NETGEAR® ReadyNAS®

Application Notes

# NETGEAR® ReadyNAS® & Acronis

## Replicating an Acronis Vault between ReadyNAS Appliances

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## Concepts

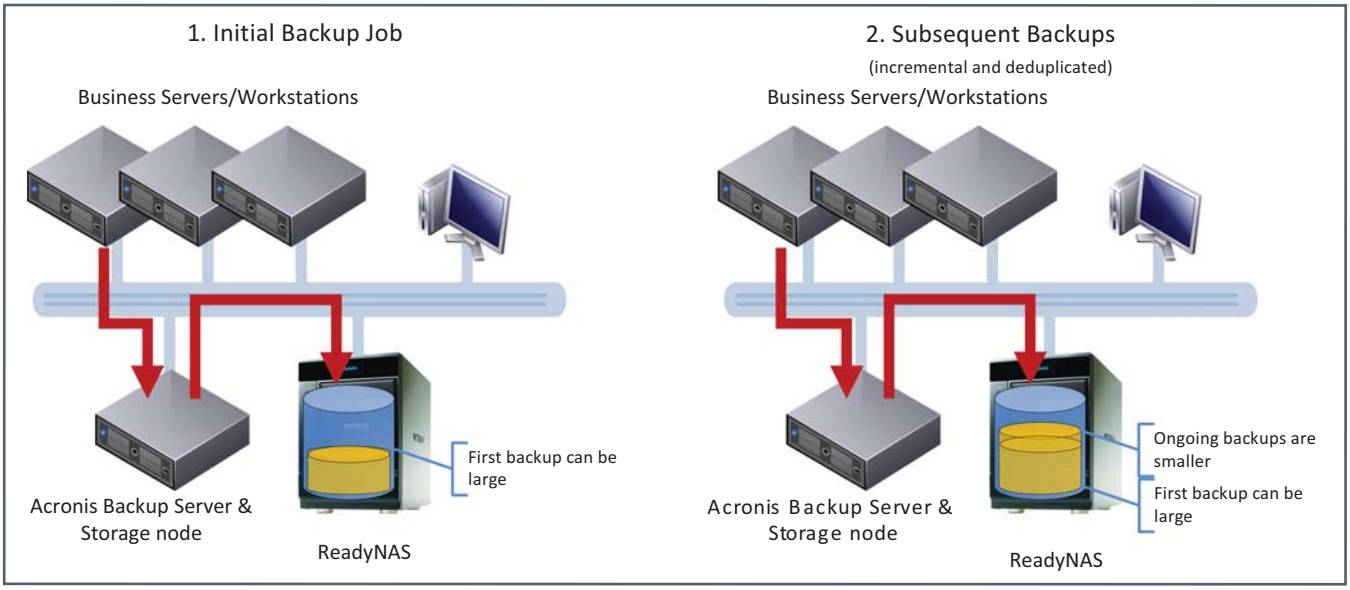
NETGEAR® ReadyNAS® storage delivers reliable, affordable and simple solutions for businesses seeking smart IT, not big IT. Midsize companies can now build solutions for nearly any size location or data store at a fraction of the cost of traditional monolithic vendors. The ReadyNAS storage platform is especially well suited for backup to disk solutions and can help reduce backup, restore and disaster recovery times to minutes.

Sending backup data offsite is critical to protect a business from disasters such as fires, theft and other unforeseen events. For this reason replication technologies can assist greatly in protecting data by sending it offsite at frequent intervals.

Replicating backup data offsite can be complicated and costly, especially when connections can be slow and backup data is usually very large. Combing Acronis Backup & Recovery, ReadyNAS Storage and ReadyNAS Replicate can greatly simplify the process whilst providing both storage and replication efficiencies that reduce the total costs of a backup solution.

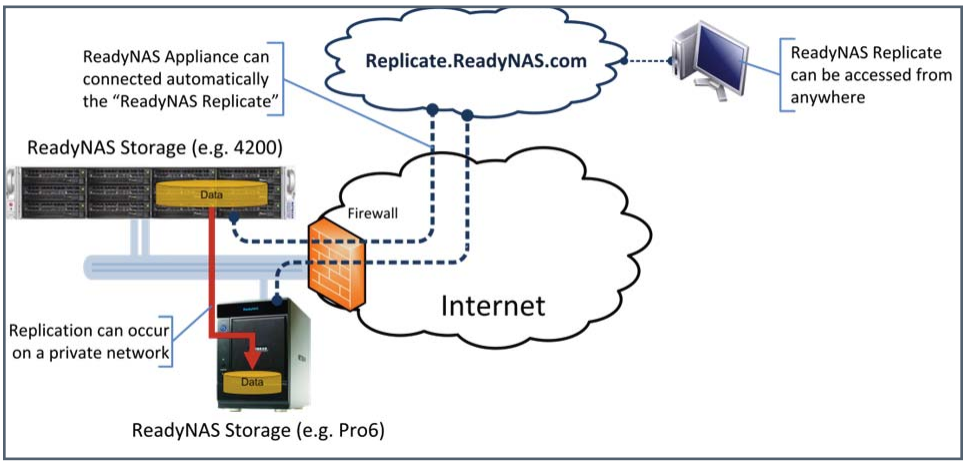
### Acronis efficient data backup

Acronis can be configured to protect servers and workstations by writing backups directly to ReadyNAS (known as a vault). These backups can be written in an efficient manner by using incremental backup, compression and data deduplication. Specifically leveraging these techniques will greatly reduce the amount of data written on subsequent that take place after the first full backup of data.

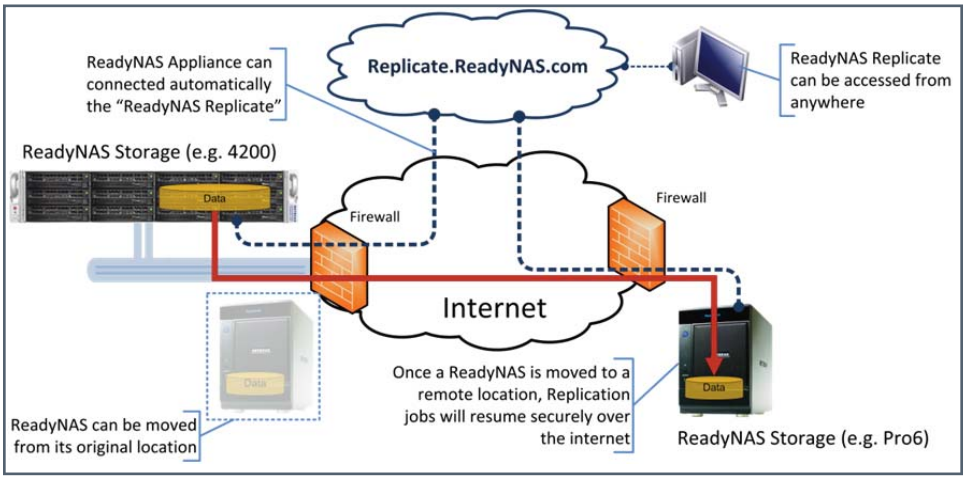


## ReadyNAS Replicate – Reliable, Affordable & Simple Replication

ReadyNAS Replicate allows the simple management of data replication between ReadyNAS appliances. Specifically, ReadyNAS Replicate allows the ability to transfer and backup data from one ReadyNAS to another regardless of where the ReadyNAS is located. In other words Replicate can manage replication between two ReadyNAS storage appliances on the same local area network at high speeds or replicate data between two ReadyNAS appliances on different networks separated by the Internet. If a ReadyNAS appliance is moved from one local area network to another, Replicate will recognize this automatically and will make sure any replication jobs that exist between that appliance and any other device remains.




*ReadyNAS Replicate running on a Private Local Area Network*




*ReadyNAS Replicate running securely over the Internet*

## Components

To configure the solution below you will need two ReadyNAS storage appliances (primary vault and offsite vault). Both ReadyNAS appliances will have to be registered and licensed for ReadyNAS Replicate. This document assumes that the primary vault already has an existing share being used as an Acronis vault ("acronis_vault"). For more information on configuring ReadyNAS an Acronis vault please refer to the "Configuring ReadyNAS as an Acronis Backup & Recovery 10 Vault" document from the NETGEAR website.

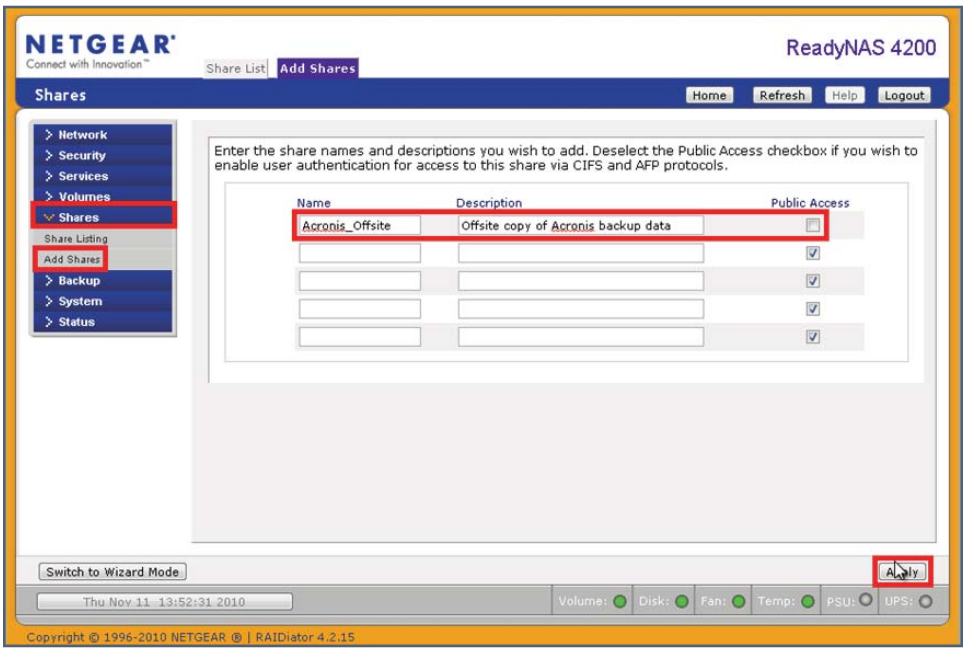
## Configuration Steps

The following steps explain how to replicate an existing ReadyNAS being used as an Acronis backup vault to another ReadyNAS for the purposes of sending backup data offsite.

### Creating Share for Remote Vault

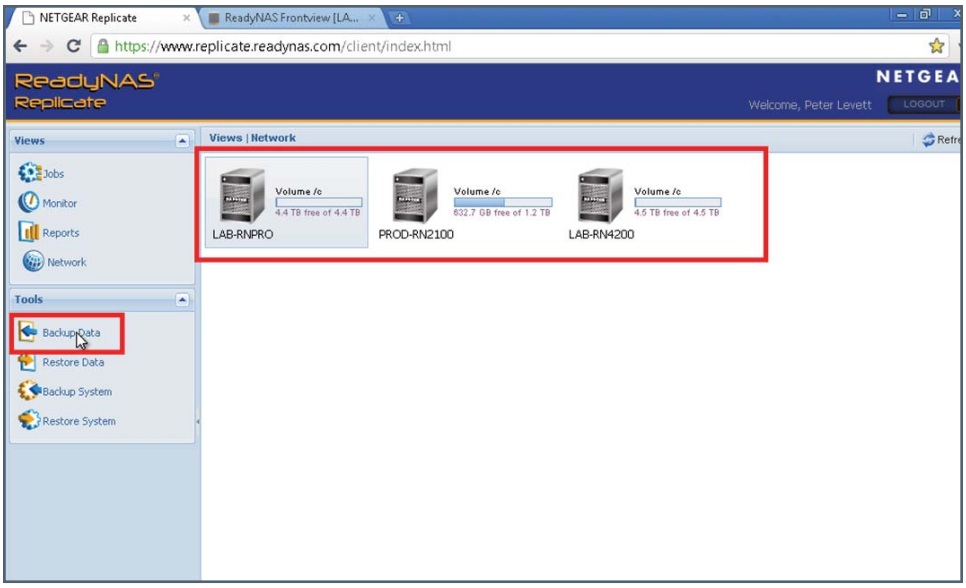
Log onto the web based ReadyNAS Frontview console on the ReadyNAS that will be used as the remote vault for Acronis Backups (i.e. https://readynas/admin).

Select the shares tab and then click on "add shares". Enter a name for the remote share that backups will be replicated to (e.g. "Acronis_Offsite"). Uncheck the guest access option to disable public access to the backup data.

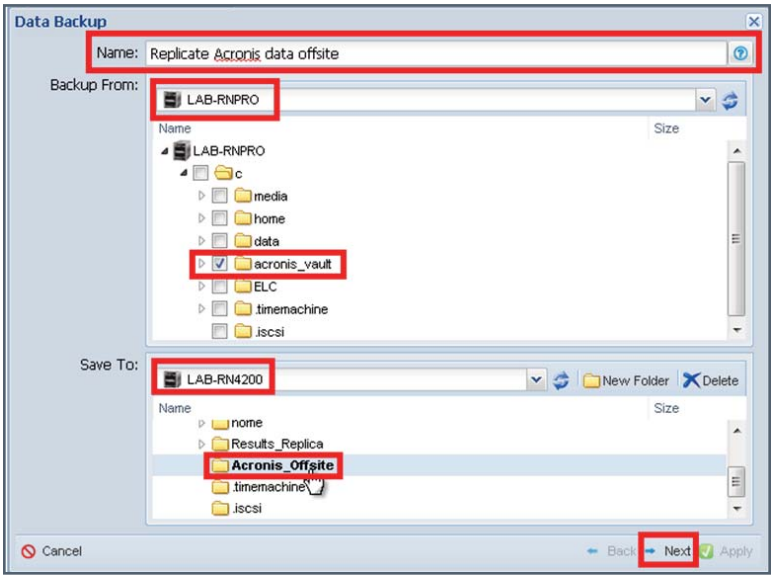


Log into the ReadyNAS Replicate console at http://replicate.readynas.com. You will need to enter the username and password that was configured when registering your ReadyNAS appliances with Replicate. Once connected, you will see all the ReadyNAS appliances that you have registered in the "Network" view.

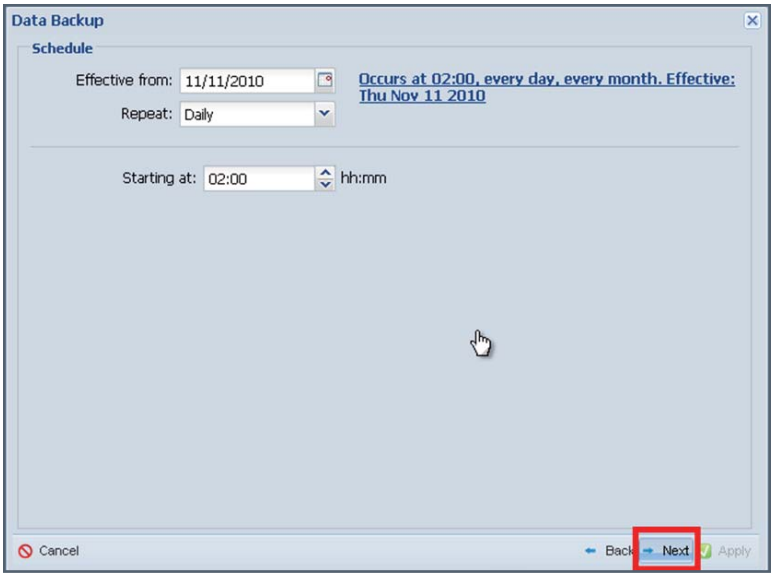
Click the backup button to open the backup wizard that will guide you through the configuration of replication between ReadyNAS appliances. We will now configure Replication of the original "Acronis_vault" share on the ReadyNAS Pro "LAB-RNPRO" to the "Acronis_offsite" share that we created on the ReadyNAS 4200 "LAB-RN4200".



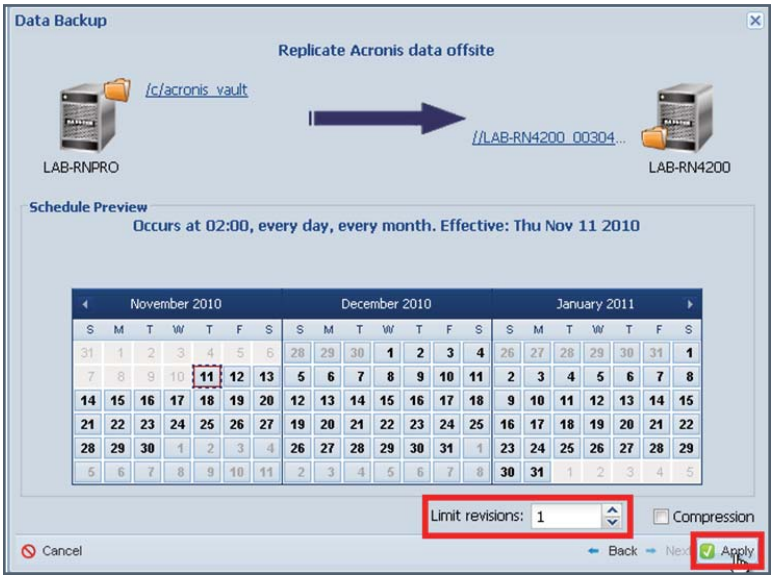

Enter a name for the backup job. In this case we have named the job "Replicate Acronis data offsite". Select the source ReadyNAS and source folder. In this case we select "LAB-RNPRO" and "Acronis_vault" respectively. Select the destination ReadyNAS and folder. In this case we select "LAB-RN4200" and "Acronis_Offsite" respectively. Click next to continue the wizard.



Select a time for the replication to occur from the option listed. It is important to make sure that the replication time selected occurs at a different time to Acronis backups, this way the replicated backups are complete, consistent and ready for recovery. Once you have completed your selection, click next.



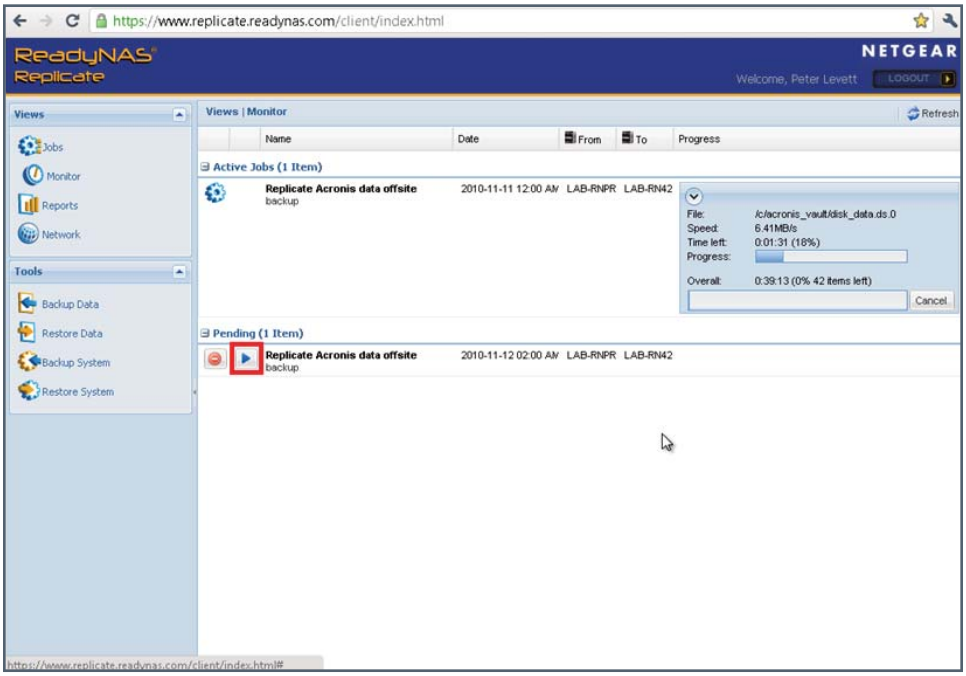

Select the number of revisions of the source data you would like to keep. In this case we only need to keep 1 revision as Acronis will be versioning our backups within the vault. In other words the Acronis vault itself contains many backups. For this reason we don't need keep many revisions of the vault, just one that contains many Acronis backups. Selecting the compression option will compress data as it is replicated. Click "apply" to complete the backup wizard.



## Running the Replicate Job Manually

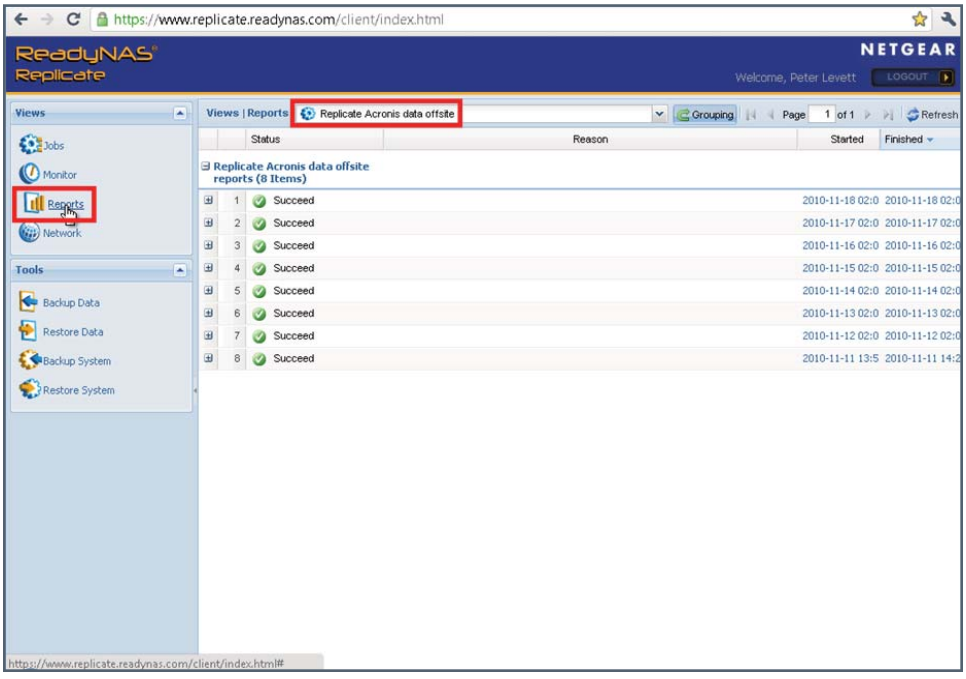
The backup job will run daily to offsite Acronis backup data. At any stage if you need to manually run this activity, you can do so by clicking on the "monitor" link and manually running the job by clicking the "play" icon.

The backup job will start almost instantaneously and show progress of the data transfer.




## Viewing Logs and Data Transfer Statistics

To view the results of previous backup and replication jobs, click on the "Reports" link and select the job you would like to review. If you drill down further you can see the amount of data that is transferred on each job and the time it takes to replicate the data from on ReadyNAS to another.



## Conclusion

Combining ReadyNAS Replicate, ReadyNAS storage and Acronis Backup & Recovery 10 will create help create a smarter backup process for offsite protection. ReadyNAS Replicate will efficiently copy mission critical data and backups offsite, without the need to login to many systems and make changes to firewalls. Leveraging the cloud to provide management ReadyNAS Replicate provides a reliable, affordable, and simple way to administer backup data.