



Disaster Recovery/Business Continuity Architecture and Backup System Design

Sine Nomine Associates can help your enterprise find right-sized, cost-appropriate solutions for disaster recovery, business continuity, and data backup and archiving.

There is no single best answer for backup and business continuity/disaster recovery (BC/DR), but rather a continuum of options that trade off guaranteed availability, recovery time, level of acceptable risk, data security, cost, and complexity. With a vendor- and platform-neutral approach, Sine Nomine Associates' engineers can assess diverse IT environments and recommend, design, and implement solutions to maximize data availability and mitigate the risk of business interruption or data loss.

The depth and breadth of experience brought by Sine Nomine Associates to BC/DR analysis includes creation of a strategic disaster recovery plan for a major Canadian bank's virtualized data center, gap analysis for large telecommunications firms in the People's Republic of China, and implementation of cross-platform network backup systems for distributed servers and clients. In addition to extensive work with Bacula in customer and in-house deployments, Sine Nomine Associates' engineering team contributed the Bacula chapter in the book *Backup and Recovery* by Curtis Preston (O'Reilly and Associates, publisher).

Sine Nomine Associates offers enterprise-grade support for Free/Libre Open Source backup software, including Bacula, as part of our Mission-Critical Systems Support portfolio. Support for Open Source tools such as Bacula is available in distributed, mainframe, and cross-platform environments.

Bacula

Sine Nomine Associates supports Bacula, an Open Source backup system ideal for backing up small-to-enterprise-scale networks. We additionally offer custom Bacula development for backup of data not contained in traditional filesystems, such as AFS or CMS minidisks, as well as custom integration, to allow Bacula to interoperate with enterprise and mainframe backup installations.

Nagios

Sine Nomine Associates supports Nagios, an Open Source monitoring toolkit, as a monitoring solution for customers, in deployments ranging from a few dozen hosts to several thousand, with both active and passive service and network availability monitoring.

Sample Scenario:

Public School System: Systems and Network Monitoring Infrastructure

Business Need: Enable a public school system in Virginia to actively monitor the status of their geographically diverse computing infrastructure.

Solution: A large county school system in Virginia faced a requirement for comprehensive systems and network monitoring as part of a larger modernization initiative. The client originally planned to go with a branded, expensive commercial solution from a large vendor. During the course of the project, the County decided to re-evaluate their options. Sine Nomine Associates presented Nagios, an open source (and thus, lower-cost) monitoring alternative. The County ultimately decided to forgo the expensive commercial solution in favor of Nagios. Sine Nomine Associates fully designed and implemented the system-wide Nagios monitoring infrastructure, which allows the County to have real time visibility into their hundreds of locations' computing environments.