

Snap and Clone Technology

In order to ensure continuity of business operations for any organization that suffers a data loss, VITA and Northrop Grumman through the Commonwealth IT infrastructure partnership has teamed up with EMC Corporation to provide point-in-time data duplication.

EMC snap and clone technology provides state agencies the ability to protect applications and server data through the replication, or cloning, of data.

How a Clone Works and When to Use It

Clone software provides complete replicas or clones of data for testing, backup and/or recovery operations. Point-in-time copies enable agencies to reduce the impact on production servers from tasks such as:

- Backup/recovery
- Application testing
- Warehousing
- Data movement
- Multiple database copy elimination/consolidation

Clones can be created of a logical unit number (LUN) mounted on one server. Or, the clone can be mounted to the original host and/or used to restore the original LUN to the point-in-time state when the clone was created.

Multiple clones of an original volume can be created either at the same point-in-time or at successive points in time. Up to eight clones can exist at one time.

Implementation Considerations

- Application data must be stored on the Tier 1 or Tier 2 enterprise storage area network (SAN) at the Commonwealth Enterprise Solutions Center (CESC) in Chester.
- Implementation of cloning requires installation of a replication manager agent and may require firewall rule changes.
- Completion of a work request short form is required prior to implementing clones.
- Cloned data requesting to be cloned resides on a discrete LUN attached to a server at the CESC.

Contact: Contact your VITA Customer Account Manager (CAM) or Agency Operations Manager (AOM) if you are interested in this service to begin the work request process.