

COMPARISON OF LIFELINE•DVD™ TO INTERNET-BASED / SERVER-BASED / PORTABLE DISK (CD, DVD, DISK) BACKUP

FEATURE	LIFELINE•DVD™	INTERNET-BASED BACKUP	SERVER-BASED BACKUP	CD, DVD, OR DISK BACKUP
Ease of installation	++++ Easy set up. No software installed on user PC's	++ Software must be installed and configured on each user computer.	+ Often requires IT professional to install and configure. Software installed on some or all user computers.	+ May require hardware installation. Software found on user computers not well suited for backup.
Ease of ongoing use	++++ Works automatically.	++++ Works automatically.	++ Complicated and error prone tape rotation strategy.	+ Manual process for each computer.
Performance	++++ Data moves over high speed, high reliability Local Area Network.	++ Data moves over Internet at slower and unpredictable transfer rates.	++ Backup causes degraded server performance so performed at night, limiting time available to back up data and PCs.	++ PC performance degrades during backup
Rapid recovery from data loss	+++ Data recovery facilitated through easy-to-use graphical interface and high speed network (10 times faster recovery compared to other techniques).	+ Not all data may be backed up. Some data previously backed up may no longer be available. May require vendor production and mailing of CD-ROM copies of data.	+ Unfamiliar process complicates data recovery. Often requires assistance of IT professional.	+ Not all data may be backed up. Only the most recent data may be recovered. Media containing desired data may not be easily identified.
Encryption	++++ Built in and automated.	++++ Data transfers are encrypted	+ Optional and often not implemented, even by Fortune 500 companies.	+ Optional and often not implemented
Resistance to Internet "hackers"	++++ No file content is accessible over the Internet.	++ All backed up data is transmitted over the public Internet in encrypted form.	++++ No company data is transmitted or accessible over the Internet.	++++ No company data is transmitted or accessible over the Internet.
Durability and longevity of backup media	++++ DVD optical media is the most durable and longest-lived media available today (50+ years).	+ Access to data depends on relationship with backup provider and ISP.	+ Media is almost always tape, which is expensive, fragile, and not suitable for long-term storage.	++++ CD and DVD have excellent data lifetime. ++ Disk is electromechanical and not nearly so long-lived.
ISO, HIPAA, regulatory, and audit compliance	++++ Easily integrated into a compliance plan.	++ Cannot assure long-term data access.	+++ Requires significant IT and business process investment to insure compliance.	+ Most difficult backup strategy to match to compliance requirements.
Customer owned solution	++++ LifeLine•DVD™ owned by the business. All data controlled by the business.	++ Requires ISP, backup provider, and associated infrastructure and service providers.	++++ All data controlled by the business.	+++ Disk drive is attached to the local computer. Storage media controlled by the individual user.
Remote support available to facilitate data recovery	+++ With permission, IT service provider can access administrator features remotely.	+ Service provider can create and mail CD-ROM copies of backed up data. Per incident telephone support may be offered.	+ Requires additional third party software and configuration.	+ Requires additional third party software and configuration.
Complete backup solution	+++ Most complete local network backup solution available.	++ Impractical and expensive for larger data sets. Relies on Internet connectivity.	+ Requires ongoing IT expertise to keep backups operating properly.	+ Tedious and unreliable backup process.
Cost	++++ Cost effective for the professional office computer network. Minimal recurring costs.	++ Significant cost to back up and archive all data.	+++ IT costs incurred for initial installation and ongoing support. Expensive media.	+++ Cost effective for smaller amounts of data.