

Virtualization Backup/Replication Solution Comparison:

PHD Virtual Backup & Replication vs Veeam Backup & Replication

Queries the following Comparison is trying to Answer:

PHD Virtual Backup & Replication v6 vs Veeam Backup & Replication v6.1

How does Veeam Backup compare to PHD Virtual Backup?

Advantages & Disadvantages of PHD Virtual & Veeam Replication Software.

What is better PHD Virtual or Veeam Backup & Replication? How?

Independent Unbiased Comparison Veeam Backup & Replication vs PHD Virtual Backup & Replication.

PHD Virtual Backup & Replication VS Veeam Backup & Replication Introduction:

If you have reached this page you are probably considering building a backup or disaster recovery for your current Virtual infrastructure, but still can't solve the puzzle of the solution or the vendor to use. If so you are at the right place, & we are here to help.

Virtualization has improved the reliability of the datacenter by introducing many availability and fault tolerance features, but that does not mean you can skip taking backup & building a proper disaster recovery. While enterprise backup & disaster recovery solutions that were used with your physical setup prior to virtualizing might still work after virtualizing, in most cases they are less than optimum. To embrace the benefits of virtualization to the max, you will need a virtualization aware backup & disaster recovery solution. In this comparison we will compare two well known Virtualization aware Backup/Replication solutions. More comparisons to follow!

In this comparison we will compare the two well known backup & replication products PHD Virtual Backup & Replication & Veeam Backup & Replication which is designed to build a reliable backup & DR for your vSphere infrastructure. We will cover other solutions in the future including ones which depend on storage replication. This comparison was based on PHD Virtual Backup & Replication V6 & Veeam Backup & Replication V6.1.

Feature	PHD Virtual Backup & Replication	Veeam Backup & Replication
URL	PHDVirtual.com	Veeam.com
ITComparison Team Comments PHDVirtual vs Veeam	Both companies have backup/replication solutions for virtual infrastructures as their main focus. Both of them are award winners in many different occasions including VMworld and worth considering.	
Compatibility vSphere 4 vSphere 4.1 vSphere 5 Free ESXi Citrix Xen Server Hyper-V Thin Provisioned disk	Supported Supported Supported Not Supported Supported Not Supported Supported	Supported Supported Supported Not Supported Not Supported Supported Supported
ITComparison Team Comments PHD Virtual vs Veeam	<p>If you are an only VMware workshop, then both PHD Virtual Backup & Replication v6 as well Veeam Backup & Replication v6.1 have done quite well on supporting the latest versions of vSphere(4/4.1/5). You could not go wrong on either, if all you care for is vSphere support. Though if you have Hyper-V or Citrix Xen Servers in your environment then your choice will be limited by which product support your environment, as Veeam does not support Citrix Xen & PHD Virtual does not support Hyper-V. That's might be something to consider if you are planning to introduce Hyper-V or Citrix into your environment.</p> <p>Neither Veeam Backup & Replication nor PHD Virtual Backup & replication support the free VMware ESXi due to restriction imposed by VMware. This was mentioned to ensure if that all you are running, then you might have to consider upgrading your vSphere license before benefiting of either solution.</p> <p>Both products work pretty well with Thin Provisioned disks in vSphere which can save you a ton on backup disk space as well speed up your backup and restore time.</p>	
Installation Easiness	Great+	Great

Usage Easiness	Great	Great
VSS Integration	Yes	Yes
ITComparison Team Comments	<p>All of us were able to install each product with ease and get it up and running within 10 minutes. . We give PHDVirtual an extra point for deploying their software as a virtual appliance, unlike Veeam who kept up with the traditional install. We believe installing such applications as an appliance is more future looking, than traditional method as it easy installation & management as well cut on the OS licensing cost.</p> <p>Both products were quite easy to use and have a slick interface where you can guess most of it without the need to revert back to the manual.</p> <p>Both products support application consistent backup with the help of VSS, and quite good at it. Further, both allow you to instant restore a particular MS SQL table or MS Exchange item, without the need to restore your backup. Though the way they do it is a bit different. While PHDVirtual let you assign the VM as an iSCSI drive on your production VM and use that to restore the required item, Veeam has done more on the integration and came up with a full restore wizard which does not involve your production VM at all. We believe the way Veeam has done it is quite neat for the applications they support, though the way its done in PHD Virtual will allow you to use the same trick with all kind of applications.</p>	
PHD Virtual vs Veeam		
VADP Integration	Yes	Yes
File level restore	Yes	Yes
Instant VM Recovery	Yes	Yes
Backup Verification	Yes	Yes
ITComparison Team Comments	<p>Both products offer a unique features that distinguish them from other backup solutions in the market. The first one is Instant VM Recovery which allow them to run VMs from backup without restoring it, & Backup verification which help you ensure having a verified working backup without having to restore it.</p> <p>Further, both products allow you to move that VM from backup to production with zero downtime using Storage VMotion if included within your vSphere backup, else you can use the built in migration feature that come with each product, but that require few seconds of downtime while doing the final switching which you can control when to be done.</p> <p>One advantage Veeam Backup & replication has in this area that it allow you to use instant restore with incremental backups. On the other hand PHD Virtual support it on any "virtual full" backup, but not on Full / Incremental mode.</p>	
PHDVirtual v6 vs Veeam v6.1		

Data Encryption in transit	Yes	Yes
Data Encryption at backup destination	Yes	No
Secure Replication	Yes	Yes
ITComparison Team Comments Veeam Backup vs PHD Virtual Backup	For those environments where security is top priority and backup data must be encrypted at all stages, PHD Virtual Backup & Replication is the battle winner. Although both products offer data encryption for the data while in transit for both backup & replication, only PHD Virtual Backup & Replication offer backup data encryption at the final destination.	
Backup Speed		
Full Backup	Fast	A bit Faster
Incremental Backup	A bit Faster	Fast
ITComparison Team Comments Veeam Replication vs PHD Virtual Replication	Although most of us were surprised by the results at the first glance after repeating it a couple of time and sharing our lab results across the team, the results were consistent that Veeam were able to do the full initial backup about 10% faster than PHD Virtual where PHD Virtual were as well about 10-15% faster when doing additional incremental. Though both products were adequately fast and the transfer rate was almost as fast as the network wire its transferring over.	
Deduplication	Yes	Yes
ITComparison Team Comments Veeam Backup & Replication vs PHD Virtual Backup & Replication	Both products included dedupe capability and deliver great backup disk space saving. We were able to obtain a dedupe ratio as high of 1:15. Our testing was done with several Windows 2003/2008 VMs 50GB in size and about 20GB of data in them. Though your mileage could vary depending on how unique is the data between your vms. Further PHD Virtual dedupe across all the VMs on a target, where Veeam dedupes across VMs only within a job. This get PHD Virtual dedupes to be more efficient when duplicate data exist across multiple jobs.	
Integrated Replication Solution.	Yes	Yes
ITComparison Team Comments	Both Veeam & PHD Virtual have replication capabilities integrated within in the same product, which make them a 2-in-1 type of product where you get replication and backup for a single price in a single integrated package which is very handy.	

Replication Speed		
Initial Replication	Fast	bit faster
Increment Replication	bit faster	fast
ITComparison Team Comments PHDVirtual vs Veeam	Testing the replication speed we had a very similar results to the backup speed test, where Veeam did a bit better on the initial replication run and PHD Virtual did a bit better on the increment replications.	
Notification by e-mail, GUI,Event Log	Yes	Yes
File level restore from replica	Yes	Yes
Replica rollback	Yes	Yes
ITComparison Team Comments Veeam vs PHD	If one replication feature that we like about both products over other replication solutions out there, replica rollback must be it. As this will even protect you against major virus attack & data corruption in the main site. If you can't roll back to an earlier copy of your replication then if your last replica is corrupt you are out of luck. The good news both products support this feature.	
SnapShot support	Yes	Yes
Backup while replicating.	Supported	Supported
ITComparison Team Comments	Backing up VMs while a snapshot exist or backing up while replicating used to be one of the most common challenges with earlier vSphere backup/replication solutions, though both PHDVirtual & Veeam have passed the tests in our lab.	
Cost	~\$1000 per host	~\$599-899 per Socket
ITComparison Team Comments PHDVirtual vs Veeam	It seems PHD Virtual backup and replication is the winner on cost with a lower price for hosts equipped with 2 CPUs or more. Further, being priced per host, can save you when trying to backup those larger ESXi hosts in your environment (4CPUs/8CPUs) hosts. If you have those enterprise environment hosts in your environment, then PHDVirtual might be a much more cost effective in your case.	

Other Related Comparisons:

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[VMware ESXi vs Microsoft Hyper-V Server 2008.](#)

[Xen Server Enterprise VS VMware Virtual Infrastructure 3](#)

[Microsoft Virtual Server 2005 R2 VS Xen Server Enterprise](#)

[Microsoft Virtual Server 2005 R2 VS VMware Virtual Infrastructure 3](#)

Veeam backup & Replication vs PHD Virtual Backup & Replication Blog Post:

We have done our best in comparing the two products & tried to keep it real as much as possible. In addition, we are opening a space to everyone to share their thoughts & let us know of anything we had missed in our comparison by opening a post at our blog where people can comment back with their thoughts. We welcome everyone thoughts even both vendors, as long they can stand behind it and prove it. We have our own lab setups, where we will validate every contribution. Our blog post can be found at:

[PHD Virtual Backup & Replication vs Veeam Backup & Replication Blog Post](#)

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