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Protecting Oracle Database Appliance – Tape Backup with Oracle Secure Backup

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Introduction

The Oracle Database Appliance is an engineered system consisting of hardware, software, and storage that saves customers time and money by simplifying deployment, maintenance, and support of high availability database solutions. The Oracle Database Appliance provides double or triple mirrored redundancy using Automatic Storage Management software. The Database Appliance is comprised of two nodes, each having its own dedicated power, memory, CPU, RAID control, etc. to allow for maximum redundancy. It allows for single instance, Real Application Clusters (RAC) One Node or full Oracle RAC configurations. Additionally, the Database Appliance supports virtualization using Oracle Virtual Machine (OVM). With the high level of redundancy, the chances of a physical failure are remote but still possible (ex. natural disaster or fire). There is also the possibility of logical corruption such as inadvertently deleted records or errors in programming. Due to the possibility of a disaster and/or logical corruption, it is still necessary to backup up the database to provide an extra layer of data protection, along with offsite storage capabilities. Oracle StorageTek (STK) Tape Libraries and Oracle StorageTek Tape Drives offer cost effective solutions for meeting Recovery Point Objectives (RPO) and Recovery Time Objectives (RTO) for the Oracle Database Appliance. The information in this document details how to setup Oracle Secure Backup to backup the Oracle Database Appliance using Oracle StorageTek tape products. The information in this document is intended to detail basic configuration of Oracle Secure Backup on the Oracle Database Appliance to allow for RMAN backups directly to tape. A restore example, private network example, and performance tuning example are also included to assist with providing additional knowledge on using Oracle Secure Backup with the Oracle Database Appliance, and to assist with optimizing the backup environment.

Hardware and Software

Below is a summary of the hardware and software utilized for Oracle Database Appliance tape tests.

Note: The below table only lists the combinations of hardware/software that were tested. There are newer generations of hardware/software available. The Oracle Database Appliance has the x4-2 version available and Oracle Secure Backup (OSB) Media Server could be an x4-2. Based on the results of testing two generations it is not expected that performance will differ appreciably (especially in a two to four tape drive setup) as resources on the lowest versions of the Oracle Database Appliance (V1) and OSB Media Server (x4170 M2) were not being consumed. Until a major component on the transfer bus is upgraded (Faster SAS card or newer LTO drive) the performance characteristics should remain similar across generations of servers, Oracle Database Appliances and Oracle Secure Backup software.

TABLE1.TEST ENVIRONMENT

HARDWARE/SOFTWARE	VERSION	PURPOSE
Oracle Database Appliance	V1, Appliance Manager 2.1.0.3.0 X3-2, Appliance Manager 2.6.0.0.0	Database Appliance
Oracle Linux	5.5 (Oracle Database Appliance V1) 5.7 (Backup Server for Oracle Database Appliance V1 testing) 5.8 (Oracle Database Appliance X3-2 & Backup Server for Oracle Database Appliance X3-2 testing)	OS on Database and Backup Servers
Oracle Linux Kernel	Oracle Linux 5.5 Kernel= kernel-2.6.18-194.32.1.0.1.el5 (V1) Oracle Linux 5.8 Kernel = 2.6.32-300.32.5.el5uek (X3-2)	Kernel on Database Servers
Oracle Secure Backup	10.4.0.2 (Used for Oracle Database Appliance V1 testing) 10.4.0.3(Used for Oracle Database Appliance X3-2 testing)	Backup Software
Oracle Sun x4170 M2 Sun Server X3-2	Base Hardware (Used for Oracle Database Appliance V1 testing) Base Hardware (Used for Oracle Database Appliance X3-2 testing)	Oracle Secure Backup Administrative/Media Server
Oracle StorageTek SL150 (Oracle StorageTek SL500 or Oracle StorageTek SL24/48 can also be used)	Latest Firmware	Tape Library for Backup
LTO-5 Half Height Tape Drives(2)	Latest Firmware (Used for Oracle Database Appliance V1 testing)	Tape Drives for Backup
LTO-6 Half Height Tape Drives(2)	Latest Firmware (Used for Oracle Database Appliance X3-2 testing)	
6Gb SAS HBA	SGX-SAS6-EXT-Z	Tape Connectivity to Media Server

Oracle Secure Backup Administrative Server and Media Server

To manage the backup and recovery operations on the Oracle Database Appliance, a 1U single processor machine has plenty of resources as the Administrative Server and Media Server for Oracle Secure Backup. Refer to the Appendix of this paper for links to Oracle Secure Backup documentation and additional information.

Oracle StorageTek Library and Tape Drives

An Oracle StorageTek SL150 with two LTO-5 or LTO-6 tape drives is used to backup the Oracle Database Appliance. Also compatible are the Oracle StorageTek SL500 or Oracle StorageTek SL24/48 with LTO tape drives (LTO-6 not supported in SL24/48).

OS

The Oracle Secure Backup Administrative/Media Server has Oracle Linux installed.

Backup Software

Oracle Secure Backup (10.4 or above) is utilized for tape backups.

Connectivity

This section explains the different interfaces that will be utilized in this environment.

Ethernet

The Oracle Secure Backup Administrative/Media Server requires a GbE or 10GbE connection to the Oracle Database Appliance depending on which interface will be used for backup.

Serial Attached SCSI (SAS)

A single SAS HBA card in the Oracle Secure Backup Administrative/Media Server is used to attach each tape drive directly to the Oracle Secure Backup Administrative/Media Server.

Diagram of Configuration

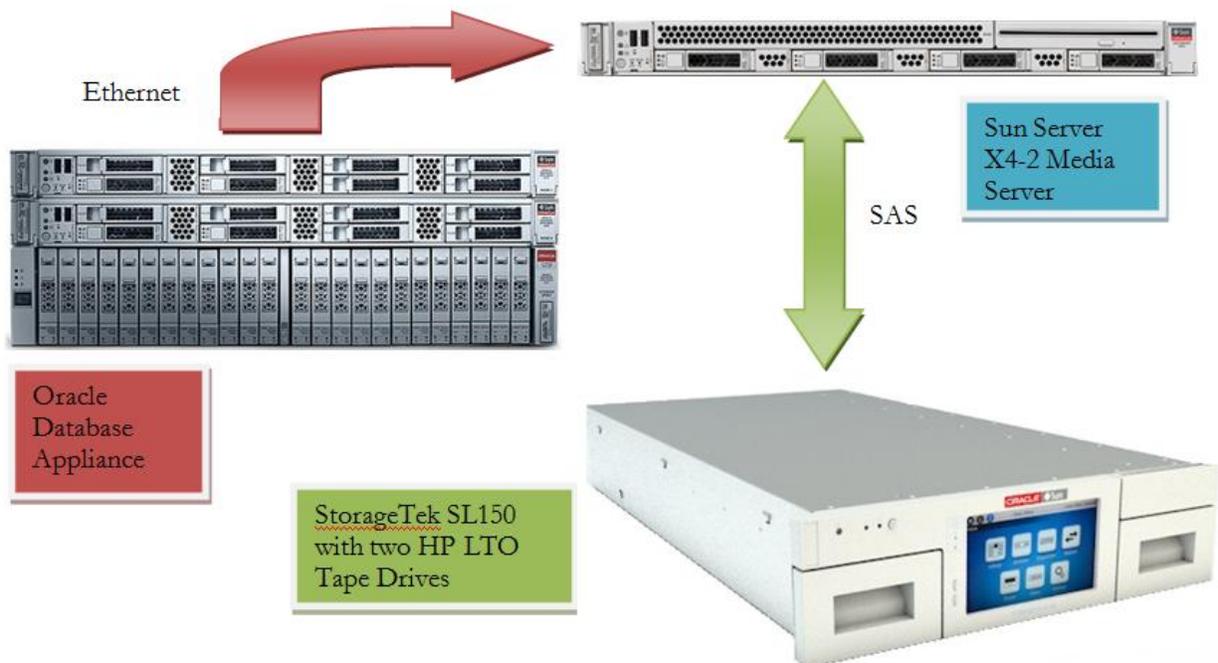


Figure 1: Physical components and connections for Oracle Database Appliance tape solution.

Date Synchronization

Ensure you are using Network Time Protocol (NTP) or have all the dates/times between all servers involved in this configuration in sync.

Oracle StorageTek Tape Configuration

The Oracle StorageTek (STK) SL150 is a modular library system with high capacity and high reliability which can be attached to a host via fiber channel or SAS. This configuration will utilize a SAS connection. The SL150 is a bridged library which means robot control commands are channeled through one of the tape drives (no separate connection for the robot). If this is a new library, follow the instructions in the SL150 documentation to setup the library. Following the initial setup of the SL150; connect the tape drives to the Oracle Secure Backup Administrative/Media Server. To connect the SL150 to the Oracle Secure Backup Administrative/Media Server, use SAS cables to hook each tape drive to the SAS ports on the Sun Server X3-2 HBA card. See figures 2 & 3 below:

Physical Attachments



Figure 2: Rear of Oracle StorageTek SL150 tape library with two LTO SAS attached tape drives.



Figure 3: Rear of Oracle's Sun Server X3-2 with multi-pronged SAS cable connected to SAS HBA card.

Note: An STK SL150 is featured in this paper. The STK SL500 or STK SL24/48 Library can also be used in Oracle Database Appliance backup configurations. The physical attachment of a SAS SL500 or SAS SL24/48 will be identical to using a SAS connected SL150 as all are bridged libraries, meaning robot control is achieved over the physical tape drive connection.

Library Monitoring

After initial library configuration, the Oracle StorageTek Library Browser User Interface (BUI) can be used to monitor, re-configure and operate the SL150 library. SL150 BUI is pictured in figure 4:

Note: The BUI is not available on STK SL500 or STK SL24/48 as the STK SL500 is managed using the StorageTek Library Console (SLC) and the STK SL24/48 is managed using a built-in web GUI.

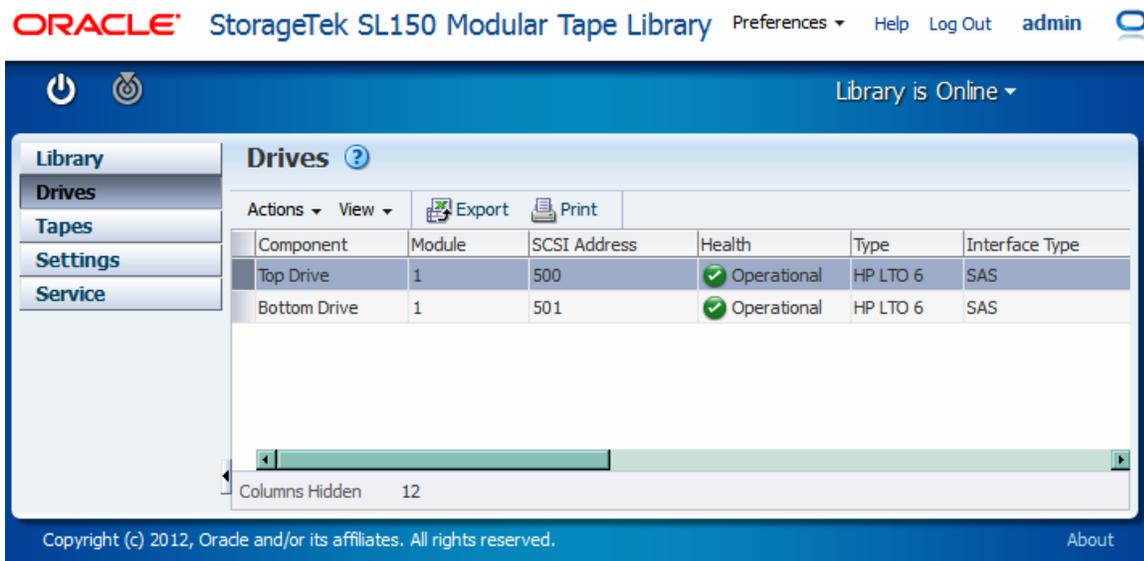


Figure 4: Oracle StorageTek SL150 Modular Tape Library BUI.

Library Drive OS Verification

Use the sg utility to verify you can see the Oracle StorageTek tape library and LTO-6 tape drives on the Oracle Secure Backup Administrative/Media Server (sg_map requires sg3 utilities to be installed in Linux. See MOS note 1461798.1 for details on installing RPM's to the Oracle Database Appliance):

```
[root@xman2 ~]# sg_map -i -x
/dev/sg0 0 0 0 0 1 /dev/nst0 HP      Ultrium 6-SCSI  32DS
/dev/sg1 0 0 1 0 1 /dev/nst1 HP      Ultrium 6-SCSI  32DS
/dev/sg2 0 0 1 1 8 STK    SL150          0182
/dev/sg3 1 0 0 0 0 /dev/sda HITACHI H106030SDSUN300G A2B0
/dev/sg4 1 0 1 0 0 /dev/sdb HITACHI H106030SDSUN300G A2B0
/dev/sg5 1 0 2 0 0 /dev/sdc HITACHI H106030SDSUN300G A2B0
/dev/sg6 1 0 3 0 0 /dev/sdd HITACHI H106030SDSUN300G A2B0
/dev/sg7 1 0 4 0 0 /dev/sde HITACHI H106030SDSUN300G A2B0
/dev/sg8 1 0 5 0 0 /dev/sdf HITACHI H106030SDSUN300G A2B0
/dev/sg9 1 0 6 0 0 /dev/sdg HITACHI H106030SDSUN300G A2B0
/dev/sg10 1 0 7 0 0 /dev/sdh HITACHI H106030SDSUN300G A2B0
/dev/sg11 8 0 0 0 0 /dev/sdi ORACLE  SSM           PMAP
```

From the above output the Oracle StorageTek tape library (STK SL150) and two HP LTO-6 (Ultrium 6) drives are present.

Oracle Secure Backup Configuration

Oracle Secure Backup configuration for tape backup with the Oracle Database Appliance is comprised of several tasks including setup at the OS level, installation of the Oracle Secure Backup software, tape library configuration, tape drive configuration, Oracle Database authorization, and RMAN script setup.

Modify /etc/hosts files

Modification of the /etc/hosts files on the Oracle Secure Backup Administrative/Media Server and database nodes depends on which network interface will be used for backup, and the DNS setup in the environment. If the primary network is used for backup, and all hosts are in DNS, no changes to /etc/hosts files are required. If DNS, or another naming service, is not available, then the Oracle Secure Backup Administrative/Media Server needs to be added to /etc/hosts on each database node and each database node needs to be added to /etc/hosts on the Oracle Secure Backup Administrative/Media Server. The example and screen shots in this paper detail setup of a backup solution using the primary public Ethernet interface. If you plan to use one of the additional interfaces available on the Oracle Database Appliance for backups over a private network, please see the Private Network Configuration section near the end of this document for details on that configuration.

Install Oracle Secure Backup

The GUI is used to illustrate the installation and configuration steps below, but all steps can also be completed via the command line interface (obtool) or Oracle Enterprise Manager (EM). A listing of commands is available in the Oracle Secure Backup documentation.

1. Install Oracle Secure Backup on the server designated as the Oracle Secure Backup Administrative/Media Server (**xman2**) and on the database nodes (**hamms1** and **hamms2**). Generally all defaults will be chosen during the installation, but answer installation questions per your environment, and refer to the Oracle Secure Backup documentation for further details.

During installation define each server with the following roles:

- xman2 = Administrative Server, Media Server, and Client
- hamms1 = Client
- hamms2 = Client

After installation and prior to configuring Oracle Secure Backup, modify the following parameters to ensure the correct interface will be used when transferring data from the Oracle Database Appliance to the Oracle Secure Backup server:

```
[root@xman2 ~]# obtool setp operations/disablerds yes
[root@xman2 ~]# obtool setp testing/suppressrdma yes
[root@xman2 ~]# obtool setp testing/useloadbalance no
```

Modify Administrative Server to be a Media Server

During installation you specified option “A” for the installation of the Oracle Secure Backup Administrative/Media Server which indicates to install the server as an Administrative Server, Media Server, and Client. However, you must still assign the Media Server role to the server from the GUI in order to attach any devices to the server.

Launch the Oracle Secure Backup GUI (<https://xman2>) and login to access the home screen pictured in figure 5:

The screenshot shows the Oracle Secure Backup GUI home screen. At the top left is the Oracle logo and 'SECURE BACKUP' text. On the top right are links for 'Help', 'Logout', 'Preferences', and 'About'. Below this is a navigation bar with 'Home', 'Configure', 'Manage', 'Backup', and 'Restore'. The main content area is divided into several sections, each with a 'Refresh' button on the right. The sections are: 'Failed Jobs' (0 jobs in the last 24 hours), 'Active Jobs' (0 jobs in the last 24 hours), 'Pending Jobs' (0 jobs in the last 24 hours), and 'Completed Jobs' (0 jobs in the last 24 hours). Each section has a table with columns: ID, Type, Level, Scheduled time, and Status. Below these is a 'Devices' section with columns: Type (DTE), Name, and State. At the bottom of the page are links for 'Help', 'Logout', 'Preferences', and 'About', and a copyright notice: 'Copyright © 1991, 2011, Oracle. All rights reserved.'

Figure 5: Home screen of Oracle Secure Backup GUI.

Navigate to **Configure->Hosts**, select xman2 from the list of hosts and click **Edit** to display the screen pictured in figure 6 below:

Home **Configure** Manage Backup Restore

Configure: Hosts

Add Edit Remove Rename Update Ping

Host Name	Status	Roles
xman2	in service	admin, client

Suppress communication with host

Add Edit Remove Rename Update

Figure 6: Oracle Secure Backup Hosts configuration screen prior to modifying roles.

Highlight all roles and click **Apply** (see figure 7):

ORACLE
SECURE BACKUP

[Help](#) [Logout](#) [Preferences](#) [About](#)

Home **Configure** Manage Backup Restore

Success: host 'xman2' changed

Configure: Hosts > xman2

Apply OK Cancel Preferred Network Interfaces

Host xman2	
IP interface name(s):	10.80.23.184
Status:	in service
Roles:	client admin mediaserver
Encryption:	<input type="radio"/> required <input checked="" type="radio"/> allowed
Algorithm:	<input type="radio"/> aes128 <input checked="" type="radio"/> aes192 <input type="radio"/> aes256
Rekey frequency:	<input checked="" type="radio"/> duration 1 month <input type="radio"/> never <input type="radio"/> system default <input type="radio"/> per backup
Key type:	<input checked="" type="radio"/> transparent <input type="radio"/> use passphrase <input type="text"/> verify passphrase <input type="text"/>
Certificate key size (in bits):	1024
Access method:	ob
Disable RDS:	<input type="radio"/> yes <input type="radio"/> no <input checked="" type="radio"/> system default
TCP/IP buffer size:	<input type="text"/> bytes
<input type="checkbox"/> Suppress communication with host	

Apply OK Cancel Preferred Network Interfaces

Figure 7: Modification of Roles for the Administrative Server to also be a Media Server.

After applying changes, xman2 should look as follows (see figure 8):

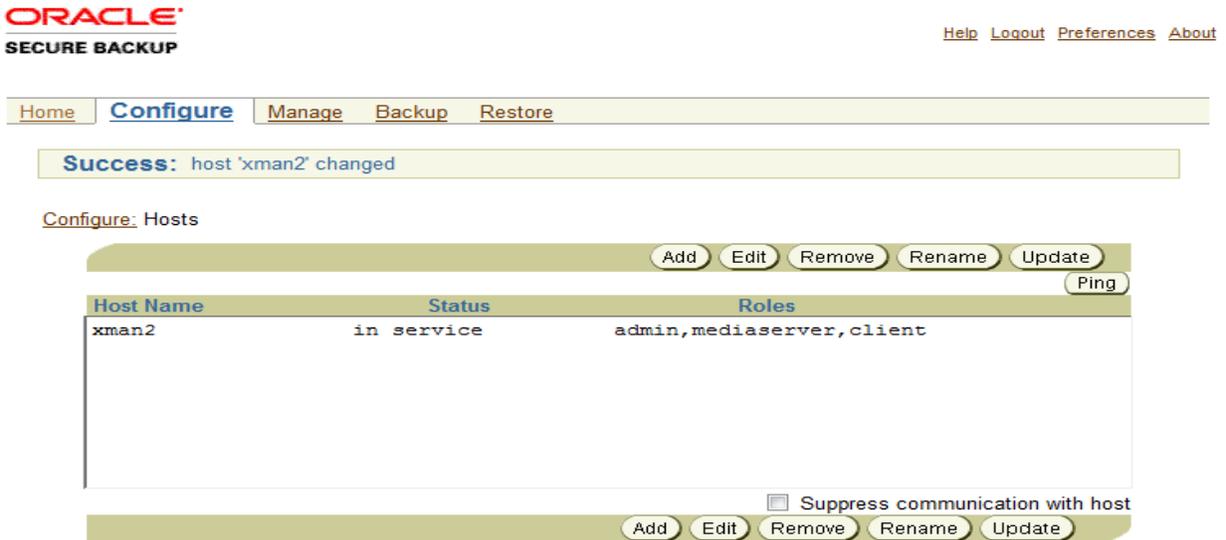


Figure 8: Oracle Secure Backup Hosts configuration screen after modifying Roles.

Add Clients to Oracle Secure Backup

The next step in the configuration process is to add clients. To add clients navigate to **Configure->Hosts**, click the **Add** button and populate the required fields. Repeat for each of your clients and enter either the hostname or IP to add the client (see figure9):

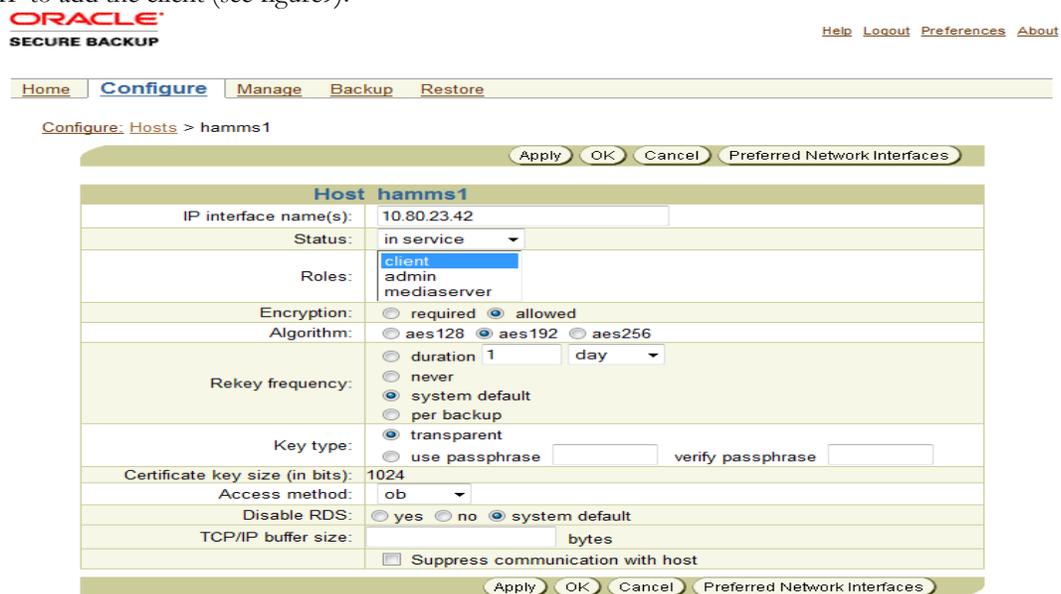


Figure 9: Oracle Secure Backup Hosts screen showing a host being added.

Configuring Storage Devices

Following configuration of the clients, the tape library and tape drives can be setup.

Add & Attach Library

To add the tape library, navigate to **Configure->Devices** and click the **Add** button. Populate the device name, set the **Type** to library, set **Barcode reader** to yes, set **Barcode required** to yes and click the **Apply** button (see figure 10):

Home **Configure** Manage Backup Restore

Configure: Device > New Device

Apply OK Cancel

Device	SL150
Model:	
Serial number:	
Type:	library
ACSLS:	<input type="radio"/> yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> no
Status:	in service
Debug mode:	no
World Wide Name:	
Barcode reader:	yes
Barcode required:	yes
Auto clean:	no
Clean interval:	disabled
Clean using emptiest:	yes
Unload required:	yes
Ejection type:	auto
Minimum writable volumes:	

Apply OK Cancel

Figure 10: Oracle Secure Backup Add New Device screen for tape library.

After you click the **Apply** button, another button will appear on the button bar titled **Attachments**. Click this button to add an attachment. You must attach the library to the server which will control library operations. Specify the raw device for the robot found earlier in the Library Drive OS Verification section, and select the correct server from the drop-down menu (xman2 in this example as pictured in figure 11):

ORACLE
SECURE BACKUP

Help Logout Preferences About

Home **Configure** Manage Backup Restore

Configure: Device > SL150 > Attachments

Add Edit Remove Cancel Ping

host:raw device
(Empty)

Host:	xman2	SCSI device:	
Raw device:	/dev/sg5	ST device:	
ST device:		ST controller:	
ST target:		ST lun:	

Add Edit Remove Cancel

Figure 11: Oracle Secure Backup Device Attachments screen.

Once the library is added and attached, ping it with the **Ping** button from the **Configure->Devices** screen to ensure you are connected and properly configured.

Obtain Tape Drive Mapping Information

In order to add and attach each tape drive you must map the `/dev/sg#` of each tape drive to the correct Drive Transfer Element (DTE) number in the tape library. To obtain mapping information go to **Configure->Devices**, select the library and click the **Verify** button (see figure 12):



Figure 12: Oracle Secure Backup Libraries Verify screen.

Use the list of `/dev/sg#`'s and corresponding serial numbers compiled in the Library Drive OS Verification section of this document to correlate the `/dev/sg#` to the correct DTE number.

Example:

When `sginfo` was run on `/dev/sg4` it returned:

```
[root@xman2 ~]# sginfo -s /dev/sg4
Serial Number 'HU1206LY4Y'
```

The above screen shot (figure 12) shows serial number HU1206LY4Y corresponds to DTE 1. Match HU1206LY4Y on your list of `/dev/sg#`'s and serial numbers. The match shows that `/dev/sg4` is DTE 1. When you attach the drive in the next step you will be specifying DTE 1 with a raw device entry for `/dev/sg4`.

Add & Attach Tape Drive

To add a tape drive, navigate to **Configure->Devices** and click the **Add** button. From the entry form, specify a device name, select **Type** tape, set the **Status** to in service, make sure the correct library is selected and that you have specified the correct Drive Transfer Element (DTE) number. Then, click the **Apply** button to add the drive (see figure 13):

Configure: [Device](#) > LTO1

Device		LTO1
Model:	<input type="text"/>	
Serial number:	<input type="text"/>	
Type:	tape ▾	
ACSLs:	<input type="radio"/> yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> no	
Query frequency:	<input type="text"/>	
Status:	in service ▾	
Debug mode:	no ▾	
World Wide Name:	<input type="text"/>	
Library:	SL150 ▾	
DTE:	1 <input type="text"/>	
Automount:	yes ▾	
Error rate:	<input type="text"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> None
Blocking factor:	<input type="text"/>	
Max blocking factor:	<input type="text"/>	
Drive usage since last clean	unit type 0 <input type="text"/>	seconds ▾
Current tape:	empty	
Use list:	<input type="radio"/> Storage element range or list: <input type="text"/>	
	<input checked="" type="radio"/> All	
	<input type="radio"/> None	

Figure 13: Oracle Secure Backup Add New Device screen for tape drive.

After you click the **Apply** button, another button will appear on the button bar titled **Attachments**. Click this button to add an attachment. You must attach the tape drive to the correct raw device using the mapping information obtained from the Verify Library output in the previous step. You must also select the Media Server to which the drive is attached (see figure 14):

Configure: [Device](#) > [LTO1](#) > Attachments

host:raw device

(Empty)

Host: <input type="text" value="xman2"/>	
Raw device: <input type="text" value="/dev/sg4"/>	SCSI device: <input type="text"/>
ST device: <input type="text"/>	ST controller: <input type="text"/>
ST target: <input type="text"/>	ST lun: <input type="text"/>

Figure 14: Oracle Secure Backup Device Attachments screen.

After attaching the tape drive use the **Ping** button from the **Configure->Devices** screen to verify connectivity. Repeat this procedure to add any additional tape drives required for your configuration. Once all tape drives are attached, rerun the library verification from **Configure->Devices** to ensure everything is configured properly.

Inventory Library

To inventory the library, navigate to **Manage->Libraries** and highlight the library. Then, select **Inventory (Library | Drive)** from the **Library commands** drop-down menu and click **Apply** (see figure 15):

[Help](#) [Logout](#) [Preferences](#) [About](#)

ORACLE
SECURE BACKUP

[Home](#) [Configure](#) [Manage](#) [Backup](#) [Restore](#)

Device type (DTE)	Device name
library	SL150
drive (1)	LTO1
drive (2)	LTO2

Library commands

Inventory (Library | Drive)

Figure 15: Oracle Secure Backup Manage Libraries screen.

From the **Inventory** screen check the box for **Force**, leave the **Storage element range** blank and click **Apply** (see figure 16):

ORACLE
SECURE BACKUP

[Help](#) [Logout](#) [Preferences](#) [About](#)

[Home](#) [Configure](#) [Manage](#) [Backup](#) [Restore](#)

[Manage](#): Libraries

Apply OK Cancel
Show Properties List Volumes

Inventory

Library SL150 Force

Storage element range (se_range)

Storage element range

Apply OK Cancel

Figure 16: Oracle Secure Backup Manage Libraries Inventory screen.

When the inventory is complete a ‘Success: inventory on ‘library-name’ complete’ message will be displayed. Click the **List Volumes** button to display the robot contents (see figure 17):

ORACLE
SECURE BACKUP

Close

List Volumes

Inventory of library SL150	
in 1	barcode S50333, oid 100
in 2	barcode S50331, oid 101
in 3	vacant
in 4	vacant
in 5	vacant
in 6	vacant
in 7	vacant
in 8	vacant

Figure 17: Oracle Secure Backup List Volumes screen.

Configure Media Families in Oracle Secure Backup

After the robot and tape libraries are configured, the next step in the process is to configure a Media Family. To add a Media Family, navigate to **Configure->Media Families** and click the **Add** button. Configure a Media Family in Oracle Secure Backup to match your organization's retention scheme. For databases Content managed Media Families are recommended (see figure 18).

The screenshot shows the Oracle Secure Backup configuration interface for a new media family. The form is titled "Configure: Media Families > New Media Families" and includes "Apply", "OK", and "Cancel" buttons at the top right. The configuration fields are as follows:

- Media Family:** DB_Appliance
- Volume ID used:**
 - System default
 - Unique to this media family
 - Same as for media family: OSB-CATALOG-MF
 - From file: []
- Volume expiration:**
 - Time Managed: Keep volume set: 14 days
 - Content managed
- Write window:** 7 days
- Appendable:** yes no
- Rotation policy:** none
- Volume duplication policy:** none
- ACSLs scratch ID:** []
- Comment:** []

Figure 18: Oracle Secure Backup New Media Families configuration screen.

Create and Authorize Oracle Database User in Oracle Secure Backup

Before you can execute RMAN backups you must create and authorize users in Oracle Secure Backup. For the Oracle Database Appliance the oracle and grid users need to be created and authorized:

```
# obtool mkuser --class admin --preauth '*:oracle+rman+cmdline' --unixname oracle oracle
```

```
# obtool mkuser --class admin --preauth '*:grid+rman+cmdline' --unixname grid grid
```

Note: Authorization allows the clients to initiate backups to the Oracle Secure Backup server, and allows any nodes in the RAC configuration to restore each other's back-up pieces.

Configure RMAN to backup database

There are multiple methods available to execute database backups with Oracle Secure Backup (RMAN prompt, Enterprise Manager, & RMAN script). For this example we are executing the backup from the RMAN prompt.

Prior to running RMAN the correct environment variables must be set for the oracle user on the database server which will be used to execute the RMAN script. This example demonstrates setup and execution of RMAN from database server hamms1.

1. Switch user to the oracle user - **su - oracle**
2. Modify the user environment variables and specify the following parameters to match your environment (bash shell being used in this example):

vi .bash_profile

```
export ORACLE_HOME=/u01/app/oracle/product/11.2.0.3/dbhome_1
export PATH=$ORACLE_HOME/bin:.$PATH
export ORACLE_SID=isr1
```

Connect to RMAN with the appropriate credentials to verify environment is set correctly.

Example: `rman target sys/welcome1@hamms1/isr`

RMAN Script

Create an RMAN script containing the following entries to backup the data files, archive logs, and controlfile. Allocate tape channels for each drive in your configuration and round robin the connection to each of the database servers (this is how load balancing is achieved). Also be sure to release each tape channel after each section of the backup. For our example we created the script under `/oracleBU/osb` on host hamms1:

```
RUN {
ALLOCATE CHANNEL ch00 TYPE 'SBT_TAPE' CONNECT='sys/welcome1@isr1';
ALLOCATE CHANNEL ch01 TYPE 'SBT_TAPE' CONNECT='sys/welcome1@isr2';
BACKUP AS BACKUPSET INCREMENTAL LEVEL 0 DATABASE INCLUDE CURRENT
CONTROLFILE PLUS ARCHIVELOG;
RELEASE CHANNEL ch00;
RELEASE CHANNEL ch01;
}
```

Required tnsnames.ora Changes

In order to evenly spread the backup load across each of the database servers, the database server executing the RMAN script (hamms1 in this example) must be able to open RMAN channels on the other database server. This requires modifications to the `tnsnames.ora` file on each database server.

- 1) Modify the `/u01/app/oracle/product/11.2.0.3/dbhome_1/network/Administrative/tnsnames.ora` file with a text editor

Original file:

```
# tnsnames.ora Network Configuration File:
/u01/app/oracle/product/11.2.0.3/dbhome_1/network/Administrative/tnsnames.ora
# Generated by Oracle configuration tools.
```

```
ISR =
  (DESCRIPTION =
    (ADDRESS = (PROTOCOL = TCP)(HOST = hamms-scan)(PORT = 1521))
    (CONNECT_DATA =
      (SERVER = DEDICATED)
      (SERVICE_NAME = isr)
```

```
)
)
```

- 2) Modify the file to look as follows:

```
# tnsnames.ora Network Configuration File:
/u01/app/oracle/product/11.2.0.3/dbhome_1/network/admin/tnsnames.ora
# Generated by Oracle configuration tools.

ISR =
  (DESCRIPTION =
    (ADDRESS = (PROTOCOL = TCP)(HOST = hamms-scan)(PORT = 1521))
    (CONNECT_DATA =
      (SERVER = DEDICATED)
      (SERVICE_NAME = isr)
    )
  )
ISR1 =
  (DESCRIPTION =
    (ADDRESS = (PROTOCOL = TCP)(HOST = hamms1)(PORT = 1521))
    (CONNECT_DATA =
      (SERVER = DEDICATED)
      (SERVICE_NAME = isr)
      (SID = isr1)
    )
  )
ISR2 =
  (DESCRIPTION =
    (ADDRESS = (PROTOCOL = TCP)(HOST = hamms2)(PORT = 1521))
    (CONNECT_DATA =
      (SERVER = DEDICATED)
      (SERVICE_NAME = isr)
      (SID = isr2)
    )
  )
```

- 3) After modifying tnsnames.ora verify ownership/permissions on the file to ensure they are correct:
- i) Owner should be oracle
 - ii) Group should be oinstall
 - iii) Permissions should be rw-r----- or 640 octal

Execute Backup Tests

Choose one of the clients to execute the RMAN script, in this example we use hamms1:

```
[root@hamms1 ~]# su - oracle
[oracle@hamms1 ~]$ rman target /
```

From the RMAN prompt provide the path to the previously created RMAN script in order to execute the script:

```
RMAN>@/oracleBU/osb/rman.script
```

After executing the script, monitor the job to ensure the backup completes successfully.

Restoring the Database

In the event of a logical database corruption, or a complete disaster, restoration of the database from tape can be executed. In most instances the Database Administrator (DBA) will be conducting the restoration, and will be executing the restore job from the machine where the database resides. The DBA will use RMAN to request the needed backup pieces from the Oracle Secure Backup Media Management Layer. The RMAN backup pieces are cataloged in the controlfile, or RMAN Catalog if using Recovery Manager with catalog, and Oracle Secure Backup also knows about the pieces in its own catalog. If a complete disaster has occurred and the Oracle Database Appliance has been re-imaged, you will also require the DBID of your database to perform the restore.

Restore Demonstration

There are many different restore scenarios available with RMAN, depending on the type of problem encountered in the database (consult RMAN documentation for complete information). For this example, assume that one or more controlfiles are damaged and so are some of the data files that under lie the database. Also assume all archive logs are intact in the Fast Recovery Area (FRA). The basic steps in the RMAN restore process are to restore the controlfile, restore the database, and then recover the database. After the controlfile is restored, the database will know which backup pieces are needed based on data contained in the restored controlfile. If the archive logs are still available in the FRA you can use them to recover up to present or to a specific point in time (they are available in this example).

Example of steps to restore and recover database:

****From hamms1 execute the following****

```
[root@hamms1 /]# su - oracle
[oracle@hamms1 ~]$ rman target /
```

Recovery Manager: Release 11.2.0.3.0 - Production on Thu Jul 18 14:38:06 2013

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connected to target database: ISR (DBID=2637695581)

```
RMAN> shutdown immediate;
```

```
using target database controlfile instead of recovery catalog
database closed
database dismounted
Oracle instance shut down
```

**** Also login to hamms2 with SQL Plus and execute a shutdown immediate;****

```
[root@hamms2 /]# su - oracle
[oracle@hamms2 ~]$ sqlplus / as sysdba
SQL> shutdown immediate;
```

```
RMAN> startup nomount;
```

```
connected to target database (not started)
Oracle instance started
```

Total System Global Area 25654751232 bytes

Fixed Size 2238472 bytes
Variable Size 2818574328 bytes
Database Buffers 22749904896 bytes
Redo Buffers 84033536 bytes

Make sure your DBID is set. The DBID can be found when connecting to RMAN.

connected to target database: ISR (DBID=2637695581)

RMAN> set DBID 2637695581

```
RMAN> run
  2> {
  3> ALLOCATE CHANNEL ch00 TYPE 'SBT_TAPE'
  4> restore controlfile from autobackup;
  5> }
```

allocated channel: ch00
channel ch00: SID=468 instance=isr1 device type=SBT_TAPE
channel ch00: Oracle Secure Backup

Starting restore at 18-JUL-13

channel ch00: looking for AUTOBACKUP on day: 20130718
channel ch00: AUTOBACKUP found: c-2637695581-20130718-00
channel ch00: restoring controlfile from AUTOBACKUP c-2637695581-20130718-00
channel ch00: controlfile restore from AUTOBACKUP complete
output file name=+DATA/isr/control01.ctl
Finished restore at 18-JUL-13
released channel: ch00

RMAN> alter database mount;

database mounted

Also login to hamms2 and run startup mount; so you can open a channel on hamms2 for a parallel restore

```
RMAN> run
  2> {
  3> SET AUTOLOCATE ON;
  4> ALLOCATE CHANNEL ch00 TYPE 'SBT_TAPE' CONNECT='sys/welcome1@isr1';
  5> ALLOCATE CHANNEL ch01 TYPE 'SBT_TAPE' CONNECT='sys/welcome1@isr2';
  6> restore database;
  7> }
```

executing command: SET autolocate

allocated channel: ch00
channel ch00: SID=921 instance=isr1 device type=SBT_TAPE
channel ch00: Oracle Secure Backup

allocated channel: ch01

channel ch01: SID=922 instance=isr2 device type=SBT_TAPE
channel ch01: Oracle Secure Backup

Starting restore at 18-JUL-13
Starting implicit crosscheck backup at 18-JUL-13
Crosschecked 1 objects
Finished implicit crosscheck backup at 18-JUL-13

Starting implicit crosscheck copy at 18-JUL-13
Finished implicit crosscheck copy at 18-JUL-13

searching for all files in the recovery area
cataloging files...
cataloging done

List of Cataloged Files

=====

File Name: +reco/ISR/ARCHIVELOG/2013_07_18/thread_1_seq_46.334.782136425

channel ch00: starting datafile backup set restore
channel ch00: specifying datafile(s) to restore from backup set
channel ch00: restoring datafile 00002 to +DATA/isr/datafile/sysaux.298.779819079
channel ch00: restoring datafile 00004 to +DATA/isr/datafile/undotbs2.299.779819079
channel ch00: restoring datafile 00005 to +DATA/isr/datafile/users.297.779815503
channel ch00: restoring datafile 00006 to +DATA/isr/card.dbf
channel ch00: restoring datafile 00008 to +DATA/isr/card2.dbf
channel ch00: restoring datafile 00010 to +DATA/isr/card4.dbf
channel ch00: restoring datafile 00012 to +DATA/isr/card6.dbf
channel ch00: restoring datafile 00014 to +DATA/isr/card8.dbf
channel ch00: restoring datafile 00016 to +DATA/isr/card10.dbf
channel ch00: restoring datafile 00018 to +DATA/isr/card12.dbf
channel ch00: restoring datafile 00020 to +DATA/isr/card14.dbf
channel ch00: restoring datafile 00022 to +DATA/isr/card16.dbf
channel ch00: restoring datafile 00024 to +DATA/isr/card18.dbf
channel ch00: restoring datafile 00026 to +DATA/isr/card20.dbf
channel ch00: restoring datafile 00028 to +DATA/isr/card22.dbf
channel ch00: restoring datafile 00030 to +DATA/isr/card24.dbf
channel ch00: restoring datafile 00032 to +DATA/isr/card26.dbf
channel ch00: restoring datafile 00034 to +DATA/isr/card28.dbf
channel ch00: reading from backup piece efn9smuj_1_1
channel ch01: starting datafile backup set restore
channel ch01: specifying datafile(s) to restore from backup set
channel ch01: restoring datafile 00001 to +DATA/isr/datafile/system.295.779815401
channel ch01: restoring datafile 00003 to +DATA/isr/datafile/undotbs1.296.779815475
channel ch01: restoring datafile 00007 to +DATA/isr/card1.dbf
channel ch01: restoring datafile 00009 to +DATA/isr/card3.dbf
channel ch01: restoring datafile 00011 to +DATA/isr/card5.dbf
channel ch01: restoring datafile 00013 to +DATA/isr/card7.dbf
channel ch01: restoring datafile 00015 to +DATA/isr/card9.dbf
channel ch01: restoring datafile 00017 to +DATA/isr/card11.dbf
channel ch01: restoring datafile 00019 to +DATA/isr/card13.dbf
channel ch01: restoring datafile 00021 to +DATA/isr/card15.dbf
channel ch01: restoring datafile 00023 to +DATA/isr/card17.dbf

```

channel ch01: restoring datafile 00025 to +DATA/isr/card19.dbf
channel ch01: restoring datafile 00027 to +DATA/isr/card21.dbf
channel ch01: restoring datafile 00029 to +DATA/isr/card23.dbf
channel ch01: restoring datafile 00031 to +DATA/isr/card25.dbf
channel ch01: restoring datafile 00033 to +DATA/isr/card27.dbf
channel ch01: restoring datafile 00035 to +DATA/isr/card29.dbf
channel ch01: restoring datafile 00036 to +DATA/isr/card30.dbf
channel ch01: reading from backup piece een9smuu_1_1
channel ch00: piece handle=efn9smuj_1_1 tag=TAG20130718T102222
channel ch00: restored backup piece 1
channel ch00: restore complete, elapsed time: 00:33:37
channel ch01: piece handle=een9smuu_1_1 tag=TAG20130718T102222
channel ch01: restored backup piece 1
channel ch01: restore complete, elapsed time: 00:34:57
Finished restore at 18-JUL-13
released channel: ch00
released channel: ch01

```

```

RMAN> run
  2> {
  3> SET AUTOLOCATE ON;
  4> ALLOCATE CHANNEL ch00 TYPE 'SBT_TAPE' CONNECT='sys/welcome1@isr1';
  5> ALLOCATE CHANNEL ch01 TYPE 'SBT_TAPE' CONNECT='sys/welcome1@isr22';
  6> recover database;
  7> }

```

executing command: SET autolocate

```

allocated channel: ch00
channel ch00: SID=921 instance=isr1 device type=SBT_TAPE
channel ch00: Oracle Secure Backup

```

```

allocated channel: ch01
channel ch01: SID=922 instance=isr2 device type=SBT_TAPE
channel ch01: Oracle Secure Backup

```

Starting recover at 08-JUL-13

starting media recovery

```

archived log for thread 1 with sequence 45 is already on disk as file
+RECO/isr/archivelog/2013_07_18/thread_1_seq_45.332.782133169
archived log for thread 1 with sequence 46 is already on disk as file
+RECO/isr/archivelog/2013_07_18/thread_1_seq_46.334.782136425
archived log for thread 2 with sequence 48 is already on disk as file
+RECO/isr/archivelog/2013_07_18/thread_2_seq_48.333.782133161
archived log for thread 2 with sequence 49 is already on disk as file
+REDO/isr/onlineolog/group_3.262.779880941
archived log file name=+RECO/isr/archivelog/2013_07_18/thread_1_seq_45.332.782133169 thread=1
sequence=45
archived log file name=+RECO/isr/archivelog/2013_07_18/thread_2_seq_48.333.782133161 thread=2
sequence=48
archived log file name=+RECO/isr/archivelog/2013_07_18/thread_1_seq_46.334.782136425 thread=1
sequence=46

```

```

archived log file name=+REDO/isr/onlinelog/group_3.262.779880941 thread=2 sequence=49
Finished recover at 18-JUL-13
released channel: ch00
released channel: ch01

```

```

RMAN> alter database open resetlogs;

```

```

database opened

```

```

RMAN>

```

****Also login to hamms2 and run alter database open; to bring the 2nd instance back online****

Private Network Configuration

The Oracle Secure Backup configuration in this paper utilized the public network interface for the database backup traffic. It is a perfectly valid configuration as you may have idle time overnight to execute a database backup. However, depending on your organization's backup requirements, it may be necessary to offload backup traffic to one of the other interfaces on the Oracle Database Appliance (Ex. alleviate traffic on the public network, faster backup time required, etc.). The following example details how to setup NetBackup to use a 10GbE bonded interface for database backups.

OS Setup

First you must configure the 10GbE HBA cards on the Administrative/Media server, and each of the database nodes. For this example, assume you have configured the following host names and IP addresses for the Administrative/Media Server and the database nodes:

```

192.168.20.100 hamms1-xbond0
192.168.20.101 hamms2-xbond0
192.168.20.102 xman2-xbond0

```

If the hostnames are not in the DNS map, or other naming service map, they must be in the local hosts file on each of the servers in the configuration (xman2, hamms1, and hamms2).

Configure Preferred Network Interfaces for Media Servers

Disable ipv6

For the Preferred Network Interface (PNI) to work properly you may need to disable the ipv6 interface. Only perform these steps if you are encountering a situation where backup data is being transferred across the wrong interface.

1. Modify the /etc/sysctl.conf file to add the following lines:

```

#disable ipv6
net.ipv6.conf.all.disable_ipv6 = 1
net.ipv6.conf.all.auto_conf = 0
net.ipv6.conf.default.disable_ipv6 = 1
net.ipv6.conf.default.auto_conf = 0
net.ipv6.conf.lo.disable_ipv6 = 1
net.ipv6.conf.lo.auto_conf = 0

```

2. Reboot the system.
3. Validate that ifconfig command output does NOT contain any "inet6 addr:" lines - for example

Good output:

```
[root@xman2 etc]# ifconfig xbond0
xbond0  Link encap:Ethernet HWaddr 00:1B:21:C4:29:3C
        inet addr:192.168.20.102 Bcast:192.168.20.255 Mask:255.255.255.0
        UP BROADCAST RUNNING MASTER MULTICAST MTU:1500 Metric:1
        RX packets:6826620 errors:0 dropped:0 overruns:0 frame:0
        TX packets:39671 errors:0 dropped:0 overruns:0 carrier:0
        collisions:0 txqueuelen:0
        RX bytes:10330269896 (9.6 GiB) TX bytes:2622045 (2.5 MiB)
```

Invalid output:

```
[root@hamms2 ~]# ifconfig xbond0
xbond0  Link encap:Ethernet HWaddr 00:1B:21:93:33:A0
        inet addr:192.168.20.101 Bcast:192.168.20.255 Mask:255.255.255.0
        inet6 addr: fe80::21b:21ff:fe93:33a0/64 Scope:Link
        UP BROADCAST RUNNING MASTER MULTICAST MTU:1500 Metric:1
        RX packets:6845 errors:0 dropped:0 overruns:0 frame:0
        TX packets:1658166 errors:0 dropped:0 overruns:0 carrier:0
        collisions:0 txqueuelen:0
        RX bytes:452625 (442.0 KiB) TX bytes:2509638263 (2.3 GiB)
```

Configure PNI in Oracle Secure Backup

Private network configuration in Oracle Secure Backup is achieved via the Preferred Network Interfaces (PNI) setup at the host level.

To configure PNI, navigate to **Configure->Hosts**, select xman2 from the list of hosts and click **Edit**. Add the IP of the second interface for the 10GbE network separated by a coma. Click **Apply** to save (see figure 19).

ORACLE
SECURE BACKUP

[Help](#) [Logout](#) [Preferences](#) [About](#)

Home **Configure** Manage Backup Restore

Configure: Hosts > xman2

Apply OK Cancel Preferred Network Interfaces

Host xman2	
IP interface name(s):	10.80.23.184,192.168.20.102
Status:	in service
Roles:	client admin mediaserver
Encryption:	<input type="radio"/> required <input checked="" type="radio"/> allowed
Algorithm:	<input type="radio"/> aes128 <input checked="" type="radio"/> aes192 <input type="radio"/> aes256
Rekey frequency:	<input checked="" type="radio"/> duration 1 month <input type="radio"/> never <input type="radio"/> system default <input type="radio"/> per backup
Key type:	<input checked="" type="radio"/> transparent <input type="radio"/> use passphrase <input type="text"/> verify passphrase <input type="text"/>
Certificate key size (in bits):	1024
Access method:	ob
Disable RDS:	<input type="radio"/> yes <input type="radio"/> no <input checked="" type="radio"/> system default
TCP/IP buffer size:	<input type="text"/> bytes
<input type="checkbox"/> Suppress communication with host	

Apply OK Cancel Preferred Network Interfaces

Figure 19: Oracle Secure Backup Hosts configuration showing Preferred Network Interfaces button and 2nd IP address added.

After you click the **Apply** button, click on the **Preferred Network Interfaces** button. Then, select the IP for your 10GbE interface and highlight the Clients to be backed up (see figure 20):

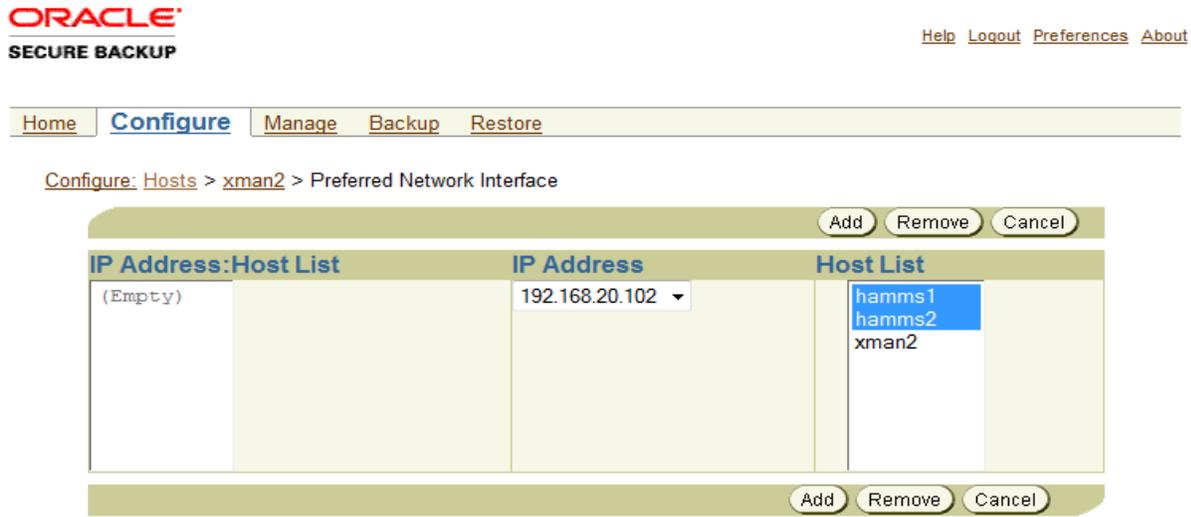


Figure 20: Oracle Secure Backup Preferred Network Interface screen prior to adding the preferred interface.

Click **Add** and the screen should look as follows (see figure 21):

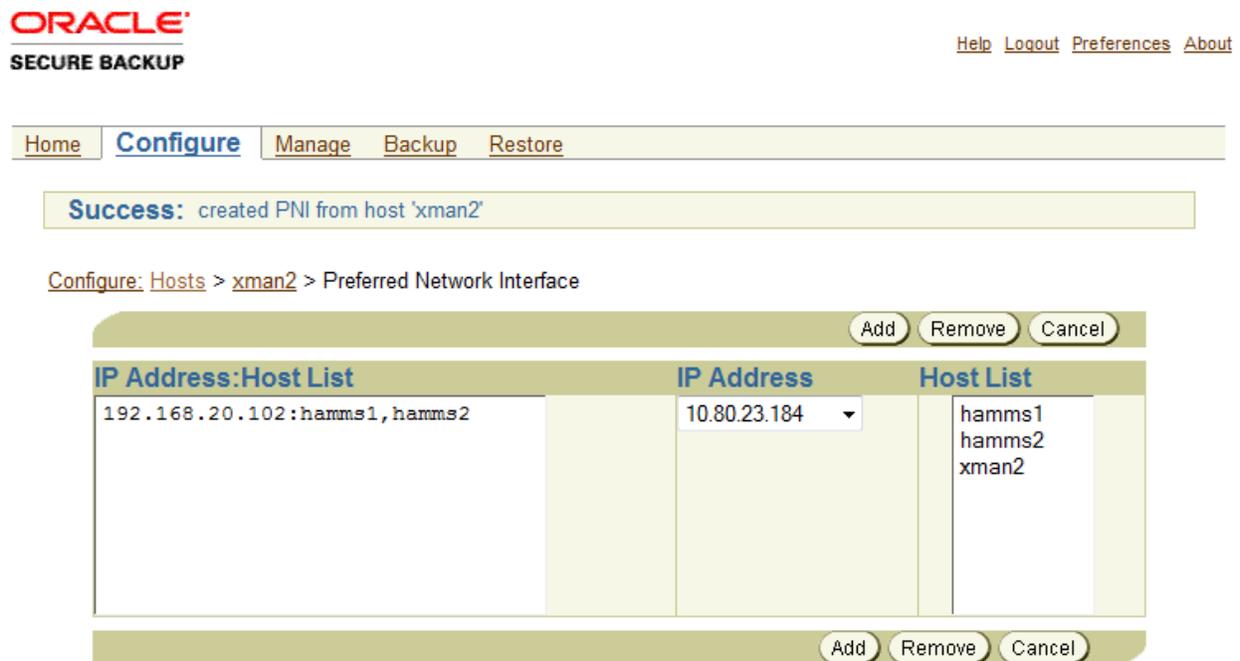


Figure 21: Oracle Secure Backup Preferred Network Interface screen following the addition of the preferred interface.

After the Preferred Network Interface is configured, private network backup setup is complete and all other operations work normally.

Recommended tuning by tape drive

In order to achieve optimal performance, tape settings in Oracle Secure Backup must be tuned for your environment. Oracle Secure Backup tape drive tuning consists of modifying the block size that gets written to tape, enabling direct I/O if running on Linux and enabling tape drive compression.

Set Blocking Factor and Max Blocking Factor

There are two settings available for block size setup in Oracle Secure Backup - Blocking Factor and Max Blocking Factor. The best description of these settings is found in the Oracle Secure Backup Administrator's Guide:

"The block size of a block of data is the size of the block in bytes as it was written to tape. All blocks read or written during a given backup or restore operation have the same block size. The blocking factor of a block of data expresses the number of 512-byte records that are contained in that block. So, for example, the Oracle Secure Backup default blocking factor (128) results in a tape block size of 128*512 bytes or 64KB. The maximum blocking factor is an upper limit on the blocking factor that Oracle Secure Backup uses. This limit comes into play particularly during restores, when Oracle Secure Backup must pick an initial block size to use without knowing the actual block size on the tape. The maximum blocking factor limits this initial block size to a value that is acceptable to both the tape device and the underlying operating system."

To configure block sizes, open the Oracle Secure Backup GUI and navigate to **Configure->Defaults & Policies->Media**. Modify the **Blocking factor** and **Max blocking factor** settings to adjust the block size written to tape. This example uses a 1MB block size (Default block size of 128 512 byte records = 64K X 32 = 2048 for 1MB – (see figure 22):

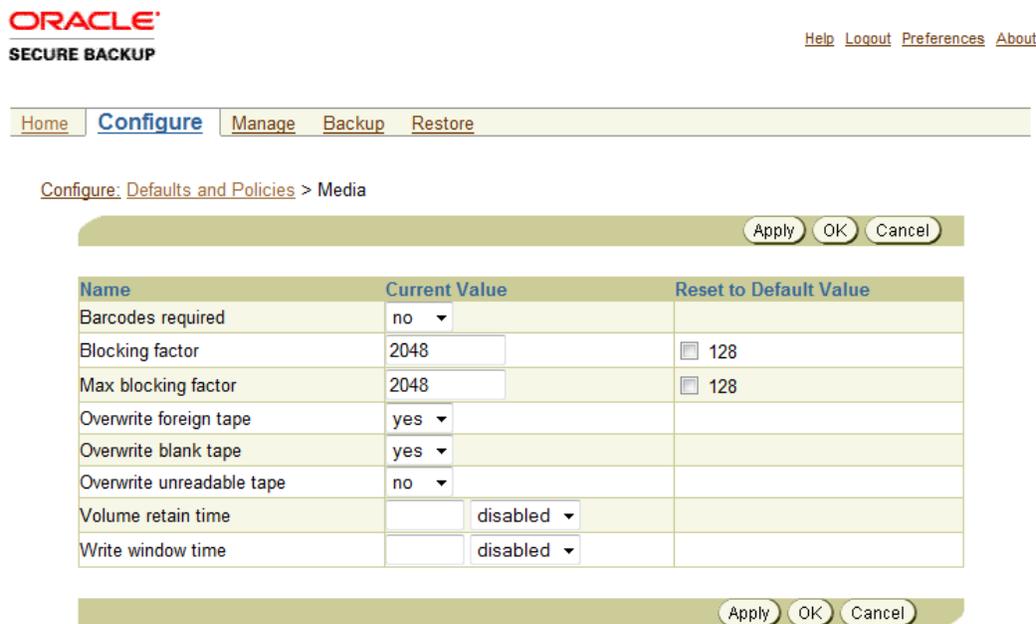


Figure 22: Oracle Secure Backup Media screen with block setting changes.

Direct I/O

On systems running Linux, Oracle Secure Backup is able to take advantage of Direct I/O to achieve faster backup speeds. Direct I/O eliminates a memory copy of data going to a device such as a tape drive thereby increasing performance. To enable Direct I/O execute the following commands as the root user:

```
# echo 1 > /proc/scsi/sg/allow_dio
# touch /usr/local/oracle/backup/device/enable_dio
```

Note: The /proc/scsi/sg/allow_dio file does not survive reboots. Setup an /etc/rc#.d script to ensure it gets set during boot.

Hardware Compression

By default most tape drives have compression enabled, and it is recommended to compress at the tape drive level. You can experiment with compression using RMAN, but if you opt to enable compression at a different layer of the backup architecture you must disable tape drive compression to avoid doubling compression, which can result in larger backups and slower transfer rates.

The table below shows the transfer rates achieved in the test environments following tuning.

**TABLE 2.PERFORMANCE STATISTICS ORACLE DATABASE
APPLIANCE V1 (TESTS RUN ON X4170 M2 MEDIA SERVER)**

DRIVE TYPE	BLOCKING FACTOR	INTERFACE	AVERAGE BACKUP TRANSFER RATE PER TAPE DRIVE WITH HARDWARE COMPRESSION
LTO5	2048	10GbE	268 MBs
LTO5	2048	GbE	55 MBs

**TABLE 3.PERFORMANCE STATISTICS ORACLE DATABASE
APPLIANCE X3-2 (TESTS RUN ON X3-2 MEDIA SERVER)**

DRIVE TYPE	BLOCKING FACTOR	INTERFACE	AVERAGE BACKUP TRANSFER RATE PER TAPE DRIVE WITH HARDWARE COMPRESSION
LTO6	2048	10GbE	373 MBs

Note1: GbE not tested on Oracle Database Appliance X3-2 as it was verified on Oracle Database V1 that RMAN can easily saturate a GbE connection.

Note2: The limiting factor on a GbE interface with this configuration is the interface, not the tape drives. Each node can send up to 120Mbps per second through an interface (bond is active-passive), but the Master/Media can only consume 120MBs total as that is the capacity of the interface. If active-active bonding is configured, and/or more NICs or multiple Medias Servers are used, higher rates could be achieved, as the tape drives were not saturated.

Note3: All tests were run using the Bare Metal configuration (vs. Virtualized). Additionally, on Oracle Database Appliance X3-2 tests only one storage module was used.

Conclusion

In conclusion, Oracle StorageTek tape products offer cost effective data protection for the Oracle Database Appliance and, when combined with Oracle Secure Backup, provide an end to end solution fully supported by one vendor – Oracle.

Additional Resources

The following links include the setup information referenced in this document.

- [Oracle Secure Backup Documentation](#)
- [Database Appliance Collateral](#)
- [RMAN Documentation](#)



Protecting Oracle Database Appliance -Tape
Backup with Oracle Secure Backup
June 2014

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