

Introduction

Backup of SAP DB Database Systems

A backup of a SAP DB is performed by the SAP DB database software itself. This ensures an easy and complete backup and smooth system operation. SAP DB allows complete and incremental backups to tapes, autoloader, files and named pipes. Backups can be performed online and offline.

Backups and restores are controlled with the help of database management tools supplied with every SAP DB. These management tools are DBMGUI and DBMCLI for SAP DB version 7.2.5 (CONTROL, XBACKUP and XRESTORE for SAP DB version 6.2). The management tools DBMGUI and DBMCLI call the DBM server (DBMSRV) on the database server.

Backup of a SAP DB Database System Using External Backup Tools

Integration of external backup programs (common client/server backup programs) is based on the backup of SAP DB to named pipes, because this is an effective way already supplied by SAP DB to transfer a complete database backup to another program.

There are two possibilities:

- The external backup tool is controlled by SAP DB tool DBMSRV (XBACKUP, XRESTORE).

SAP DB's management tools are precisely adjusted to the different versions of SAP DB.

If a backup is controlled by a SAP DB tool, this tool initiates the data transfer of the database to one or more pipes and it calls the external backup tool to backup the data supplied in the pipes. If an error occurs from SAP DB or from the external backup tool the SAP DB tool ends the data transfer by informing the other partner of the data transfer.

If a restore is controlled by a SAP DB tool, this tool queries the available backups from the external backup tool, displays the result of this query to the user and initiates and controls the transfer of the desired backups from the external backup tool to the database with the help of one or more pipes.

- The external backup tool uses SAP DB tool DBMCLI (XBACKUP, XRESTORE) to control the database.

Interface Functions (General Description)

The Backint for SAP DB interface supports four functions:

- backup
- restore
- inquire
- delete

Why Backint for SAP DB?

Backint for SAP DB defines an interface program, allowing SAP DB tools to communicate with external backup tools via an open interface. Backint for SAP DB allows to initiate a data transfer with files and/or pipes to/from the external backup tool for backup/restore purposes and it allows queries needed to determine available backups.

As SAP has already created the open interface BACKINT to integrate common client/server backup programs in the database administration program SAPDBA to backup and restore Oracle databases, the Backint for SAP DB interface was defined analogous to BACKINT. Backint for SAP DB was designed to be implementable together with BACKINT in one single program.

Platforms

The following platforms are supported:

HP-UX, IBM AIX, SNI Reliant, SUN Solaris, Compaq TRUE64Unix, Windows NT, Windows 2000