

# Versiant Corporation

## Carbonite DoubleTake Availability case study

CARBONITE 



*“Some of our service level agreements include recovery time and recovery point objectives. Carbonite DoubleTake Availability absolutely helps us to fulfill those agreements.”*

John Stalzer, S.E. Manager

### Critical issue

As a software and managed services provider, Versiant is in the business of helping customers to improve performance through the use of information technology. Yet technology—and the data it manages—can provide value only if it is available. Consequently, Versiant needs to be able to minimize downtime and protect data for its customers. Versiant wanted to be able to offer its customers a solution that would protect all of their data, while virtually eliminating downtime.

### Business challenges

It goes without saying that you can’t generate value from technology and data if that technology or data is unavailable. This is a top-of-mind issue for Versiant.

Threats to application and data availability are real. The risks that tend to come to mind first—disasters such as hurricanes, tornados, earthquakes, fires and floods—are rare, but they do exist. Less dramatic events—such as power outages, hardware failures and human error—are more common and can also result in considerable downtime.

What’s more, required system maintenance, such as hardware and software upgrades and regular backups, which are typically much more frequent, can also curtail system availability.

Many of the options for dealing with these availability issues are only partial solutions. They may, for example, back up data in snapshots taken only periodically, leaving data created between snapshots at risk. Other alternatives may adequately back up data, but not allow for rapid recovery after a failure.

VERSANT  
••• A NEW WAVE OF IT SOLUTIONS

### Company name

Versiant Corporation

### Headquarters

Charlotte, North Carolina, USA

### Industry

Managed services

### Business environment

- Founded: 2008
- Employees: 50
- Privately held
- Improves business performance through the use of IT

### Implementation team

Versiant and Carbonite  
DoubleTake™

## Solution

Versiant's experience with Carbonite DoubleTake Availability™ began when it worked with a partner whose customer was already using Carbonite DoubleTake. After seeing the value of the solution, Versiant offered Availability to other customers as well.

Availability extends well beyond traditional DR options to also provide true high availability (HA). It does so by replicating a full server—data, applications and system information—to a standby server in real time. This happens in the background, with no impact on production operations. If the primary server ever goes down or needs to be taken offline for maintenance, the standby server is always ready to assume the production role quickly.

Because Availability replicates only byte-level changes continuously in real time and can compress data before transmitting it, it's an excellent choice for remote replication. For example, Versiant replicates production servers in Atlanta and Dallas to a DR site in Charlotte, North Carolina.

Versiant now employs Availability for a number of customers. Among them are companies replicating 45 servers, 30 servers and five servers.

Because of the high cost of downtime, the ability to fail over to a standby server almost instantly provides significant value to Versiant's customers, particularly those that depend on their systems 24x7.

The benefits of Availability also extend beyond HA and DR. For instance, Versiant used Availability to migrate physical servers from a customer's data center in Switzerland across the Atlantic to Versiant's virtual environment in the United States.

The initial replication, including about 800 gigabytes of SQL Server data, took about a week. Because it happened in the background, users continued working the whole time. And, because Availability kept the source and target servers continuously synchronized after the initial replication, Versiant could delay switching over until it had confirmed the readiness of the new servers, while the customer continued to use the old systems. In total, the customer experienced only about an hour of downtime during the entire migration.

John Stalzer, S.E. manager at Versiant, appreciates the support he receives from Vision Solutions. "The support team is absolutely fantastic," he said. "We perform some complex DR and migration jobs. When I have questions, they always respond quickly and they are more than happy to jump on a remote session, work with you and walk you through the product."

## Contact us to learn more

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## Results

- Minimizes downtime
- Protects all data in real time
- Easy to install and use
- Enabled a transatlantic migration with little downtime
- Backed by comprehensive support

## Technologies

Software:

- Carbonite DoubleTake Availability
- Microsoft Windows Server® and SQL Server®
- Oracle®
- Custom-developed software

Hardware:

- Dell servers