Past, Present & Future of Backup

brought to you by **SwiftStack**

Past
15 Years Ago

We've come a long way with how we protect our data. Backup software used to pull data from various sources and put it directly on tape. LTO was the rage in the early 2000's.

Every week you would perform a full backup and rotate your media offsite using oddly named strategies like Grandfather-Father-Son or Tower of Hanoi. The truck would stop by every Thursday and haul the latest batch of tapes "to the mountain". Thankfully...we've progressed.
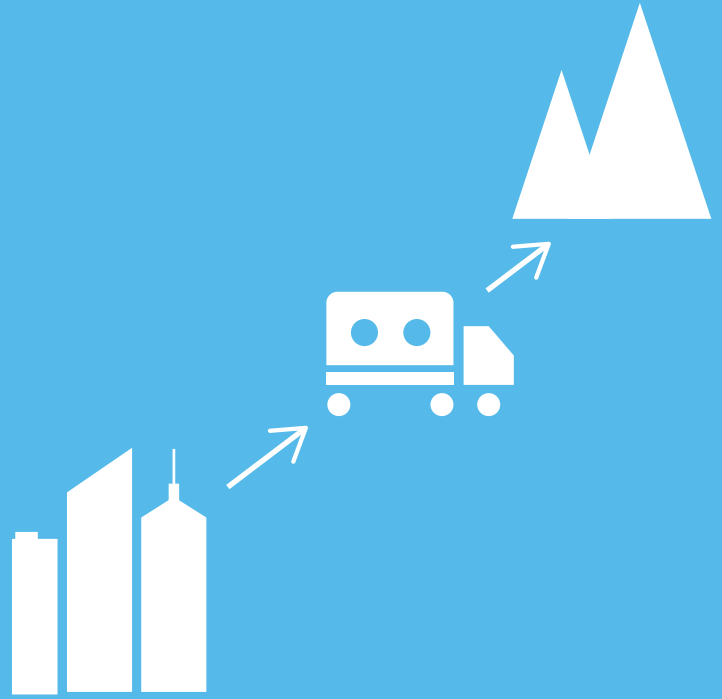
Present

Instead of retrieving tapes to restore just a few files, tiered backup strategies have been widely adopted where backup data is first written to local disk for fast restores. Driven by a defined policy, backup data is transferred to an offsite location to protect from a major disaster. Tape is fading away fast and instead, disk in secondary data centers or the public cloud is often used.

Modern applications that have been developed to run on cloud infrastructure are protected through continuous data replication and versioning, not using traditional backup methods.

Future
15 Years From Now

Cold archives fade away and data is always active and available to its applications. Outside of specific industries, "the mountain" does not exist anymore and backup applications morph into data managers.

Instead, applications and the cloud infrastructure (private and public) they run on automatically keep data alive and protected. Replicas and versions of data are accessible by their applications so they can utilize the data no matter where it resides.

SwiftStack
swiftstack.com