



VFI for UNIX & LINUX

Bringing Intelligence to Backup and Recovery

It's really all about recovery, isn't it?

We all know that backups are important because no matter how well managed an IT center is, there are times when we need to depend on them to recover critical corporate information. But the process of backing up data has become cumbersome, expensive and time consuming. The amount of information we store today has increased tremendously, some even say at an exponential rate. And yet studies show that only 40% - 60% of the data we store is really needed for recovery. It may be easy to identify business critical applications, but it's much more difficult to identify each application's critical files.

Although replication or mirroring provides great availability protection, it doesn't really replace the need for backups to protect data from data corruption, human error and processing problems. Incremental backup techniques may minimize backup time, but there is a costly trade-off: a significant increase in restoration time, delaying your business recovery. And it's really all about recovery, isn't it?

VFI - The intelligent solution

VFI solves this problem by monitoring file activity in real-time, learning which of your many files are really needed to recover business critical applications. Applying the knowledge gained, it directs your backup utilities to copy only what's required for recovery, significantly reducing the backup workload.

VFI schedules and monitors backup operations, confirming successful completion. It provides informative backup status reporting that is easily accessible through its centralized server or remotely, using a convenient web interface. The product can even alert via e-mail of situations requiring your attention.

Leveraging your investment

Not just another backup utility, VFI enhances products you already own, including the most popular enterprise backup systems. VFI can also be used with replication technologies, reducing bandwidth consumption, minimizing redundant storage requirements, or minimizing charges from third-party service providers.

Managing your recovery

VFI manages recovery as well as backup, and can quickly get you back online using a tiered recovery approach. This feature permits the independent restoration of each application, enabling you to recover your most critical systems first. The less critical can be restored at your convenience.

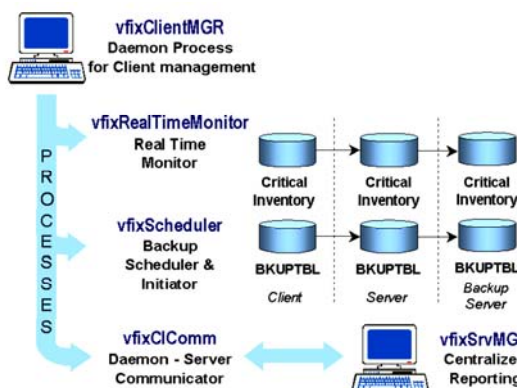
While most organizations use a common image to restore operating systems, each machine actually has its own unique configuration. VFI captures this information to assist you in the reconfiguration process during recovery.

Rich in features, rich in benefits

VFI provides immediate savings in time, resources and daily operating expense. VFI automates the backup and recovery process, reducing labor intensive activities and greatly minimizing human error. VFI provides a common enterprise approach and centralized control and monitoring of backup operations. VFI also aids in complying with the requirements of recent legislation such as HIPAA and Sarbanes-Oxley, not only meeting common data protection requirements, but also providing backup verification and audit reporting. But most importantly, VFI gives you the managed protection you need for your critical corporate data to quickly and easily resume normal business processing during a recovery situation.

How it works

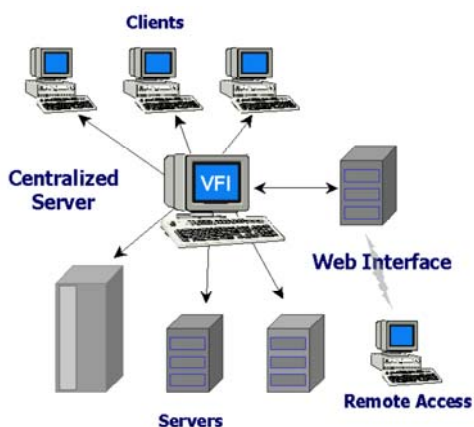
The heart of VFI is its client manager, initiated at system boot-up on each machine you wish to monitor. This daemon controls several related processes that together provide critical application file identification, backup scheduling and initiation, and communication with VFI's central server.



VFI's unique real time monitoring is enabled by a proprietary kernel extension that traps file activity critical to monitored processes. The client manager schedules and initiates the backup process using standard system utilities or third-party vendor products. Critical file and backup information is transmitted over the network to VFI's central server.

Centralized access

The central server collects real time monitoring data from each machine and provides consolidated backup status reporting for the entire network. Polling each client at user-defined intervals, web pages are created for easy access to reporting. Access security is controlled through user IDs and passwords and is accessible over the local or wide area network or via the Internet.



The VFI Product Family

VFI for UNIX and LINUX is the latest addition to 21st Century Software's renowned VFI Product Family in use by major corporations throughout the world. Easy to install and easy to use, VFI is an exceptional value that quickly pays for itself.

VFI assures recoverability ♦ saves time and money ♦ reduces backup media and handling ♦ automates backup operations ♦ minimizes human error ♦ integrates to popular enterprise backup tools ♦ captures and restores configuration files ♦ tracks backup status ♦ generates status and audit trail reporting ♦ provides centralized access ♦ accelerates business resumption ♦ aids compliance with HIPAA & Sarbanes-Oxley.

VFI currently supports UNIX, LINUX, OS/390 and z/OS platforms on SUN, HP, IBM and compatible systems.

21st Century Software, Inc.

Founded in 1992, 21st Century Software has been exclusively dedicated to providing data protection and recovery solutions for its customers. The VFI product family was first created in 1988 and grew from the need of organizations to identify and recover critical data. Since its inception, 21st Century Software has been driven by the directive that "customers do come first." Technical support is always available, 24 X 7 and our customers' complete satisfaction will always remain the primary responsibility of each of our staff.

Please visit our web site or contact us for more information about our products and services.

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