Asigra Cloud Backup Evolved 14

Veteran data protection vendor Asigra beat out new and older competition with its Cloud Backup Evolved product, highlighted by its ability to shield backups from ransomware.

Paul Crocetti
TechTarget
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Gold winner in *Storage* magazine and SearchStorage's 2018 Products of the Year in backup and disaster recovery software and services category.

Asigra Cloud Backup Evolved 14 converges enterprise data protection and cybersecurity. It contains embedded malware engines in the backup and recovery stream to prevent ransomware from getting into backups. Those engines identify a virus, quarantine it and notify customers.

The product fights what Asigra deemed the "Attack-Loop," which is when ransomware infiltrates backups and stays dormant until data is recovered back to the network following an attack on primary storage.

Asigra, based in Toronto and founded in 1986, was an early innovator in data protection. It last made the winner's circle three years ago when its Cloud Backup 13 won silver in this category. Cyberdefense features in Asigra Cloud Backup include bidirectional malware detection, zero-day exploit protection, variable repository naming and two-factor authentication, according to the vendor.

Asigra Cloud Backup also enables compliance with several articles of the recently enacted GDPR, including a citizen's right to erasure. Other features include data protection for Office 365 Groups, a new management console with RESTful APIs, instant recovery and container-based deployment and protection.

Judges scored Asigra Cloud Backup Evolved far higher than any other product in this category, praising its innovation and functionality.

"Best data protection I have seen anywhere in preventing ransomware from infecting backups or erasing them," one judge wrote. "Very complete comprehensive data protection solution at a very low cost."

Another judge complimented Asigra's "top-level" ransomware defense and unique pricing that is based on usage, not protection. Asigra offers multiple pricing models. The least expensive is the Recovery License Model, which bills on a sliding scale. The higher the percentage of data recovered, the greater the per-gigabyte cost. The highest rate is 50 cents per gigabyte, per month for customers who recovered 25% of their data over the previous six months.

Asigra Cloud Backup requires backup hardware or networking or cloud infrastructure to operate. The vendor said its software adapts to available IT resources, but needs one or more storage repositories to hold backup data.

Data backup and recovery tools: 2018 Products of the Year finalists

The 2018 backup and disaster recovery software finalists feature new vendors in the competition along with established players. Many products offer comprehensive data protection.

Paul Crocetti
TechTarget
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The 12 finalists in the data backup and recovery tools and services category for *Storage* magazine and SearchStorage's 2018 Storage Products of the Year competition focus heavily on the cloud and reflect other major trends in the market.

Some of the biggest players in data backup and recovery tools are featured in the category this year. They're going up against a few newer vendors looking to make their mark. While some of the finalists offer complete data protection platforms, others showcase more targeted support, such as in archiving or Office 365 backup.

Cloud backup, recovery and management were key elements for 2018. Other recurring features include software-defined storage, Office 365 protection and detection of the ever-evolving threat of ransomware.

The data backup and recovery tools category includes backup and recovery software, cloud backup and recovery services, on-premises backup and disaster recovery, snapshots, replication and archiving.

Acronis Data Cloud
Acronis Data Cloud is a backup and DR platform that evolved from the veteran vendor's hybrid cloud backup product. Key features include file sync and share, AI-based ransomware technology, blockchain-fueled document certification (ASign) and Office 365 backup. The product offers protection across physical, virtual, cloud and mobile platforms.

Aparavi Active Archive
Aparavi Active Archive provides intelligent data management for unstructured data. The new vendor claims to search across all platforms and time, so customers do not have to know where data is or when it was stored. Active Archive offers multi-cloud mobility, advanced search based on metadata and patented data-pruning technology.

Asigra Cloud Backup Evolved 14
Version 14 of Asigra Cloud Backup software focuses on what the longtime vendor calls the ransomware "Attack-Loop," which infiltrates backups and stays dormant until data is recovered following an attack. Asigra integrates anti-ransomware technology in the data backup and restore streams and uses bi-directional malware detection. The data backup and recovery tool also features GDPR compliance tools and Office 365 data protection.

Best data storage products 2018: Products of the Year

Druva Cloud Platform
The Druva Cloud Platform provides unified data management services across endpoints, servers and cloud applications. The data backup and recovery tools vendor says it streamlines protection and removes the need for IT to separately manage the data. The completely cloud-architected platform scales on demand and provides backup and recovery management, auto tiering and global deduplication.

IBM Spectrum Protect Plus 10.1.2
IBM Spectrum Protect Plus 10.1.2 provides data protection and availability, simplifying recovery across VMs, files and databases. Features include snapshot and copy management for quick and efficient backups, instant recovery and data reuse for processes such as DevOps that uses backup data sets. This data backup and recovery tool integrates with IBM Spectrum Protect or works as a stand-alone platform.

Imanis Data Management Platform 4.0
Imanis provides data management for Hadoop and NoSQL databases. The Imanis Data Management Platform 4.0 features data protection, data orchestration and machine learning-powered automation that helps detect ransomware. Its SmartPolicies feature also uses machine learning to automatically set optimal backup policies.

Nasuni Archive
Nasuni Archive is a software-defined archiving platform that works with Nasuni Primary to automatically track file usage and reclassify inactive files to the lower cost Archive subscription. The Archive platform provides unlimited capacity without hardware upgrades, instant access to archived files from any location and multi-cloud support.

Quest Software QoreStor
Quest's new QoreStor is what the vendor calls a software-defined secondary storage platform that is backup vendor-agnostic. Features include enterprise-class compression and deduplication, direct cloud backup and remote replication for disaster recovery. QoreStor uses variable block deduplication and provides inline and source dedupe capabilities.

Rubrik Polaris Radar
Rubrik Polaris is a SaaS platform for data management. Polaris Radar's focus is on ransomware prevention, using machine learning to detect abnormal behavior and recover from an attack in just a few clicks, whether millions of VMs or one file is infected. Radar monitors all data on premises and in the cloud under management by Rubrik's Cloud Data Management platform.

Scale Computing HC3 Cloud Unity
Scale Computing's HC3 Cloud Unity provides data protection for on-premises virtualized workloads with replication to the cloud for recovery. The data backup and recovery tools vendor claims HC3 Cloud Unity creates seamless management between hyper-converged infrastructure and the Google Cloud Platform. It also includes a runbook to help execute a DR plan when needed.

Veeam Backup for Microsoft Office 365 2
Version 2 of Veeam's Backup for Microsoft Office 365 adds data protection for OneDrive for Business and SharePoint, in addition to its previous Exchange Online support. The vendor provides throttling

prevention that detects when a mailbox is going to overheat during a backup. Veeam claims its Backup for Microsoft Office 365 has been downloaded by 35,000 organizations.

Zerto IT Resilience Platform 6.0
The newly rebranded Zerto IT Resilience Platform converges backup, DR and cloud mobility, providing inter-cloud and intra-cloud protection. The platform, previously called Zerto Virtual Replication, offers automation and orchestration, continuous journal-based protection, visibility through analytics and enterprise-class scalability.

About Data2Vault
Data2Vault are a UK based Managed Service Provider offering a number of advanced, secure Data Protection services including Cloud backup & recovery, IT Disaster Recovery and offsite data archiving, all **Powered by Asigra.**

We protect one of the most critical business assets being created in 2019 and beyond, an organisations data. We add further levels of protection through a unique Data Loss Insurance product and, real-time Attack Loop Ransomware scanning of backup and recovery data

According the Business Continuity Institute Horizon Scan for 2019 Cyber Attacks that target data integrity have become the number 1 threat to organisational resilience, and with up to 65% of companies failing their annual recovery testing (Gartner); catastrophic outcomes await many organisations in a real IT Disaster Recovery scenario

We designed, built and operate the first Insured Data Environment, it minimises the residual risk of losing critical data assets, whatever the cause. Enabling Allianz to underwrite Data Insurance cover, starting at £1,000,000, for a low annual premium

Based on a near-identical service infrastructure to the Insured Data Environment, our agentless backup services can protect the data running in almost any physical and virtual Enterprise application, plus cloud and DevOps platforms including, but not limited to, Microsoft Exchange, SQL, Hyper V, VMWare, Oracle, Office365, Salesforce.com, Google, Azure, Amazon Web Services and Docker

When Ciaran Martin, Head of the National Cyber Security Centre announced in 2018 that organisations should prepare for a "When, not if" breach scenario, the reliable recovery of data became one the most critical Cyber Security controls that a business could have in place.

Data2Vault is a vendor in the London Digital Security Centre Marketplace and is a member of Digital Catapult, Cyber 101, a growth accelerator founded by DCMS

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