

Modularity in Arkeia Network Backup

Create Faster/More Secure Backups

Arkeia Network Backup is configurable backup server software that allows you to optimize your environment to the hardware you are using. Arkeia Network Backup is a modular system that allows you, the administrator, to decide what is important. Whether you want security or speed, Arkeia has the tools that allow you to configure your system to meet the needs of your network and your budget.

Let's talk about the three basic parts to the Arkeia Network Backup system:

The Server: The server is the backup server software itself. It actually manages the backup processes and connects to clients. Further, Arkeia manages as it streams data to the backup devices.

The Client: The client is the client backup software. The Arkeia client reads the filesystem, compresses the data, encrypts it, and transfers it to the backup server. The client is responsible for plugins as well.

The Interface: The interface is the administration tool. In Arkeia 6.0 and below, the GUI was the xarkeia interface. Now, in version 7.0, the interface is the Arkeia Web User Interface or WUI. This includes a built-in Webserver and customized pages for administrating the Arkeia backup server. The strongest feature of this model is that you can run the interface on a separate computer. This frees you from the need to run a full GUI on the backup server. As most administrators know, X11, with a decent Window Manager, can be very process intensive for a server designed only to be the backup server. CPU cycles used for the GUI could be the difference between a 5 hour backup and a 7 hour backup.

A secondary bonus is that you can design an infrastructure where the backup server is a single use machine. With this arrangement, the backup server is faster because it is a server designed to backup other servers and not itself. Not only is this model more secure for the infrastructure, it also reduces the loss of backups due to other program failures. For instance, if your DNS server is the target of a DNS cache poisoning, your backup server would still be functional and be less vulnerable if DNS was the target. In this scenario, if your DNS server and the backup server were the same server, both would be compromised and it would be more likely for the attacker to have control of your backup data.

The new WUI also has the functionality to be run independent of the backup server. The WUI could be run on a multi-use system or even in a VM to allow a number of administrators and lower level administrators to access the backup reports and related information.

The modularity of Arkeia Network Backup server allows you to create faster/more secure backups.

For other tips and techniques for speeding up backups, be sure to check the forum.

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