The benefits of Veeam over SaaS vendors for protection of Microsoft Office 365

Most SaaS-based backup vendors can protect Microsoft Office 365, and although they may provide benefits such as simplicity of deployment and management, they do not offer the flexibility or functionality necessary to tailor data protection to your particular business needs.

The shortcomings of SaaS vendors must be considered carefully as they can often outweigh their benefits. Their major shortcomings include:

- **Vendor lock-in.** High dependency on SaaS vendors, as customers rarely get to choose the cloud provider and must typically store their backups in SaaS vendors' own cloud account. Additionally, SaaS vendors rarely let customers change their backup location or cloud platform, and hardly ever enable customers to migrate backups off their cloud either. So, customers cannot change their backup strategy and must keep paying SaaS vendors, as customers lose access to their backup the moment they stop paying.
- **Inflexible backup.** Backup frequency cannot be tailored to customers' particular RPO needs. SaaS vendors may prevent customers from delivering the right level of protection to their different users, as they rarely enable customers to set up more than a single backup schedule per Microsoft Office 365 organization and offer limited options for customers to customize their backup schedule.
- **Inflexible recovery.** Limited ability to minimize downtime after data loss, as customers may not be able to recover data exactly as needed by their business, due to limited recovery options. SaaS vendors recover data to Microsoft Office 365 only, sometimes only to its original Microsoft Office 365 location (no recovery to on-premises), and they rarely offer alternate restore options.
- **Poor disaster recovery.** Inability to minimize downtime after a disaster, due to the labor-intensive and time-consuming recovery operations. SaaS vendors may make it difficult to find specific items in large backup sets, due to their basic search filters and typical inability to search across users or sites. Moreover, recovering large amounts of data with SaaS vendors causes a lot of manual work, as Administrators must typically restore data one user at a time (typically no ability to recover multiple users in a single restore job).

Veeam, a flexible and powerful protection for Microsoft Office 365 data

To appreciate the limitations of SaaS vendors, it helps to understand the benefits that Veeam® can bring to your environment. Veeam offers:

- **Freedom.** Choose the deployment that best fits your business needs and change it when needed with serenity. Veeam gives you full control over your data location, as you can store backup wherever you want, whether on-premises on any hardware, in any cloud of your choice (many cloud providers supported), or at Service Providers (BaaS thanks to VCSP). Veeam also enables you to change your backup infrastructure over time to adapt to your changing IT strategy (change backup location, hardware type, or cloud).
- **Flexible backup.** Deliver the appropriate level of protection to different users according to the business value of their data. Veeam enables you to provide different levels of data protection to different users by setting up multiple backup policies per Microsoft Office 365 organization. Veeam also enables you to customize backup schedules, so to adjust backup frequency to your business needs - down to minutes for the most business-critical data. Thus, you can offer multiple policies with different RPO.
- **Flexible recovery.** Minimize business downtime, by recovering data in the way that makes most sense to your business at that moment, thanks to the broadest set of recovery options. Recover data exactly where you need it, whether it is to the original user or a different user, to Microsoft Office 365 or to on-premises, or in an alternate manner (i.e. via email).
- **Simple disaster recovery.** Recover from disaster with minimal downtime and minimal manual effort. Veeam makes it easy to find specific items buried in large sets of backup data thanks to advanced search capabilities across users and sites. Veeam also simplifies recovery of large environments thanks to bulk recoveries, which enable Administrators to recover data of multiple users in a single operation, instead of manually recovering users one by one.

The choice is clear

Do SaaS-based backup vendors offer the flexibility that you need to deploy data protection anyway you want, provide the appropriate level of protection to your different groups of users, recover data in the exact way needed by your business, or minimize downtime after a disaster? Veeam's modern software-defined backup solution provides the flexibility and advanced capabilities that you need to protect your Microsoft Office 365 data in the manner that best fits your business needs and IT, as well as recover data however you need to, no matter the situation.
See the simplicity and true power of Veeam for yourself. Download a trial or get a demo!