Zerto 7.0—FAQ

Introduction

The Zerto 7.0 release of the IT Resilience Platform converges disaster recovery and backup to deliver continuous availability of data within one simple, scalable platform. Zerto 7.0 enables organizations to accelerate digital transformation through a single, easy-to-use platform that manages and automates disaster recovery, backup, and cloud mobility, eliminating the need for complex, costly and sluggish legacy backup tools. Protect and recover data with seconds of granularity and move applications freely across hybrid and multi-cloud environments.

With Zerto 7.0, users benefit from:

Converged Disaster Recovery and Backup

With this release, Zerto replaces antiquated periodic backups with its market-leading continuous data protection (CDP) and journal-based technology. New long-term retention (LTR) capabilities in Zerto 7.0 are delivered including a new elastic journal, which merges the granular journal technology with long-term repositories into a single continuous stream of recovery points.

Cloud Enhancements

Zerto 7.0 continues delivering improvements for cloud performance and encryption capabilities.
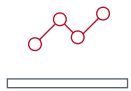
Advanced Analytics and Control

Zerto 7.0 introduces powerful resource planning capabilities, additional reports, analysis and enhanced dashboard views to enhance delivery of advanced analytics and control for clients' entire site.

Platform Enhancements

Zerto 7.0 provides features for ease of use, operational improvements and more user flexibility.

New GUI and Improved User Experience

A new GUI and simplified workflows enable intuitive, scalable operations.

For more detailed information please read our *What's New in Zerto 7.0* datasheet.

📄 | **DOWNLOAD WHAT'S NEW DATASHEET**

GENERAL

Where can I download the new software?

The Zerto 7.0 code will be available as of April 16, 2019. Head to your myZerto web page and click "Support and Downloads." Scroll down and select "Software Downloads."

Is certification changing for Zerto 7?

Zerto is launching a new certification model to make it easy for you to get certified and stay certified. Get started by completing the certification track requirements. Then, maintain your certification by completing the maintenance track. Maintenance track content will be released twice a year for technical certifications and once a year for sales certifications. The maintenance track will always have content from the two most recent releases, so just stay current within the last two versions to stay certified. Has your certification lapsed? Don't worry, you can easily recertify by retaking the track courses.

Do I need to re-obtain my ZCP certification if I already have it?

We'll provide a certification maintenance track for anyone certified prior to Zerto 7, regardless of the version. This way, you can update your certification without having to retake the training.

CONVERGED DISASTER RECOVERY AND BACKUP

What are the retention policies that Zerto 7.0 will support?

Zerto supports retention policy configurations using daily, weekly, monthly and annual cycles to copy data to LTR repositories. This supports the often-used Grandfather, Father, Son backup rotation scheme. Long-term retention copies can be stored for any amount of time.

What are the supported repositories for Long Term Retention?

Zerto 7.0 supports repositories making use of the NFS and SMB file sharing protocols. Support is optimized for purpose-built backup appliances like HPE StoreOnce, Dell EMC DataDomain and ExaGrid. Using Azure Databox Edge and AWS Storage Gateway, users can also utilize cloud storage as a backup target.

How does Index & Search work?

When configuring a retention policy on a VPG, a user can enable File System Indexing. The indexing occurs every time the retention process is run (according to the set schedule). When the first index has been created, users will be able to use the Search & Restore feature on the Zerto Virtual Manager UI in the recovery site. Currently, Index and Search only applies to restore points stored on the LTR repositories.

What File Systems are supported for Index & Search?

The following file systems are supported by Index & Search; NTFS, EXT2, EXT3 and EXT4. NOTE: Encrypted file systems are not supported.

Are all my protected VMs automatically Indexed?

As indexing on all VMs may not be required, you can opt-in only the VMs that you want to index and avoid any unnecessary resource overhead.

What are the new data protection workflows?

Besides the ability to recover entire Virtual Protection Groups, Zerto 7.0 also introduces the ability to recover a single VM from the LTR repositories.

Can I recover my data to a different location?

Yes, the restore workflows recover the data on the recovery site to assure the lowest RTO. After that, you can use the hypervisor's built-in migration workflows to move the data to the desired location. Zerto also enables users to leverage copies of the repository to restore to the production site. This is done by scanning the repository. The capability is disabled by default and can be enabled by contacting Zerto Support.

Can I use the Long-Term Retention features when I use AWS or Azure as a target?

Currently, the LTR features only apply to environments that use vSphere or HyperV on the target site.

How are the Long-Term Retention features licensed?

All LTR features will be included in the Enterprise Cloud Edition of Zerto.

Does Zerto 7.0 support deduplication and/or compression?

To address capacity saving needs, Zerto 7.0 supports Purpose-Built-Backup-Appliances which include deduplication and compression. The reason why deduplication and compression has been added to many backup tools is to reduce performance impact and minimize backup windows. As Zerto has no performance impact and does not have backup windows, the resource overhead needed by deduplication is now used for protection.

Does Zerto 7.0 support encryption?

Zerto supports the use of network-level encryption to protect data in-flight. Performing encryption prior to sending it to the targets greatly reduces the ability to deduplicate the data. Therefore, we recommend that encryption-at-rest is utilized on the target repository.

CLOUD PERFORMANCE

What additional Azure integration has Zerto implemented in this release?

Zerto has additional integration to Azure, utilizing Azures native Virtual Machine Scale-Sets and to reduce the overhead on the Zerto Cloud Appliance (ZCA) during a failover scenario, as well as providing enhanced recovery time objectives (RTO) into Azure by up to 300%.

Will there be an additional Azure resource cost?

During a failover to any Azure Site, Zerto will now utilize Azure Virtual Machine Scale-Sets. This means that multiple security hardened Virtual Machine instances are created temporarily during the failover. However, these instances are removed immediately after the failover, minimizing any additional cost.

Are there any security enhancements in Zerto 7.0 for Amazon Web Services (AWS)?

Zerto has added support for EBS encryption for AWS. EBS Encryption will be enabled by default.

ANALYTICS

How do I evaluate the IT resources needed to protect VMs with Zerto?

The new Zerto Analytics Resource Planner monitors your VMs and provides the resources required to protect those VMs in your data center or in Azure or AWS clouds.

Does Zerto Analytics Resource Planner impact my production workloads?

No. The Resource Planner uses vSphere data to size the resources needed by Zerto to completely protect your workloads.

Zerto

When will Zerto Analytics Resource Planner be available?

The resource planner will be available with the 7.0u1 update of ZVM.

What license do I need for Zerto Analytics Resource Planner?

The Resource Planner is a new feature of Zerto Analytics and is included with your Zerto license.

How do I install Zerto Analytics Resource Planner?

There is no installation required. If you are currently using Zerto Analytics, you will get access to the resource planner when you upgrade ZVM to 7.0u1.

Can I use Zerto Analytics Resource Planner without installing the complete Zerto solution?

Yes. You only need to install ZVM 7.0u1 with a trial license and enable Zerto Analytics. Resource Planner data and analytics will then be available in Zerto Analytics.

Which hypervisors does Zerto Analytics Resource Planner support?

The Resource Planner currently supports VMware VMs, but more hypervisors are on our roadmap. Zerto Analytics leverages agile development and is hosted in the cloud so new capabilities become available throughout the year.

ENHANCED PLATFORM

How does Zerto Virtual Manager (ZVM) clustering work?

ZVM Clustering uses Microsoft Failover Clustering in Windows and allows users to create a 2-node ZVM cluster. This enables users to perform maintenance on the underlying OS and upgrade the ZVM components without any downtime.

Does ZVM clustering require and external database?

Yes. The cluster will only contain the Zerto Virtual Manager resources and requires an external database.

I have an existing Zerto installation, can I use ZVM clustering?

Yes Zerto 7.0 will include documentation on how to move from a stand-alone ZVM to a ZVM cluster.

How does the evacuate host feature work?

Zerto 7.0 Evacuate Host feature allows users to proactively move VMs off the VRA identified for maintenance and automatically balances these VMs across the available recovery VRAs enabling continuous replication.

Will enabling vSphere Host Maintenance Mode automatically initiate an evacuation?

In Zerto 7.0 the Evacuation needs to be initiated manually. The Evacuation Host feature is also available through the API which allows users to automate this as part of a maintenance workflow.

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