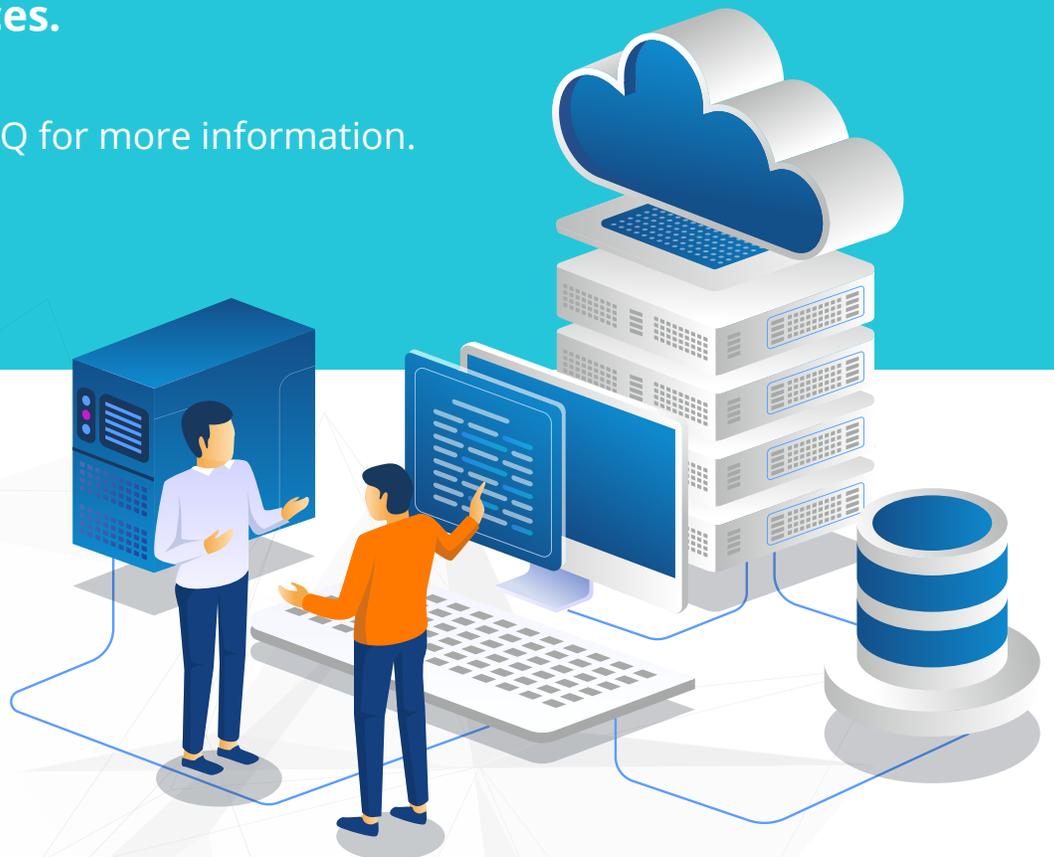# UNITRENDS
NDMP NAS BACKUP

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQs)

Unitrends backup appliances support the use of NDMP protocol version 4 to protect NAS devices.

Read the following FAQ for more information.

01 Technology and Features

Q

What is NDMP?

Network Data Management Protocol (NDMP) is an open protocol that can be used to access data directly from the storage device for backup and recovery purposes. For Unitrends, NDMP is specifically used to access data on Network-Attached Storage (NAS) devices or filers.

Q

What does Unitrends protect with NDMP?

Several NAS vendors support the NDMP protocol for backup and recovery of their devices. The specific ones that Unitrends supports with our enterprise-class backup products are:

- ✔ EMC Celerra
- ✔ EMC VNX
- ✔ EMC VNXe
- ✔ NetApp FASxxxx
- ✔ NetApp ONTAP 8.x C-Mode (cluster mode)
- ✔ Devices from other vendors can be added as "Generic" NDMP NAS assets. Consider vendor-specific limitations when protecting generic assets because they can affect Unitrends protection of your NDMP device.

Note: NetApp ONTAP versions 7.x and 8.x are supported. NetApp cluster mode ensures highly available NetApp nodes are protected within your backup window, even if there are millions of files.

Q

What Unitrends products support NDMP protection?

NDMP is supported on Unitrends physical and virtual backup appliances running our latest software release. Detailed requirements:

- ✔ Unitrends Backup virtual appliances, current software version. Unitrends first introduced NDMP protection in version 8.0.
- ✔ Rackmount Recovery Series backup appliances with the resources necessary to run the NDMP protocols. For the current Gen 9 Recovery Series appliances, NDMP is supported on models 9016S and up. For the latest list of supported units and more details, please see the specifications table in the **backup appliances data sheet**.

Note:
That ION/ION+ desktop units and MAX units do not support NDMP.

Q

Is NDMP the only way Unitrends can protect NAS devices?

No. Users can protect any NAS vendor using file-level backups via CIFS or NFS mount points on the device. This also provides a method that deduplicates very well for NAS backup and replication.

Q

Is NDMP ALWAYS the best way to protect NAS devices?

No. There is a tradeoff to using NDMP to protect NAS devices.

The benefits of NDMP are:

- ✔ Simpler access to the NAS storage stack.EMC VNX
- ✔ Much faster backups in certain circumstances, particularly where the NAS contains millions of small files.
- ✔ Support for incremental backups, yielding more recovery points and less network impact.
- ✔ Persistence of access control lists (ACLs) and other file attributes after recovery.

The possible drawbacks of NDMP are:

- ✔ There is limited deduplication and compression benefit, so users will likely have a larger storage footprint.
- ✔ Although Unitrends supports the most common and popular storage vendors and models with NDMP, there are some third-party vendors that Unitrends does not support. See the previous question, "What does Unitrends protect?" for the full list.

As an alternative to NDMP, users may instead use the file-level approach via CIFS or NFS mount points to improve deduplication and compression (storage capacity and replication bandwidth) or protect storage vendors that are unsupported by Unitrends for NDMP.

Q

Will NDMP ALWAYS work on existing Recovery Series appliances?

Not always. Since NDMP has different retention and compute requirements, it is important to ensure a sizing effort is completed prior to adding NDMP to an existing appliance. Please contact your Unitrends sales representative to assist with appliance sizing for NDMP.

02

Licensing and Billing

Q | **How is NDMP licensed and priced?**

NDMP support is now included with all Unitrends Backup software licenses and all Recovery Series rackmount backup appliances models 9016S and up. No additional licensing fee is required, but a current Subscription or Maintenance Plan is required.

Legacy: NDMP support previously required the purchase of an Enterprise Plus license.

Q | **Can NDMP backups be recovered in the Unitrends Cloud as part of DRaaS?**

No. At this time, only files can be recovered from NDMP backups in the Unitrends Cloud back to the customer's on-premises appliance.

Q | **NDMP has multiple versions of the protocol. What versions are supported by Unitrends?**

Currently, Unitrends supports version 4 of the NDMP protocol.

Q | **Can NDMP data be restored across NAS vendors (i.e., from EMC to NetApp)?**

No. Cross-vendor recovery is not supported. Generally, NDMP data can only be restored to the same vendor and device (i.e., EMC VNX to EMC VNX).

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Get a FREE TRIAL today.

ABOUT UNITRENDS

Unitrends makes efficient, reliable backup and recovery as effortless and hassle-free as possible. We combine deep expertise gained over thirty years of focussing on backup and recovery with next generation backup appliances and cloud purpose-built to make data protection simpler, more automated and more resilient than any other solution in the industry.

Learn more by visiting unitrends.com or follow us on LinkedIn and Twitter @Unitrends.

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