Competitive Summary: Carbonite vs. Symantec

Carbonite offers a suite of affordable cloud backup solutions specifically made for small and medium-sized businesses without per-instance fees or per-license fees. Symantec Backup Exec is an enterprise solution where customers pay for the backup license, as well as for each individual agent needed to back up various pieces of infrastructure.

And while Symantec Backup Exec supports cloud backup, Symantec has no cloud storage offering! Carbonite includes cloud storage space in its plans, with the option to add more as a customer's business grows.

IT Situation

Two virtualized servers (Hyper-V hypervisor) each having three VMs containing critical files and Microsoft applications, and one physical server containing an Oracle database and file-level data. The total backup size for all is 1.5 TB.

Solution: Carbonite's Server Prime plan is the best choice for this situation, as it backs up an unlimited number of devices and includes 500 GB of cloud storage (with the option to purchase more). Symantec Backup Exec customers would not only have to pay for multiple licenses and options, but cloud storage is not included and would have to be purchased from a third party.

Key Takeaways

- Cloud storage is included in Carbonite plans while Symantec Backup Exec requires customers to purchase cloud storage from a third party.

- Carbonite keeps small and medium-sized businesses running by protecting their data locally and in the cloud – without any hidden costs.

- Symantec charges for various agents to back up applications, databases, and Hyper-V environments – in addition to what they charge for the main piece of software.

- Overall, Carbonite business plans are easier to understand, easier to implement and more cost-effective than Symantec's.

IT Situation: Carbonite vs. Symantec Comparison Table

Solution	SUPPORTED DEVICES				FEATURES	INCLUDED IN PLAN				
	File Servers	NAS Devices	Databases & Live Applications	Hyper-V Environments	Hybrid Backup Available	Number of Devices	Cloud Storage	Annual Base Cost	Additional Storage	Total Cost IT Situation
Carbonite Server Prime	●	●	●	●	●	**unlimited**	**500 GB**	**$899^{99}**	**$999^{90}** (1 TB)	**$1,899^{89} per yr.**
Symantec Backup Exec	Add'l Fee per Server	Add'l Fee per Device	**$8,138^{62}** (7 agents)	**$3,727^{52}** (2 agents)	●	Not Applicable	Not Available	**$3,487^{98}** (3 licenses)	Not Available	**$15,354^{12} per yr.**