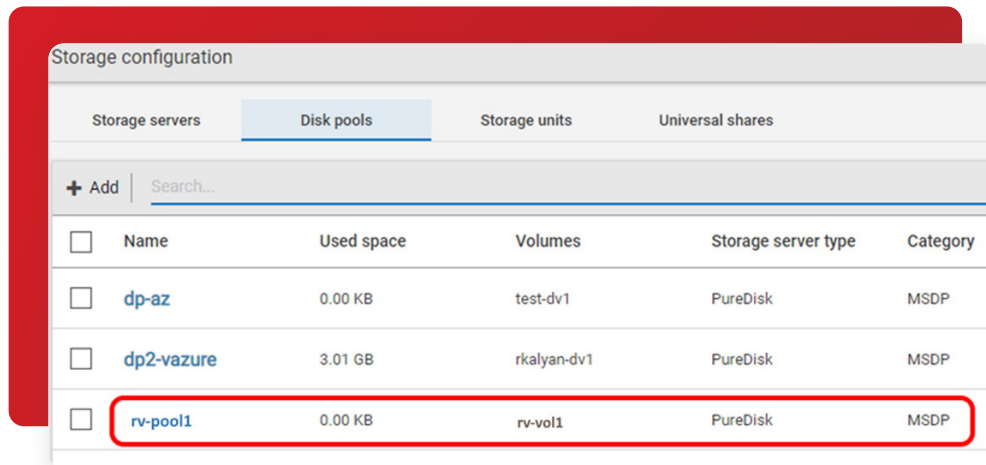
12. Select the new cloud storage bucket you created (with Microsoft Azure Storage Explorer or equivalent) from the list retrieved by NetBackup. You can also create a new bucket using the **+ Add** button after connecting to the new storage account. In our example, we are going to select **"ngbucket1"**. Of course, the name of your cloud bucket will be different, the one below is for reference only.



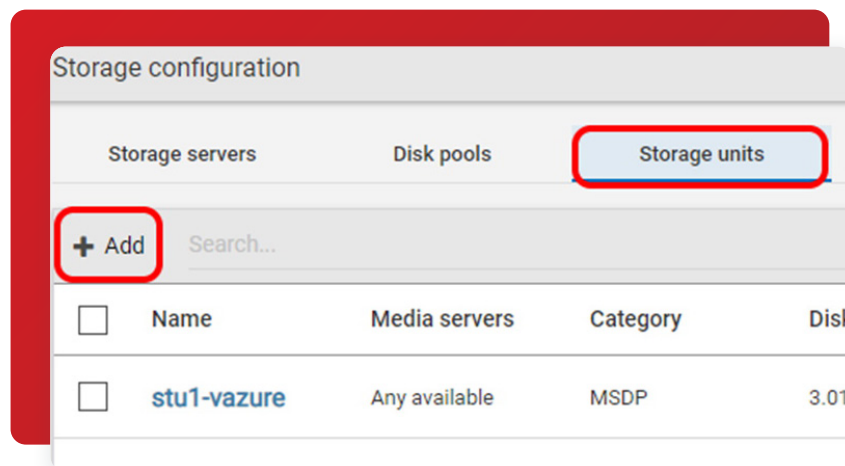
13. If you would like to set up replication targets, you can do that now. Otherwise, click Next (not shown in image below).



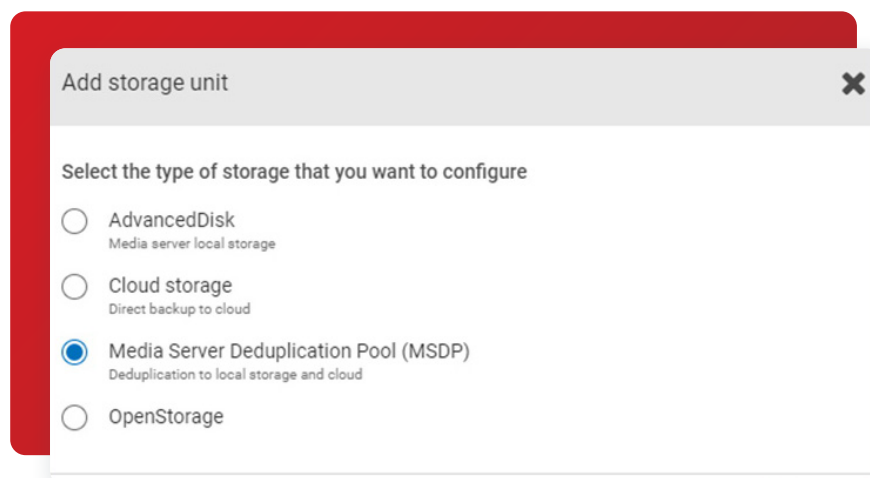
14. This brings you to the summary page. If everything looks good, you can create the new disk pool. In this example, we created the new "rv-pool1".



15. Next, you will need to add a storage unit, so you can use your new Veritas Alta Recovery Vault storage. Click the Storage Units tab and click + Add.



16. Select Media Server Deduplication Pool (MSDP) and click Start.



17. Provide the new MSDP storage unit a **Name** and select the **Maximum concurrent jobs** and **Maximum fragment size** you want. Click **Next** to continue.

Add MSDP storage unit

1 Basic properties

Name *

rv-stu1

Maximum concurrent jobs

1

Maximum fragment size

51200 MB

18. Select the Veritas Alta Recovery Vault volume you created earlier and then click **Next** to continue.

Add MSDP storage unit

Basic properties 2 Disk pool

Select a disk pool

Search...

Name	Used space	Volumes	Storage type	Storage server
<input type="radio"/> dp-az	0.00 KB of 8.00 PB use	test-dv1	PureDisk	si
<input type="radio"/> dp2-vazure	3.01 GB of 8.00 PB use	rkalyan-dv1	PureDisk	si
<input checked="" type="radio"/> rv-pool1	0.00 KB of 8.00 PB use	rv-vol1	PureDisk	si

Showing 1-3 of 3 (1 selected)

19. Select the media server you wish to use and then click **Next** to continue.

Add MSDP storage unit

Basic properties

Select media server

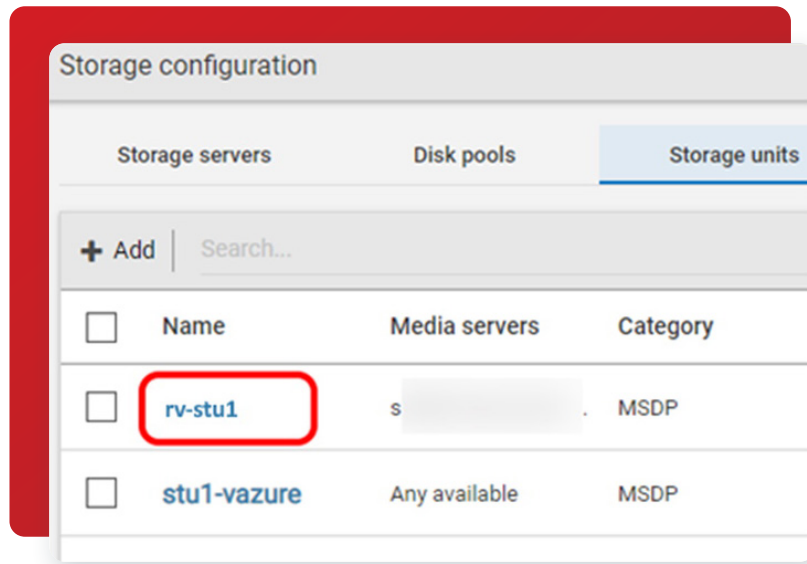
Allow NetBackup to automatically select

Manually select

Name

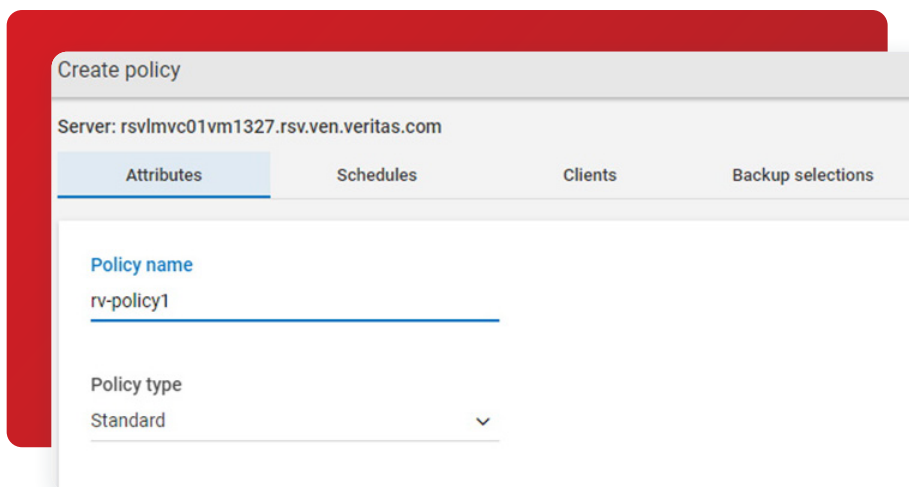
si

20. As shown, you can see the new “rv-stu1” storage unit was successfully created.



21. Next, you will need to create a backup policy so Image Sharing will have data that needs to be sent to your alternate site. Located under **Protection > Policies** you will **Create policy**:

- Name the policy.
- Choose the policy type.
- Create a schedule.
- Select the client(s) to be backed up.
- Choose what should be backed up on the clients.
- Click on Create when ready. (Not shown)

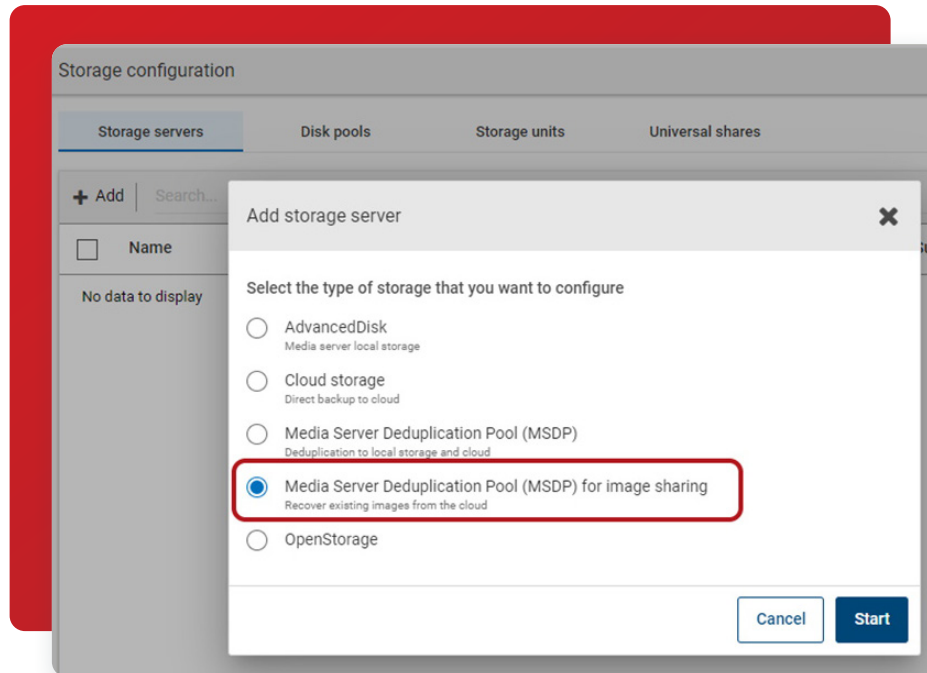


Running a Manual Backup in Veritas Alta Recovery Vault With Image Sharing

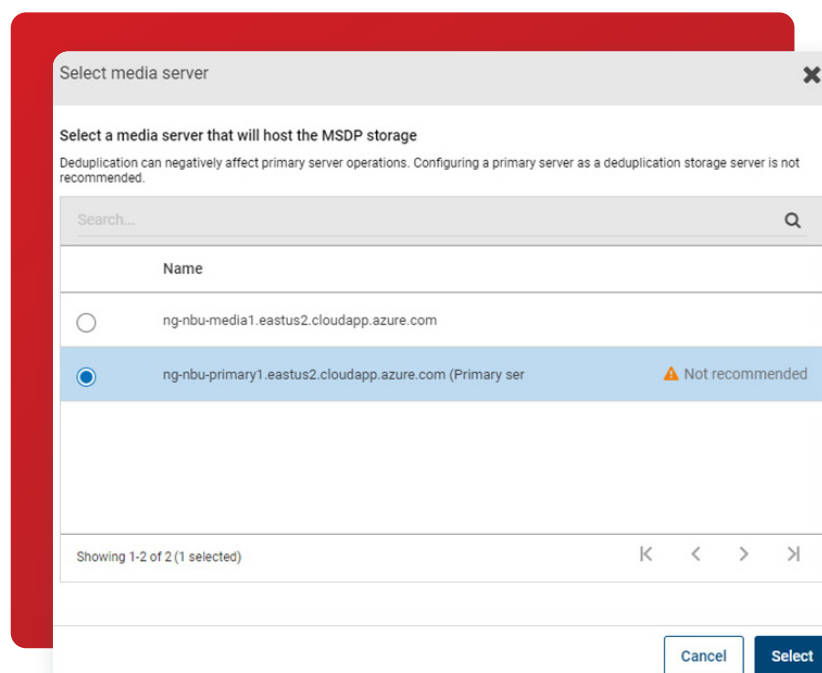
The next step is to take a manual backup to populate Veritas Alta Recovery Vault with the data you would like to copy to your alternate site. If you've already been using Veritas Alta Recovery Vault and have data backed up, this step is unnecessary.

Once the backup has run, the backup can be imported to the alternate site using Image Sharing. To do this:

1. Log onto the alternate site and create an MSDP with an Image Sharing storage server. Select **Media Server Deduplication Pool (MSDP) for image sharing** and click **Start**.



2. Next, select the **media server that will host the MSDP storage**. Traditionally, this is not a best practice but is mandatory for Image Sharing.



3. Enter the Storage server credentials: Username and Password.

The screenshot shows the 'Add MSDP storage server for image sharing' configuration window. It has two tabs: '1 Basic properties' (active) and '2 Storage server options'. The 'Basic properties' section contains the following fields:

- Media server ***: ng-nbu-primary1.eastus2.cloudapp.azure.com
- Storage server name**: ng-nbu-primary1.eastus2.cloudapp.azure.com

The 'Storage server credentials' section contains the following fields:

- Username ***: bkadmin
- Password ***: [masked with dots]
- Re-enter password ***: [masked with dots]

4. Enter the storage path for the MSDP for Image Sharing. This does not have to be the same as the MSDP server at the primary site.

The screenshot shows the 'Add MSDP storage server for image sharing' configuration window. It has two tabs: 'Basic properties' (completed with a green checkmark) and '2 Storage server options' (active). A red box highlights the following field:

- Storage path ***: /backups

Below this, there are two optional sections:

- Use alternate path for deduplication database**: Enter alternate path for deduplication database. A note below states: "You can optimize performance if you place the deduplication database on a separate, faster disk storage system."
- Use specific network interface**: Enter interface

5. Once the MSDP for image sharing has been created you will need to create the disk pool.

Add disk pool

1 Disk pool options 2 Volumes

Storage server name *
ng-nbu-primary1.eastus2.cloudapp.azure.com

Features
Accelerator,

Disk pool name *
rv-pool1

6. Remember, when creating the volume at the alternate site, it must be the same name as the volume at the primary site.

Add MSDP disk pool

✓ Disk pool options 2 Volumes

Volume
Add volume

Volume name *
rv-vol1

7. Use the same cloud storage provider at the alternate site as you did at the primary site. In this example, we're using Veritas Alta Recovery Vault Azure.

Cloud storage provider *
Veritas Alta Recovery Vault Azure

Storage API type
Microsoft Azure

Storage tier
Account access tier

8. Use the same information you used at the primary site for Region and Account details.

The screenshot shows a form titled "Region*" with the following fields:

- Service host:** A dropdown menu with "blob.core.windows.net" selected.
- Access details for Azure account:**
 - Storage account*:** A text input field containing "nrv81rw0006acct1".
 - Access key*:** A text input field with a masked password (dots) and a toggle icon to show/hide the password.

9. Once the credentials have been entered, click on **Select or create a cloud bucket** and **Retrieve list** to get the list of storage buckets you have created.

The screenshot shows a form titled "Cloud buckets" with two radio button options:

- Enter an existing cloud bucket name
- Select or create a cloud bucket

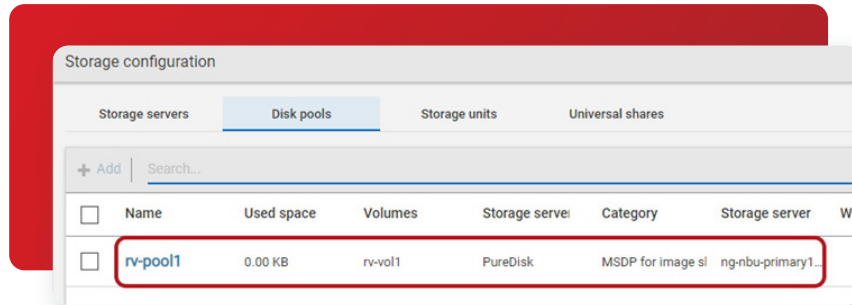
Below the options is a message: "Complete all required fields to view available cloud buckets." and a "Retrieve list" button.

10. Select the storage bucket that you've been using at the primary site.

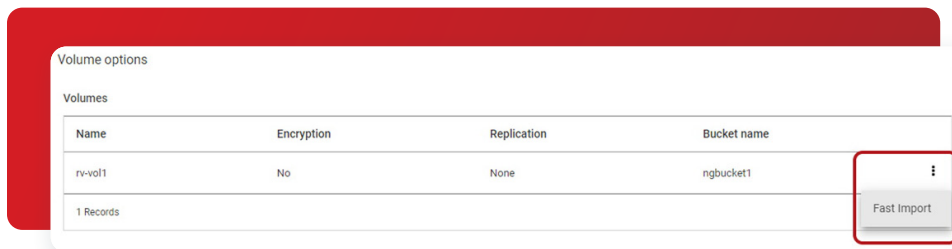
The screenshot shows the "Cloud buckets" form with the "Select or create a cloud bucket" option selected. Below the options is a search bar and a list of buckets:

Name
<input type="radio"/>
<input checked="" type="radio"/> ngbucket1

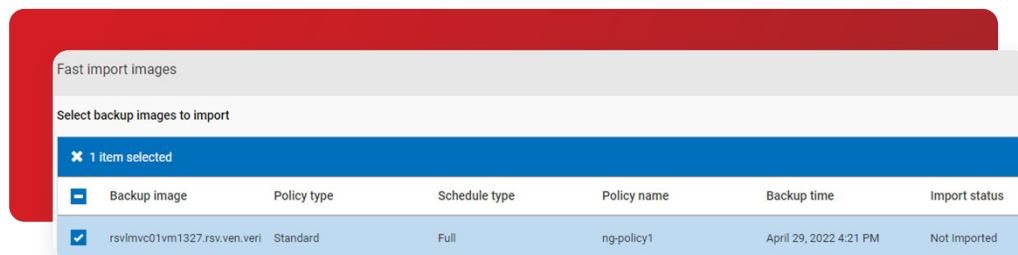
11. After the disk pool has been created, you can now import a backup from Veritas Alta Recovery Vault into your alternate primary server. Go to **Storage Configuration > Disk Pools** and click on the disk pool you just created.



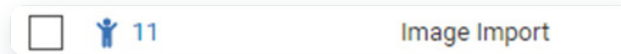
12. Under the **Volume options**, click on the three vertical dots and select **Fast Import**.



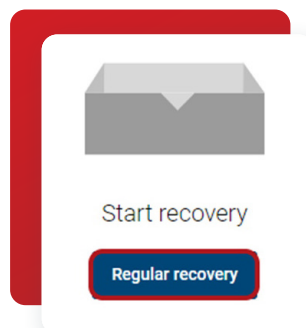
13. Select the backup you'd like to import and click on the **Import** button.



14. This will import the backup image, which can be browsed through Veritas Alta Recovery Vault to allow for file restores.



15. Under **Start recovery**, click on the **Regular recovery** button.



16. Then, enter the following information:

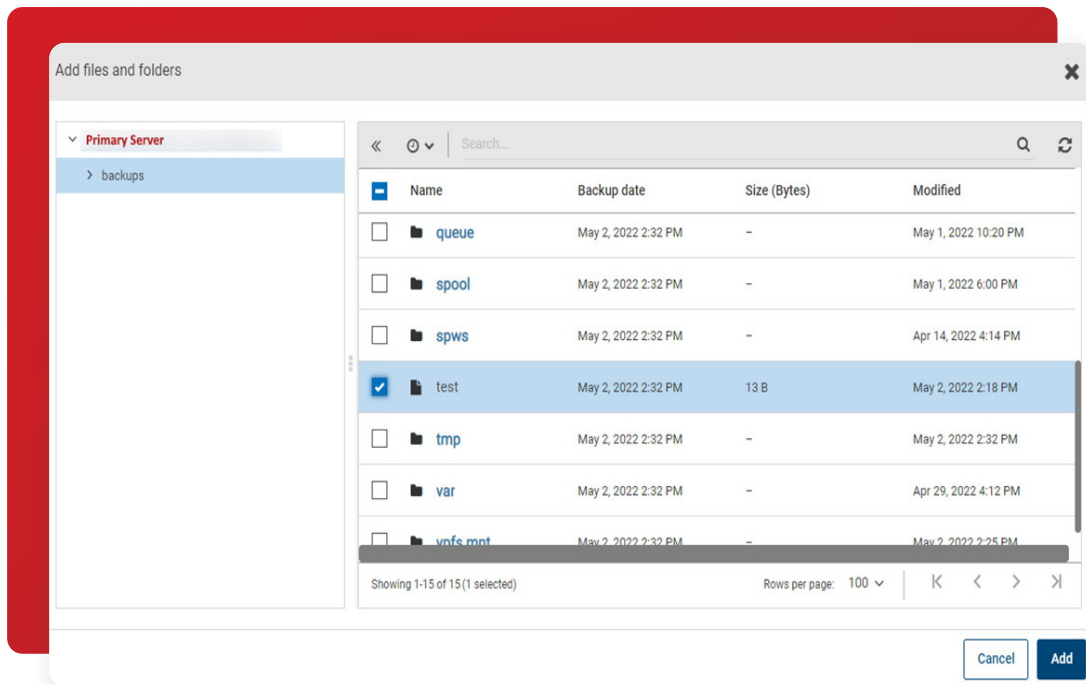
- a. Source Client - enter the fully qualified domain name of the primary server.
- b. Destination Client - enter the fully qualified domain name of the alternate primary server.
- c. Policy Type - select the policy type that was used to backup the data at the primary server.
For this example, it's Standard.

The screenshot shows the 'Recover' window with the 'Basic properties' step selected. It contains three dropdown menus: 'Source client *' with the value 'Fully Qualified Domain Name of Primary Server', 'Destination client *' with the value 'Fully Qualified Domain Name of the Alternate Primary Server', and 'Policy type *' with the value 'Standard'. The 'Add files' step is indicated by a circled '2'.

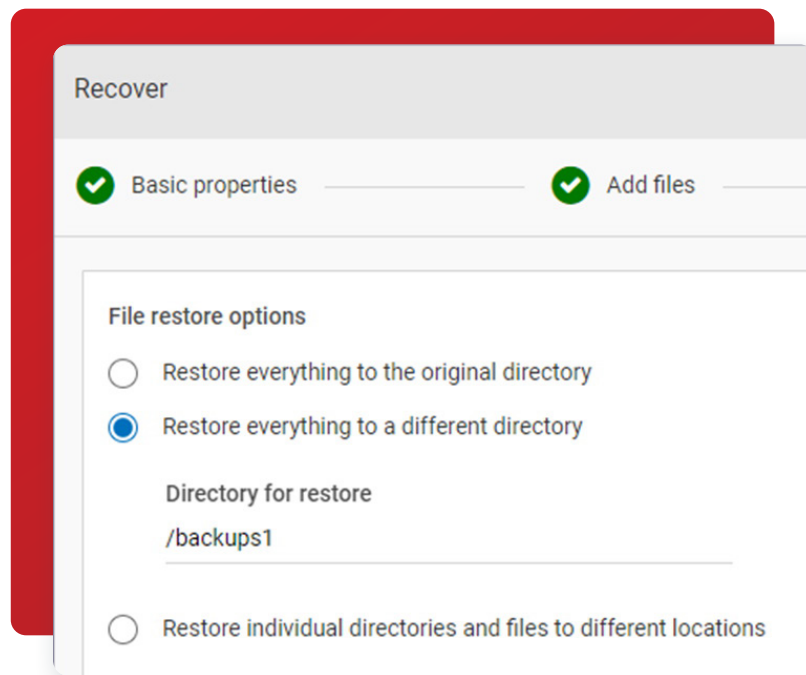
17. Enter the **Start** and **End date** and time of the backup. Then, click **Add files**.

The screenshot shows the 'Recover' window with the 'Add files' step selected. It displays 'Restore type' as 'Normal backup'. Below, there are date and time pickers for 'Start date' (1/1/1980) and 'End date' (5/4/2022), with times of 12:01:00 AM and 11:29:59 AM respectively. A red box highlights these fields and the 'Add files' button. The 'Recovery target' and 'Recovery options' steps are also visible.

18. The screen will display the backup data that's available. You can select what you'd like restored and click **Add**.



19. Enter where you'd like to restore the files. In this example, we're restoring the file(s) to an alternate location.



20. When you're happy with the restore selections, click on the **Start Recovery** button to begin the restore.



Conclusion

Veritas Alta Recovery Vault with Image Sharing simplifies the process of provisioning new storage in the cloud, reducing risk, enabling limitless scalability, lowering TCO, automating resiliency, and allowing for simple restores of critical data to an alternate NetBackup. With the easy-to-use UI, the management and monitoring of your cloud storage resources and retention policies, not to mention the provisioning of your storage and the protection of your data has never been easier.

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