

KEEPING YOUR DATA SAFE

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In today's digital world, our data is the most important asset we have. Documents, spreadsheets, databases, financial information, sentimental photography, purchased or rare music files and other difficult or costly to reproduce information make up the valuable content of our hard drive.

The most important consideration to ensure that your data is always safe is to frequently back up. There are many options. I personally recommend using more than one to promote redundancy in case a backup fails. Most users tend to favor external hard drives or DVDs. These backup media types are suitable to allow data to be easily accessed locally. Seagate brand external hard drives carry a five year warranty and excellent support. They are my recommendation for your local backup device.

Other options include online backup systems, flash drives, tape drives, network attached storage devices and customized solutions. Home users should consider an online backup system to easily facilitate geographic redundancy. This allows the user to have a full backup even if their primary location is damaged or destroyed. Online backups are not as fast or accessible, but play an important role, by allowing your data to be hosted in a completely separate location.

Envescent is available for hire as a consultancy to promote business continuity by designing and constructing customized redundant backup solutions. We also work with home users that need a hand understanding and configuring their backup systems.

Envescent is an Arlington, Virginia-based small business started in 1999 by Alexander G. Chamandy. Envescent provides computer repair, information technology services, data recovery, security, web design, hosting, consulting and support services for home users, small and medium-sized businesses, non-profit organizations and government.