



SBAAdmin™

System Backup Administrator

Version 7.1 Release Notes

July 1, 2009
General Availability

These release notes are intended to provide details on major new features and functions added to **Storix System Backup Administrator (SBAAdmin)** Version 7.1. Users unfamiliar with SBAAdmin 6.3 should consult the **Storix System Backup Administrator User Guide** for full product details.

New Features & Enhancements

1. Backup Groups

Multiple backup groups can be configured with separate sets of clients, servers, jobs, and any application or backup settings. Allows the same admin system to have multiple interfaces used (each with a separate group) concurrently.



Each group may allow access to one or more **Users** (see below), and a user may have access to one or more groups.

A backup group is essentially an instance of SBAAdmin backup administrator with its own set of clients, servers, backup jobs, etc. Having multiple backup groups therefore allows multiple instances of SBAAdmin on the same physical “**admin system**”, all managed by the same SBAAdmin license. You can therefore have different users (or customers) which manage different sets of clients and servers.

When installing SBAAdmin V7 for the first time, a group called “**main**” is created for you. Unless you change the name of this group or create additional groups, this is the group where all configuration will take place. If you are migrating to SBAAdmin V7.1 from a prior level, the “**main**” group will be created and all prior data will be moved to this group. You may then create additional groups, and may delete clients and servers from the “**main**” group and add them to the new group as desired.

2. Users (Roles)

With this new feature, you may add user access to the application, defining the role of each user. You can also define which groups the user has access to (see **Groups** above).



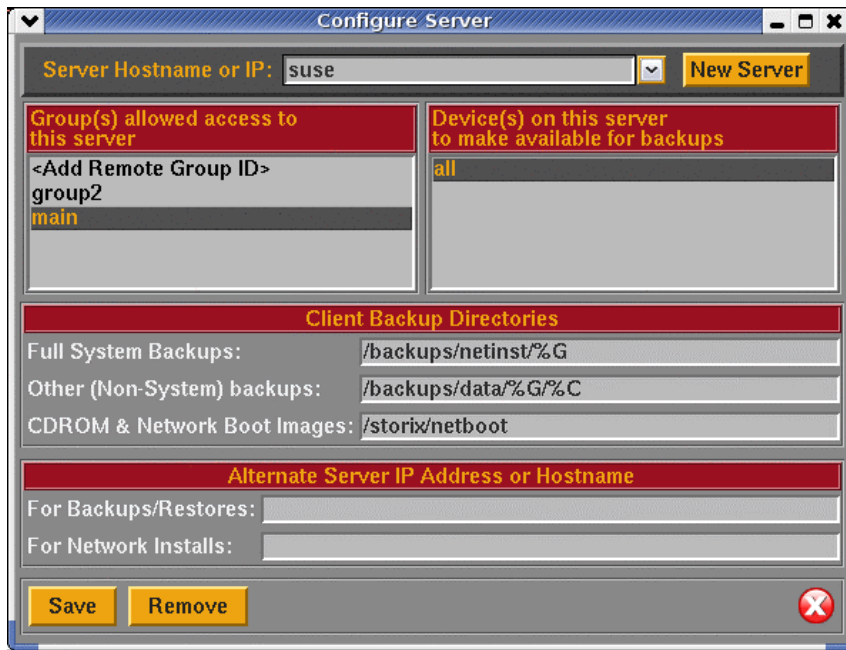
A **Backup User**, for instance, can only run backup jobs, but cannot change them or restore from them. The **Group Admin** can perform any function, but only within the group he is currently assigned to. The **System Admin** is a user that can manage the entire system, including adding, deleting or changing groups and users.

When SBAdmin 7.1 is first installed, a user called "**admin**" is automatically created and you are required to assign a password. If you are logged onto the system as the "**root**" user, then you will not have to enter the admin username or password to access the application (as long as there is only one user). If you are not the root user on the system, you will be prompted for the username and password of an SBAdmin user (within the GUI and Web-based interface) before accessing the application or any SBAdmin commands.

NOTE: Previous versions allowed you to define system login users with permission to run the GUI application or to login to the web interface. This method of user authentication is no longer supported, and any users previously defined to the application will no longer be recognized.

3. Shared Servers

Having multiple groups allows clients and servers to be configured independently, and, by default, the servers may only be accessed by clients within the same group. But it is possible to also configure a server so that it may be accessed by other groups, whether on the same admin system or on a different (remote) admin system.



The devices and directories accessible by all clients within the selected groups are configured. When adding a Remote Group, you would enter the Group ID (16-digit hex number) of the remote group since the group name on the other system has no meaning here.

Backups of clients in different groups may be stored in the same location (directory) on disk, or you can separate backups into their respective groups by using the %G notation as shown above. This will ensure that backups are accessible only by clients within the same group (and may further be restricted to access by the original client with the %C notation).

Shared servers provide a great way to have a central repository of secure backups, shared backups, or even shared network boot media and installation images for different departments or even different companies (i.e. ISP/MSP customers).

4. Boot Media Management

This new feature allows you to define the boot media (CDROM or network install images) for each server, the clients they were created from, and which clients may boot from them. Boot media may be automatically copied to the configured server each time it is created for a particular client. This feature provides a simple interface for managing and updating the boot media for each client.

5. Client Local Backup Media

This feature is designed to simplify the user interface when client systems are to backup to their own local (tape or disk) media.

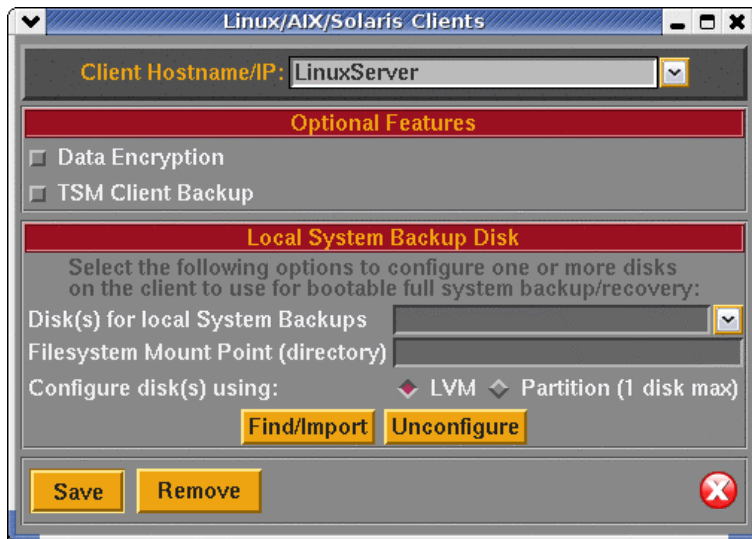
Previously if a client was to backup to its own local tape drive or directory, it had to be configured as a server (when using *Network* or *TSM Edition*). Then, you had to select the same system as the client and server when configuring a backup job, verifying or restoring data, and a number of other tasks. Now, an option “**Client local tape/disk**” will appear when you are asked for the “**server**”. When this option is selected, no server is required, and the local media on the client will be used instead.

6. Local System Backup Disk Management

SBAAdmin Verison 6 allowed for the configuration of a system backup disk (or disks) on a server. This allowed a client configured as a server to backup to his own local disk, with a separate option to make the disk bootable for system recovery.

SBAAdmin V7 now allows each client to configure his own local system backup disk(s), no longer requiring the client to be configured as a server. This feature provides the simple configuration, importing, and unconfiguring of disks used by each client for system backups.

A *System Backup disk* will automatically be made bootable so that, when booting from it, the SBAAdmin System Recovery process will automatically be started. System backup disks may be discovered during the system recovery process when booting from any SBAAdmin system recovery media.

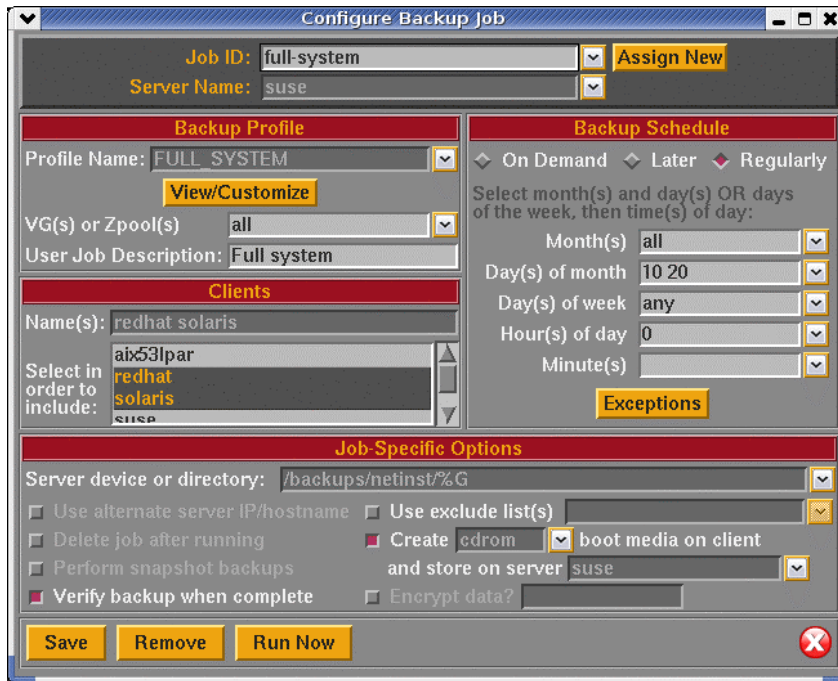


In the **Local System Backup Disk** section, the user can select disks to use for local system backups. If the disk are already configured (and perhaps portable media moved from one system to another), the **Find/Import** option can be used to automatically identify system backup disks and import them into the application for future use.

System backup disks are available as backup devices any time you select to backup to **Client Local Backup Media** as described above.

7. Automatic Create/Update of Client Boot Media

To better ensure that each client system is always ready for system recovery should a disaster strike, you may now select a new option for each backup job that will automatically create or update the boot media for each client to be backed up. The boot media can be either CDROM or a Network Boot Image that can be stored on the client or automatically copied to a boot server configured under the **Boot Media Management** described above.



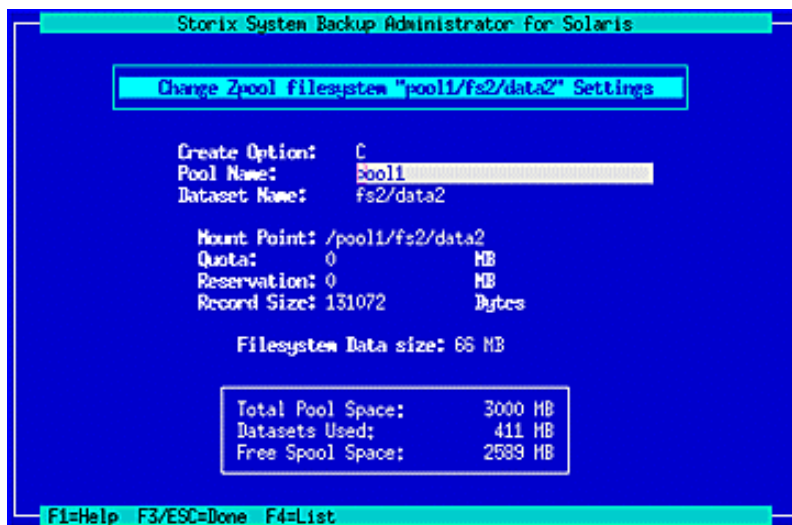
The new option **Create (CDROM/Network) boot media and store on server (server)** may be selected for any system backup job so that the *boot media* for the client will always be up to date with the *system backup* of the client.

8. Additional Solaris ZFS Support

SBAdmin V6 has always supported Solaris ZFS volume manager and filesystems, but Solaris itself has added (in Solaris 10 Update 6) the ability to install the base operating system (and root filesystem) onto ZFS filesystems.

SBAdmin quickly added the capability to backup the system configuration and restore the system to its prior ZFS environment during a system recovery. At this time, Storix SBAdmin is the only application which can do so!

But, for Solaris systems that do not currently take advantage of the flexibility and expandability of ZFS, SBAdmin will allow a system previously installed using Solaris "slices" to be migrated to a ZFS configuration.



Within the Storix System Installati interface, you simply add a new ZFS “*pool*” and “*dataset*”, then change the filesystems so they are using the new ZFS dataset instead of their previous slice. When the system recovery is complete, there’s nothing left to do.

No other application can be used to migrate an existing system to ZFS!

Additional Changes and Enhancements

1. **Web-interface** changes:
 - a. All **color schemes** used in the GUI are now available in the web interface.
 - b. All GUI interface options (except **Copy Backups** – coming soon) previously not available in the web interface have been added., This includes **Software Update**, **Tape Library Utilities**, **No-prompt Install** options, **Snapshot Backup** configuration, **Holidays**, and more.
 - c. **New Web Authentication** logs can be viewed by the system administrator.
 - d. Improved messages and input boxes on the display using **inline popups** instead of separate windows.
2. A new “campfire” **color scheme** is available in the General Preferences. Note that color schemes now apply to each group, thereby allowing you to easily differentiate between different groups on the same screen (when starting a new GUI or web interface for each group).
3. Global **Backup Retention Policies** may be overridden for each backup *profile*. Backup retention is no longer specified in the *job* settings, but a customized backup profile can be created for each backup job if different retention policies are needed for each job. When migrating to V7 from a prior version, a customized backup profile will be created automatically for any jobs that had individual retention policies.
4. Global **Backup Process Priority** setting may be overridden for each backup *profile*. Backup priority is no longer specified in the *job* settings, but a customized backup profile can be created for each backup job if different priority setting is needed for each job. When migrating to V7 from a prior version, a customized backup profile will be created automatically for any jobs that had a non-default process priority setting.
5. Support added for **Linux “ext4”** filesystems.
6. AIX “**split-mirror**” backups are no longer supported, but have been replaced with **Snapshot Backups**. This makes consistent the snapshot backups for AIX, Solaris and Linux. For AIX, point-in-time backups can be created for any backup type containing JFS2 (AIX Version 5.2 and later) filesystems.
7. Permissions of **filesystem mount points** are now stored on the backup media and recovered during a system installation. This difference sometimes previously caused permission problems when trying to mount a filesystem when not the root user on the system.

License Requirements

SBAAdmin Version 7.1 is a new *version*, and therefore requires a new license key. Storix customers purchasing their software after January 1, 2009 and those having purchased a maintenance contract may obtain a Version 7 license key at no cost.

Select this link (<http://www.storix.com/upgrade-software>) to check if you are eligible for a Version 7 upgrade and to request a Version 7 license key. Refer to the **Support and Upgrade** section below if you are not currently eligible for an upgrade.

Evaluation (trial) license:

If you do not have a license for SBAAdmin, you may install a free 30-day evaluation key. To download the trial software, go to <http://www.storix.com/download>. Installation instructions are provided. No license key will be required, and the software will be fully-functional for 30 days.

If, during or after the trial period, you have obtained a Version 7 license key, you may enter it using the **File→Software License** option from the SBAAdmin menu. Your permanent license will be applied and you may continue to the use the software without need to change your previous configuration.

If you previously installed the software for a 30-day trial, which had expired, you may install this new version for an additional 30-day trial.

Backward Compatibility

SBAAdmin Version 7.1 is fully compatible with all earlier SBAAdmin backups. If you begin making new System Backups with version 7, you must remake your **boot media** to ensure your boot media and **system backups** are compatible for system recovery.

It is necessary to install Version 7.1 onto **all clients and servers** previously configured when upgrading a **Network Edition** or a **TSM Edition**. When installing onto the network administrator system ("*admin system*"), you are asked whether you want to update clients also. If you have not already done so, you should answer "yes". If any clients are not updated because they are unavailable, you will need to do so later before performing any backups to that client.

Support & Upgrade*

Any user of Version 6 will continue to receive free support and updates (within the same version) for 6 months after the release of Version 7. Therefore, per this release date:

Version 6 support will therefore end on December 31, 2009.

Storix announced its new software maintenance plan on January 1, 2009. Rather than requiring customers to purchase a new version of the software, customers must instead purchase an *annual maintenance plan*. Under this plan, customers will receive full support, updates and upgrades (even to new versions) as long as the plan remains current.

Customers who purchased their software on or after January 1, 2009 are eligible for a free upgrade to Version 7. Customers who purchased prior to January 1, 2009 and had not purchased a maintenance plan prior to June 30 must purchase a maintenance plan and an *upgrade*. The maintenance plan is 15% of the cost of the product, and the upgrade cost is 20% of the cost of the product. Once under a maintenance plan, there will be no further costs for support or maintenance.

Select this link (<http://www.storix.com/upgrade-software>) to check if you are eligible for a Version 7 upgrade and to request a Version 7 license key.

* Terms of support are subject to change without notice.