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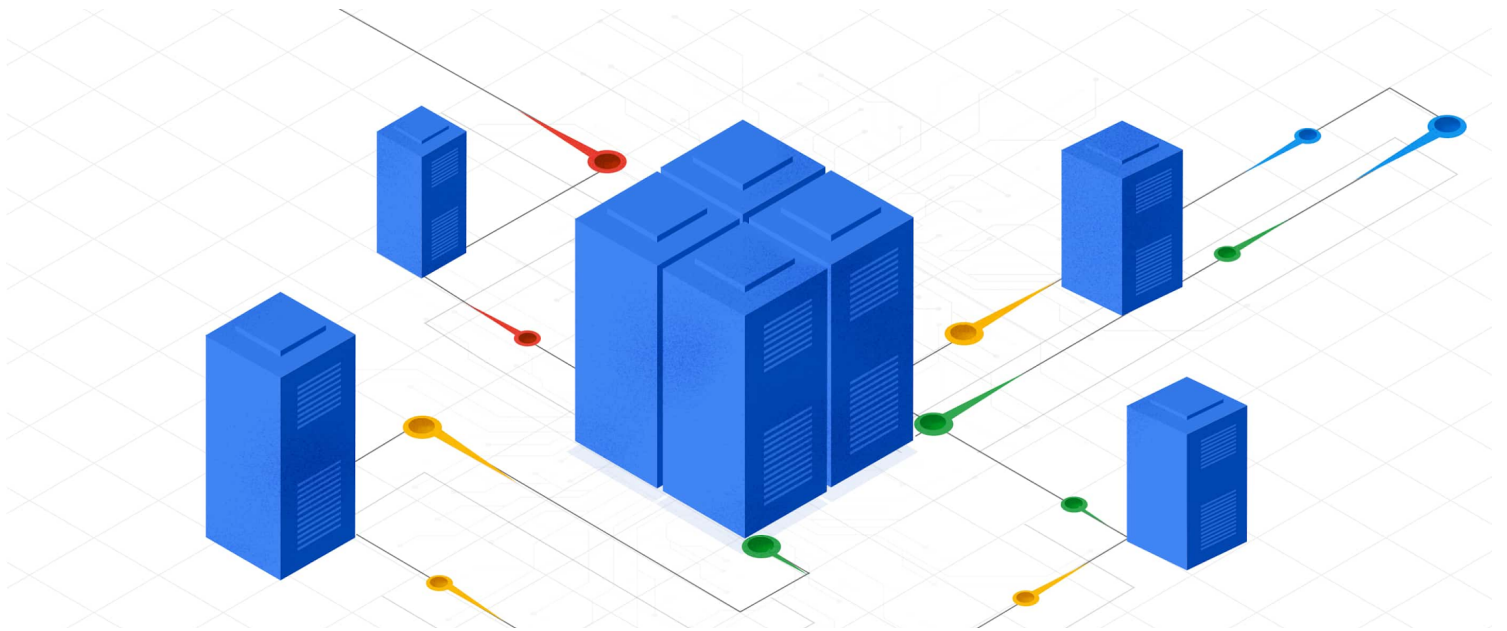Blog   Menu ⌄

STORAGE & DATA TRANSFER

Cloud storage data protection that fits your business

David Seidman

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There's not necessarily a one-size-fits-all answer, but there are some common scenarios,

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short-term protection with very fast rollback in case a maintenance event fails. For these workloads, the data does not need to be backed up offsite, and can often be in the same location as the source data to optimize for performance.

In addition, you may need backups to be stored only in specific regions to meet regulations or compliance requirements. But you still need to optimize for robust disaster recovery plans, including using multiple regions for backup or failover.

Another tradeoff we see is between synchronicity and physical separation and latency. There are plenty of mission-critical enterprise applications, such as databases, that may require zero recovery-point objective (RPO) synchronous data replication with physical separation. To meet this requirement, you may be willing to tolerate higher write latencies to achieve zero RPO.

Google Cloud meets these needs with a variety of Persistent Disk features. Persistent Disk is our high-performance block storage option that you can use with either Compute Engine or Google Kubernetes Engine (GKE). Note that disks and snapshots are always encrypted, and data is replicated multiple times to provide extraordinarily high durability. Here, we'll dive into three generally available features that help you meet backup and recovery needs in the way that works best for your business data.

Snapshot locality for Persistent Disk gives you more control
There are a number of scenarios that require precise location control of snapshots. Persistent Disk now offers granular control so you can select the snapshot location. This

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snapshot and target disk are in the same region, keeping RTO to a minimum. Learn how to select the storage location for a snapshot in [this documentation](#).

Scheduled snapshot for Persistent Disk makes snapshotting easier

Earlier this year, we launched scheduled snapshots for Persistent Disk with general availability, and we've heard some great success stories among beta and early access customers. The scheduled snapshot feature lets you initiate automated snapshots and manage snapshot retention. Previously, scheduling snapshots required custom automation to fit exact schedules, like hourly, daily, etc. This tool makes it fast and simple to configure snapshots on the schedule you need.

Scheduled snapshot retention policies also help minimize snapshot storage costs by ensuring that snapshots are automatically deleted when they are no longer needed. You can apply one snapshot resource policy to multiple disks, making it simple to set up backup and disaster recovery solutions for Compute Engine workloads.

To see this in action, check out the [GCP Developer Console](#) or the [scheduled snapshot documentation](#).

Regional Persistent Disk automatically replicates between zones

The general availability of Regional Persistent Disks provides block-level synchronous replication between two zones in the same region. This approach maximizes application availability without sacrificing consistency, which can add performance and peace of mind.

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adopting Regional Persistent Disk, you can choose whether to keep a hot-standby VM

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We're always working to meet your unique data protection needs. To give some of these features a try, log into the Google Cloud console or check out our free trial. Or visit the Cloud Storage page to learn about all of Google's cloud storage options.

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