

FALCONSTOR

StorSafe[®] VTL vs. Dell EMC Data Domain[®]

FalconStor® StorSafe® VTL leads the way as the IBM certified solution for protecting IBM Power workloads on PowerVS. StorSafe VTL is the preferred solution for IBM customers worldwide for on-premises backup, hybrid cloud, migration to the cloud, and cloud disaster recovery for optimized data protection.

Reasons for IBM customers to move from Data Domain to StorSafe VTL

- Your Data Domain backup appliance is nearing end-of-service-life (EOSL) and you would like to modernize your solution to work seamlessly with IBM Power workloads on-premises and in virtual Power clouds like IBM PowerVS
- You are preparing to migrate more Power applications to IBM Cloud and PowerVS and need to do so as efficiently and easily as possible
- You want on-premises and multicloud optimization of your IBM Power backups using a single pane of glass

INTRODUCTION TO STORSAFE VTL

FalconStor StorSafe VTL is a state-of-the-art virtual tape library (VTL) software solution that can run in the cloud, on physical servers, or on virtual machines. It works with any leading backup software on single or mixed heterogeneous operating systems emulating physical tape libraries and drives, while shrinking backup images with advanced compression and patented block-level deduplication to optimize backup and recovery operations and simplify cloud migrations. The solution utilizes leading security technology to keep data safe in transit and at rest to protect and help quickly restore against cyber and ransomware attacks. The solution greatly simplifies migration from on-premises environments to the cloud.

KEY CONSIDERATIONS FOR STORAGE LEVERAGING FALCONSTOR STORSAFE VTL VS. DELL EMC DATA DOMAIN® APPLIANCES

Virtualizing Any Backend Storage

StorSafe VTL takes a modern, 100% software defined approach, so it works with any vendor's storage to reduce storage costs, while Data Domain delivers backup appliances and storage vendor lock-in pricing. The StorSafe VTL approach virtualizes any backend storage so the customer gets to decide the hardware that they will use, can add additional hardware as needs grow, and avoid being locked into a single storage vendor appliance.

Independent Scalability

With an appliance, like Dell EMC Data Domain, you buy a certain fixed amount of CPU and RAM. Usually, you can add disk trays to increase the capacity up to a point but with each tray the performance of the system struggles to keep up. Stepping up to a larger backup- to-disk appliance is usually a disruptive, painful, and expensive endeavor.

In contrast, FalconStor StorSafe VTL uses the storage assigned from the disk array so, as needs grow, customers can grow the LUN or assign more LUNs. Moreover, you can configure up to nine industry-standard StorSafe VTL servers to achieve an industry-leading throughput of 160 TB per hour. And because it can offload older virtual tapes to object storage, StorSafe VTL has unlimited capacity to store backup/migration data. Similarly, offsite protection has no limitation on capacity.

Physical Tape Management

For offsite protection of backup data StorSafe VTL can create and manage physical tapes, export backups to cloud object storage, or replicate from an on-premises StorSafe to a twin StorSafe running in a cloud for continuous offsite protection of backup data. Data Domain appliances do not provide physical tape management.

DIFFERENCES IN FLEXIBILITY FOR TODAY'S CLOUD AND HYBRID CLOUD ENVIRONMENTS

Additional differences between StorSafe VTL and Data Domain becomes apparent when talking about cloud and hybrid cloud environments for IBM i environments, IBM PowerVS, and IBM Cloud implementations.

Native Cloud Backups

FalconStor StorSafe VTL is IBM certified for cloud native backups, such as the ability to protect IBM i workloads on PowerVS. StorSafe VTL supports cloud native backups including IBM PowerVS wherever it resides (Skytap/Azure), Converge/GCP, Kyndryl, etc.) as well as IBM Cloud, Microsoft Azure, AWS, and Google Cloud Platform.

Data Domain has limitations with IBM i, IBM PowerVS and IBM Cloud native support.

Hybrid Cloud

Leverage the cloud for long-term archival or disaster recovery (DR) with secondary backup to the cloud. StorSafe VTL easily replicates on-premises backups for archive or DR. Data Domain is unable to offer support for IBM i environments without native cloud support.

Immutability for Ransomware Protection

StorSafe VTL provides air-gapped and immutable backups to protect against cyber and ransomware attacks with provisioning Write-Once-Read-Many (WORM) virtual tapes and integration with IBM Cloud Object Storage (COS). StorSafe VTL encrypts data in motion and at rest using AES-256 with StorSafe VTL managed keys.

Data Domain can have multiple points of failure as a hardware only solution.

Cloud Disaster Recovery

Leverage the same StorSafe VTL software to replicate workloads in the cloud to another cloud location or cloud platform in the event of a disaster. Data Domain is unable to provide cloud disaster recovery for IBM i environments without cloud native support.

MIGRATING TO THE CLOUD

Cloud Migrations

Simplify cloud migrations with FalconStor StorSafe VTL. Backup on-premises, then restore in the cloud – it's that simple! Migrate from on-premises to the cloud where multi-OS on-premises workloads and legacy tapes are migrated to a cloud environment.

StorSafe VTL can migrate Data Domain data to the cloud seamlessly and easily. IBM Power customers can easily migrate their IBM i/AIX/Linux data on Data Domain to PowerVS seamlessly.

Multicloud Support

FalconStor StorSafe VTL runs on IBM Cloud, Microsoft Azure, AWS and Google Cloud Platform with an object storage repository that can support a multicloud environment comprised of multiple cloud platforms. Multicloud support can be managed as well from a single pane of glass.

Data Domain and Dell Apex today currently do not provide support for IBM PowerVS and IBM Cloud environments.

IN REVIEW

The comparisons between StorSafe VTL and Dell/EMC Data Domain outline many aspects to consider. The flexibility of FalconStor StorSafe VTL provides added functionality for enabling organizations to future proof investments for today's IBM PowerVS and IBM Cloud hybrid cloud and cloud environments.

Contact FalconStor: <https://www.falconstor.com/contact>

An IBM-certified version for PowerVS, StorSafe VTL for PowerVS, is fully integrated into the IBM Cloud Catalog with one-click provisioning and integrated billing with PowerVS.

IBM Partnership: https://www.falconstor.com/partners/ibm_partnership/*falconstor.com/support/certification