

## Instructions for Beta Testers

Thank you for trying out our BackupAssist 10 Beta! We need your help to test different environments, configurations, and scenarios for restores from Cloud Backups.

We've made considerable changes to Cloud backup and wish for this to be the main focus while using the BackupAssist v10 Beta.

We've already performed considerable testing of the software, but your systems "in the wild" can easily discover bugs that are difficult to find in the lab.

## Environments

The specific environments we need assistance in testing are:

- Microsoft Server 2016, Server 2012/R2, Server 2012, Server 2008/R2 and Server 2008
  - This includes the Hyper-V Server variants
  - Nano Server for Microsoft Server 2016 will *not* be supported by BackupAssist 10
- Windows 7, Windows 8, Windows 8.1 and Windows 10
  - 32-bit and 64-bit versions will both be supported.
  - Support for Professional, Enterprise and Ultimate versions only.

Note that some editions of Server Core currently have a known issue that prevents the BackupAssist console from starting.

Please let us know if you would like to test BackupAssist on Server Core and encounter this issue, and we can help you with a workaround.

## Backups

If you've already been using a BackupAssist 10 beta release, you will already have backups that can be used for test restores.

We recommend trying the core functionality in our fourth beta, even if you've tested this in the past. This is because we've made considerable changes that should improve the stability and overall experience of your restore tasks.

If you create different Cloud Backup jobs, you'll be able to test different types of restores. Here are some ideas on how to shake up your backup jobs:

1. Perform backups with large files, lots of small files, or of whole volumes.
2. Backup different file types. E.g. Documents, pictures, video files, zip files, etc.
3. Backup your whole C: Drive.
4. Backup Application Data (Using VSS writer selections)
5. Backup SQL Server Databases (Using VSS, not our SQL Continuous Add-on).
6. Backup Exchange Server Databases (Mailbox and Public Folder)
7. Backup Hyper-V Guests (Note that the backup of Guests hosted on CSV is not supported in the beta).

### Backups (Continued)

We've made sure your files are password protected, and there isn't any way they can be accessed without your knowledge. This means your files are fully secure when they are stored in the Cloud.

### Restore and Recovery

These are the restore and recovery jobs we would like you to test:

#### Using the Restore Tab

1. Restore Local and Network files, and files from inside of Hyper-V Guests.
  - o Try test restoring just one file, one directory, or all the files from a backup.
  - o Restore to specific locations, or to the original location.
  - o Try out the different options like Overwriting and Taking Ownership.
  - o It's worth noting the restore of files from Hyper-V Guests requires that the backup of guests were made using the Application selections, not just the files.
  - o Try out the new Cloud button in the Discover Backups popup to find and restore from Cloud Backups made on a different computer.
2. Restore Exchange Servers, SQL Servers, and perform Exchange Granular Restores (.edb)
  - o To do Exchange and SQL restores, you will need to have backed up databases by using Application selections, not just the files.
  - o Try removing a test database (after backing it up!) and then restoring it back again.
  - o Try restoring databases to a different server.
  - o Note that SQL point-in-time restores require backups made using the SQL Continuous add-on, and are not supported from Cloud Backup.

#### Using the Recover Tab

1. Full VM Recovery
  - o Requires backups of guest made using the Application selections, not just the VHDs.
  - o Try restoring a guest to a different Hyper-V server.
2. Note that Rapid VM Recovery is not supported from Cloud Backups.

### Dynamic Help

In the past, BackupAssist provided static help files that were packaged in with the software. These were not topic-sensitive, and would only be changed with each update.

The help in this newest version is context-sensitive and directs you to a live help depository, where you can find the answers you need.

### **Dynamic Help (Continued)**

We would like you to click on various help topics as you navigate through the product, and note down if any broken links, issues, or other observations you may have.

### **Thank You Again!**

Thank you for testing out our latest version of BackupAssist! We're certain your servers will benefit from it.