

A Disaster Recovery Solution that helps businesses get back on track instantly

1. What is VM Run Direct

A data recovery feature introduced in AhsayCBS v7.5 that greatly reduces disruption and downtime of crucial production VMware ESXi / vCenter or Hyper-V VMs during system failure. Unlike normal VM recovery that can take hours to complete, VM Run Direct is able to boot up the guest VMs directly from its backup file within one minute¹ to satisfy the recovery time objectives (RTOs) of the most demanding customers.

2. How it works

Ahsay leverages the Change Block Tracking (CBT) technology to develop VM Run Direct. When a Run Direct restore is performed, the backup destination will be mounted as an NFS datastore by the VMware / Hyper-V host, and the host can then boot up the guest VM immediately from the backup image. During Run Direct, live migration of the running VM can be initiated to either the original host or standby host.

3. What it takes

VM Run Direct requires Ahsay VMware add-on module² or Ahsay Hyper-V add-on module.

4. Use case

- ✔ **Instant recovery** – When a business-critical VM goes down, VM Run Direct empowers businesses to boot up the VM from its backup file instantly, without the need to fully restore the VM first. Users are back in production with minimal disruption
- ✔ **Simple steps** – Just select a Run Direct backup set, a VM, a point-in-time version, a recovery location to run the VM, and the recovery options – the VM will be booted and accessible immediately
- ✔ **Live migration** – Once the VM is running, admin can simultaneously migrate it to production as a background process for full restore. All changes made within the VM will be merged with the original VM data upon restore completion
- ✔ **Quick check of backup integrity** – As part of the disaster recovery plan, admin can use VM Run Direct to boot up the VM for testing the integrity of the backup set
- ⚠ For optimal recovery performance the backup data is uncompressed and unencrypted when Run Direct is enabled. The backup data is ideally stored in on-premises environment to ensure data security

¹ Based on Ahsay laboratory testing. Results may vary. Speed for Run Direct restore depends on factors such as VM size, network traffic, available CPU resource, free memory, disk I/O and number of delta.

² VMware Essentials license or above is required for VM Run Direct on VMware host.

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