Overview of Microsoft Azure with Zerto Virtual Replication 5.0

With the release of Zerto Virtual Replication (ZVR) 5.0 Microsoft Azure is now supported as a target platform for Disaster Recovery as a Service (DRaaS) of your VMs and data. By utilizing ZVR 5.0 and Azure, the need to provision and manage your own disaster recovery site is removed altogether to enable significant cost savings. With enterprise-class features such as data loss in seconds, consistency groupings, recovery in minutes, no-impact failover testing, ZVR is the most powerful solution for DRaaS to Azure. This further extends the capabilities and platforms supported in the Zerto Cloud Continuity Platform™, giving organizations more freedom and choice to maintain resilience as your IT evolves and business needs change.

What makes ZVR for Azure so special?
ZVR 5.0 is the only solution that supports replication to Azure with the enterprise-class features required for scalable DR. Achieve RPOs in seconds, use Virtual Protection Groups (VPGs) for guaranteed consistency and recover files and VMs from increments in seconds to protect from logical failures or ransomware attacks, not just disasters. Both VMware vSphere and Microsoft Hyper-V environments are supported for replication to Azure and with ZVR being storage-agnostic, you have complete freedom from hypervisor or hardware lock-in.

What will I need?
In Azure deploy a Windows D3 v2 VM to install a Zerto Cloud Appliance (ZCA) which handles all of the replication and recovery orchestration in Azure. Site connectivity must be provisioned using a VPN gateway, virtual network or ExpressRoute from the on premise Zerto Virtual Manager (ZVM) and Virtual Replication Appliances (VRAs) to the ZCA over a minimum 5Mbps link. Nothing is required to be pre-installed in the protected VMs as Microsoft Azure drivers have been included in all Windows operating systems since Vista and Microsoft has a list of Linux OS supported in Azure.
How is the data stored?
Replica disks are stored as single page blobs and journal volumes are stored in multiple 16MB block blobs, which are cheaper than page blobs, in a dedicated storage account. A maximum 1TB disk size (the maximum page blob size) is supported, as are both the Windows and Linux OS versions.

Can I configure the recovery settings?
Virtual Protection Group recovery settings such as VM Virtual Network, Subnet, Instance family, Instance size, Network Security Group, and Private IP are pre-configured during VPG creation. All recovery setting selections are derived from the region of the paired recovery ZCA. Azure Resource Groups are automatically created per VPG for VMs upon recovery.

What about failback out of Azure?
Replication and failback out of Azure is planned for release in 2017, also enabling replication between Azure regions.

When can I get this?
ZVR 5.0 support for Microsoft Azure is planned to be available from November 2016.

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<tr>
<th>Feature</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tr>
<td>IT Resilience</td>
<td>Remove lock-in &amp; evolve IT with storage &amp; hypervisor-agnostic replication to Azure</td>
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<td>Simplicity</td>
<td>Single disaster recovery solution for VMware vSphere &amp; Microsoft Hyper-V</td>
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<td>Always-on</td>
<td>Data loss in seconds &amp; continuous replication of VM block-level changes with no snapshots</td>
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<td>Disaster Recovery</td>
<td>Achieve RTOs in minutes &amp; prove with no-impact testing</td>
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So it’s pretty awesome then?
Yes! With the addition of support for Microsoft Azure and extra features like One-to-Many replication, your business can be confident that your data is protected at all times in the manner of your choosing. Whether your strategy is on premise, managed service, cloud-first, or any combination of the above, Zerto Virtual Replication 5.0 will ensure your data is where you need it, when you need it.

ABOUT ZERTO
Zerto is committed to helping organizations increase Resilience for Evolving IT™ with innovative, simple and reliable solutions that protect virtualized workloads between public, private and hybrid clouds. Zerto Virtual Replication, part of the Zerto Cloud Continuity Platform™, enables enterprises to move beyond their disaster recovery ‘insurance policy’ and gain confidence to withstand any disruption, incorporate new technology easily, and change frequently to accommodate evolving IT budgets and business priorities. For more information, go to zerto.com.