

ACHIEVING YOUR 2018 DATABASE GOALS THROUGH REPLICATION: REAL-WORLD MARKET INSIGHTS AND BEST PRACTICES

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In today's digital economy, a business can't afford to go down, even for a second.

Enterprises seek to base most, if not all, decision making on insights drawn from data, which means there is no margin for error if the flow of that data is ever disrupted. For that reason, just about every organization has turned to data replication as an essential tool within their availability and continuity strategies.

But keeping data highly available is no longer a simple matter of backing up one database with an up-to-the-second copy of another. Enterprise data environments are complex, with many sources and modes of computing. A hybrid data infrastructure calls for new approaches to data replication.

In December 2017, Unisphere Research fielded a study among the members of the Independent Oracle Users Group to examine the key challenges, priorities, and solutions being adopted by Oracle Database sites. This study, sponsored by Quest Software, includes the views and experiences of 285 IT decision makers, representing a fairly broad sample of company types and sizes.

At least half were from enterprises with 5,000 or more employees. Industries heavily represented in our survey include financial services, technology services and manufacturing, healthcare and government agencies. A demographic overview is available at the end of the report.

The survey found that databases continue to expand in size and complexity, while at the same time, more enterprises are turning to cloud-based resources to keep information highly available.

The key findings of the study include the following:

- With so much mission-critical data in today's databases, there's almost unanimous agreement that availability and performance are the most important services data shops can deliver. Big data keeps getting bigger, and growing faster by the year.
- No one wants to see databases go down, and when they do, the impact is spread all around—on customers and on business operations. Tellingly, the impact of downtime on data managers and administrators is also very personal for many.
- The survey examined the depth to which cloud computing is being adopted. Cloud is a key factor—and enabler—of enterprise data replication strategies going forward.
- Data replication is seen as a vital tool supporting infrastructure and data services by just about all enterprises. Disaster recovery is the most visible use case, but offloading workloads and supporting data integration are processes that are also facilitated through replication.

On the following pages are the detailed results and analysis of this effort.