

Oracle Secure Backup Frequently Asked Questions

Answers to commonly asked questions follow. For more in-depth technical information, please refer to Oracle Secure Backup documentation.

What is Oracle Secure Backup?

Oracle Secure Backup is a centralized tape backup management software providing secure data protection for heterogeneous file systems and the Oracle Database.

Why switch to Oracle Secure Backup?

Oracle Secure Backup delivers high performance network tape backup for Oracle Databases and file systems on Linux, UNIX, and Windows platforms with support for over 200 different tape devices from leading vendors. Oracle Secure Backup provides the key benefits:

- Encrypts data before it leaves the database
- Fastest Oracle Database backups to tape
- Single point of control with Oracle Enterprise Manager
- Low cost, innovative licensing

How does Oracle Secure Backup's Innovative Licensing compare to other 3rd party tape backup products?

Oracle Secure Backup includes an unlimited number of clients for free. Because of this, the license cost of Oracle Secure Backup is significantly lower than other products. Oracle's pricing model also removes the need to over-license client modules to allow for future growth, further reducing total costs.

What is Oracle Secure Backup Express?

Oracle Secure Backup provides single-server tape backup management for one database server directly attached to one tape drive.

What's the difference between Oracle Secure Backup and Oracle Secure Backup Express?

Oracle Secure Backup Express offers the same tape backup functionality as Oracle Secure Backup, but is limited to a single host with one direct-attached tape drive. Please see the Oracle Secure Backup Licenseing Information Document for details.

Where can I find compatibility matrixes for Oracle Secure Backup?

- Platform, Web Browser and NAS are listed on Certify at metalink.oracle.com
- Tape device matrixes are available at otn.oracle.com/technology/products/secure-backup

What Oracle database versions does Oracle Secure Backup support?

Oracle Secure Backup installs with a native integration of Oracle Database's via Oracle Recovery Manager (RMAN), which supports Oracle9i forward.

Which network protocols does Oracle Secure Backup support?

Oracle Secure Backup software uses NDMP for data transport over TCP/IP and supports backups, restores and other file access through NFS and CIFS; it supports host name resolution through NIS and DNS.

How are networked backups protected from unauthorized access during transport?

Remote UNIX/Linux/Windows backups and Oracle Secure Backup control messages are encrypted for transport over the network using Secure Socket Layer (SSL) technology. An RMAN encrypted backup will not be re-encrypted for transport over the network.

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Can backups be encrypted?

Oracle database backups may be encrypted on tape through integration with Recovery Manager (RMAN). Oracle Secure Backup offers exclusive RMAN backup encryption directly to tape. RMAN backup encryption to disk is available with purchase of the Oracle Advanced Security Option (OAS). Encryption of file system backups is not supported in this release. For more information on RMAN Encrypted Backups, please see the Oracle Database Backup and Recovery Advanced User's Guide.

Does Oracle Secure Backup support disk-based backups?

No. However, Oracle Secure Backup supports virtual tape libraries (VTL). VTLs are disk appliances, which emulated tape drives and libraries. Oracle databases have always supported disk-based backups via RMAN. With Oracle Database 10g, the Flash Recovery Area was introduced to manage Oracle recovery related files. The Flash Recovery may be backed up to tape using Oracle Secure Backup. More information on the Flash Recovery Area is [here](#).

Can backups from heterogeneous operating systems be written to the same tape?

Yes. Oracle Secure Backup allows heterogeneous data (Windows, UNIX, Linux and NAS) to be written to the same tape. Unlike most other commercial backup software products, Oracle Secure Backup can write NDMP data to the same tape as UNIX/Linux/Windows data for better resource utilization.

Does Oracle Secure Backup support Dynamic Drive Sharing?

Yes. Dynamic drive sharing enables all primary-storage machines protected by Oracle Secure Backup to access any tape drive, regardless of where and how it is physically connected. Backup and restoration jobs are automatically allocated to any available tape drives which share tape resources with multiple servers reducing idle write periods on drives.

Is Oracle Secure Backup integrated with 3rd-party backup tools such as Veritas NetBackup or Tivoli Storage Manager?

No, Oracle Secure Backup is not integrated with any 3rd-party backup tools. Oracle Secure Backup is an alternative to these products offering centralized backup management for both database data, in conjunction with Recovery Manager (RMAN), and non-database data stored in file systems.

Does Oracle Secure Backup support online backups of 3rd-party databases?

No, Oracle Secure Backup does not provide native plug-ins of non-Oracle databases. Non-Oracle databases may be backed up offline (closed/consistent) as part of a file system backup. Consult with your vendor on best practices of backing up and recovering applications.

Can Oracle Secure Backup share a server and/or tape resources with other backup applications?

It is not recommended to install two backup applications on the same server or share tape hardware due to potential contention of resources. Overlapping background processes may be problematic causing unusual behavior for one or both backup applications. However, a partitioned library may be successful shared between two applications.

Oracle Secure Backup website:

otn.oracle.com/technology/products/secure-backup/index.html