

# Azure Site recovery case study

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Windows Azure

“Until recently, many small and midsize businesses (SMBs) could not afford disaster recovery (DR) solutions that would keep their businesses running if a disaster shut down their office

The Grid an IT provider in Melbourne uses Microsoft Azure Site Recovery to offer SMBs big-company disaster protection at small company prices.”

Nik Gelis

MD

## Customer Profile

An award winning Australian owned family run business that caters to B2B and B2C customers and provides quality, efficient, cost-effective solutions and excellence in customer service. They have external retail sites throughout metro Melbourne and one central head office/warehouse and data center.

## Business needs

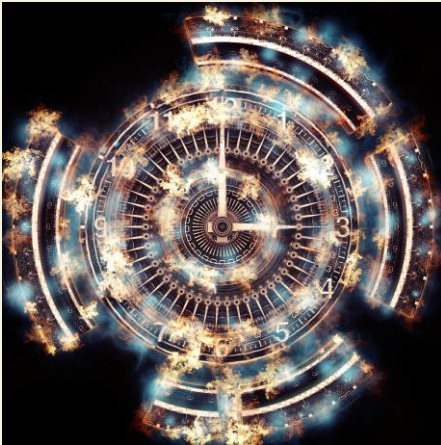
The business currently operates with three physical and seven virtual servers and have 200 PC users. They looked at but rejected the possibility of offsite disaster recovery through SAN replication as it was too expensive with \$95,000 spent on hardware and software that would only be used in the event of failure. The IT Manager decided to consult with The Grid on other possibilities for offsite disaster recovery. The Grids team met with the IT Manager and Finance Director to discuss their business’ needs and to gain an understanding of the impact of an IT outage.

After long consultation The Grid recommended Microsoft Azure Site Recovery, a solution so cost effective that the original budget will not be spent for almost seven years and it will always be up to date. Plus, there is no need to travel for maintenance between sites. Microsoft Azure Site Recovery is a cloud based disaster recovery option. Before Microsoft Azure recovering individual or all of your servers to an offsite location without problems or major costs would have been difficult to achieve. Microsoft Azure Site Recovery orchestrates and automates replication and failover to either Azure in the Cloud or a secondary site. Azure Site Recovery monitors the state of protected instances continuously and remotely from Azure. All communication with Azure is encrypted, and all the data is encrypted, even the data at-rest.

The Grid’s solution automates the orderly recovery of services to occur within minutes of a site outage at the primary data centre. Virtual machines can be brought up to help restore service quickly, even for complex multi-tier workloads operating the customer facing systems.

Recovery plans were simple to create through the Azure management portal, where they are stored. Software defined networking was a key part of the solution, as the existing network was mapped to the recovery site in Azure, allowing for automatic recovery. These recovery plans can now be tested on a regular basis, without disrupting the key services being used every day.





## Benefits

By adopting the Microsoft Azure backup and recovery solutions, this business has been able to deliver better protection for their critical business applications, reduce disaster recovery times and save on data protection costs.

By automating data protection with Microsoft Azure Backup and Recovery solutions, the business is no longer involved in the old tape rotation management nightmare.

The Grid is pleased that the end result has increased the safety of the customer's core business and reduced significant overhead costs.

## Contact Us

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## Site Recovery Environments

The Grid identified and met the specific objectives that were needed for the project to be successful, these included:

- The ability to replicate the virtual environment to Azure Site Recovery
- The ability to recover the entire environment to and from Azure Site Recovery
- Access to the business server in the Azure Site Recovery environment

Azure Recovery Services can protect a mixture of environments involving both physical and virtual machines. Businesses with on-premises, hybrid or cloud-based systems can use recovery services in the Microsoft Cloud and configure the disaster recovery plan to work with a backup site or data center.

Configurations examples include:

- Replicate on-premises VMware virtual servers to Azure or a backup site.
- Replicate Hyper-V machines in virtual machine manager clouds to Azure or a backup site. You can also replicate Hyper-V VMs (not managed by VMM) through Azure Recovery Services.
- Replicate physical servers running Windows or Linux to Azure or a backup site.
- Azure Site Recovery can also migrate Azure IaaS to other regions.

Contact Us to discuss your Technology Requirements.

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