



NetApp[®] AltaVault[®] OST Plug-in 1.2

Deployment Guide

NetApp, Inc.
495 East Java Drive
Sunnyvale, CA 94089
U.S.

Telephone: +1 (408) 822-6000
Fax: +1 (408) 822-4501
Support telephone: +1(888) 463-8277
Web: www.netapp.com
Feedback: doccomments@netapp.com

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CHAPTER 1 AltaVault OST Plug-in Overview

This chapter provides information for implementing OST for the AltaVault appliance. It includes the following sections:

- [“AltaVault OST Plug-in” on page 5](#)
- [“OST implemented features with AltaVault” on page 5](#)
- [“Key benefits” on page 6](#)
- [“Recommended deployments” on page 6](#)
- [“Summary deployment steps” on page 6](#)

AltaVault OST Plug-in

Veritas OST (OpenStorage) is an API that delivers optimized backup integration between NetBackup and storage appliances such as NetApp AltaVault. AltaVault leverages the OST framework to provide NetBackup the ability to efficiently stream backups to AltaVault as well as manage lifecycle policy of copies of backups stored on AltaVault and in the cloud.

Using the AltaVault OST Plug-in, the AltaVault appliance appears to the backup server as a shared disk. When it is time for a backup, the backup server contacts the backup client. Next, the backup server contacts the backup media (in this case, AltaVault) and starts writing an image of the clients or objects it is backing up.

OST implemented features with AltaVault

AltaVault support for OST consists of two features:

- Support for the OST communication protocol.
- Support of OST optimized duplication of backups triggered by NetBackup storage lifecycle policies (SLP), allowing NetBackup to have visibility and control of backups stored on AltaVault and in the cloud.

Key benefits

- Availability of data where you need it. With OST, NetBackup administrators can now ensure that critical datasets that are needed for short term use are locally available on the AltaVault appliance cache. Optimized duplicate copies for long term recovery and compliance can be managed and driven via secondary retention separately in the cloud. AltaVault intelligently manages the retention of the two copies in accordance with SLP.
- Off-site replication validation. Prior to OST support, NetBackup administrators could not determine via the NetBackup management console if backups to AltaVault had indeed been protected to off-site cloud storage. The addition of OST now allows NetBackup to have visibility into where backups are stored: either on AltaVault or in the cloud.
- Enhanced optimization of resources end to end. AltaVault intelligently deduplicates, compresses and encrypts NetBackup data to cloud storage, reducing the costs of transmission and storage while simultaneously easing management of backups. With the addition of OST, NetBackup can now further extend optimization techniques to additional duplicate copies with minimal impact on NetBackup media servers, corporate networks, and cloud storage.

Recommended deployments

AltaVault supports the fan-in of multiple NetBackup media servers using OST, allowing for AltaVault to provide optimal deduplication across all sources. It is recommended to configure a separate OST share for each media server.

Summary deployment steps

Description	Procedure
Install AltaVault OST Plug-in on the NetBackup media server.	Chapter 2, “Installing AltaVault OST Plug-in.”
Configure AltaVault OST shares and user accounts.	Refer to the section <i>Configuring OST</i> in the <i>NetApp AltaVault Cloud Integrated Storage Administration Guide</i> .
Configure the NetBackup media server for AltaVault OST.	Chapter 3, “Deploying Veritas OST with AltaVault.”

CHAPTER 2 Installing AltaVault OST Plug-in

The NetApp AltaVault OST Plug-in can be installed in either a Windows or Linux NetBackup environment.

This section includes:

- “Installing and configuring AltaVault OST Plug-in on Windows” on page 7
- “Installing and configuring AltaVault OST Plug-in on Linux” on page 8
- “Configuring AltaVault OST” on page 10

Refer to the [Interoperability Matrix Tool \(IMT\)](#) on the NetApp Support site to validate the exact product and feature versions described in this document are supported for your specific environment.

Installing and configuring AltaVault OST Plug-in on Windows

Before you begin the installation process, verify that you have the following:

- NetApp AltaVault 4.3 or higher
- Veritas NetBackup version 7.6 or 7.7
- Microsoft Visual C++ 2015 Redistributable (x64) package: <https://www.microsoft.com/en-us/download/details.aspx?id=48145>
- Write permission to create the folder C:\ntapav, which contains the AltaVault’s OST Plug-in configuration and log files

To install the OST plug-in for Windows

1. Download the AltaVault OST Plug-in from downloads section of the NetApp Support Site (<https://mysupport.netapp.com>).
2. Copy the ost_installer.msi file onto the NetBackup media server.
3. Shut down the NetBackup services on the media server host.
4. Launch the ost_installer.msi file.
5. Accept the license agreement presented.
6. Click Install.
7. Click Finish.
8. Start up the NetBackup services on the media server host.
9. To verify that the AltaVault OST Plug-in is installed properly, open a command prompt and enter the following:

```
C:\Program Files\Veritas\NetBackup\bin\admincmd> .\bpstsinfo.exe -pi -sp NetAppAltaVault
Plugin Info:
  Plugin Name: libstspiAltaVaultDisk.dll
  Prefix: NetAppAltaVault
  Label: NetApp AltaVault Plugin
  Build Version: 11
  Build Version Minor: 1
  Operating Version: 11
  Vendor Version: v1.2 /08-Dec-16
```

To configure the AltaVault OST Plug-in for SSL on Windows

SSL is optional on Windows and is disabled by default. To enable SSL, perform the following steps.

Note: If the NetBackup media server will be communicating with multiple AltaVault appliances using SSL, this procedure must be repeated for each targeted AltaVault appliance.

1. If not already configured, log in to the AltaVault Management Console and configure OST shares. Refer to the *NetApp AltaVault Cloud Integrated Storage Administration Guide*.
2. In the Management Console, select Configure > OST > Global OST Settings.
3. Check the box to enable SSL.
4. Choose Maintenance > Service and restart the optimization service.
5. Choose Configure > Web Settings.
6. Under the Web Certificate section, select the PEM tab and copy the certificate.
7. On the Windows NetBackup media server where you installed AltaVault OST Plug-in, navigate to the folder C:\ntapav.
8. Create a text file called <hostname>_cert.pem if the file does not exist. Open the file in a text editor and paste the certificate contents from Step 6. If the file already contains the web certificate of an existing AltaVault, you can append the new AltaVault certificate information to the end of the file starting on a new line. Here, <hostname> refers to the storage server hostname or IP address specified while creating the storage server for which SSL connection is needed.

Installing and configuring AltaVault OST Plug-in on Linux

Before you begin the installation process, verify that you have the following:

- NetApp AltaVault 4.3 or higher
- Veritas NetBackup 7.6 or 7.7
- Write permission to create the directory /usr/ntapav, which contains AVA OST Plug-in configuration and log files.

To install the AltaVault OST Plug-in for Linux

1. Download the plug in from the NetApp Support Site downloads section.
2. Unzip the archive file to a temporary directory on the NetBackup media server:

```
>tar zxvf AltaVaultOSTPlugin-1.2.tar.gz
```

The file name may be different depending on the version downloaded from the support site.
3. Shut down the NetBackup services on the media server host.
4. Go to the NetAppOSTInstaller subdirectory and run the script NetAppOSTInstaller.sh to copy the libraries:

```
>./NetAppOSTInstaller.sh
```

5. Start up the NetBackup services on the media server host.

The plug-in should now be installed.

6. To verify that the AltaVault OST Plug-in is installed properly, enter the following:

```
# /usr/opensv/netbackup/bin/admincmd/bpstsinfo -pi -sp NetAppAltaVault
Plugin Info:
  Plugin Name: libstspiNetAppAltaVaultMT.so
  Prefix: NetAppAltaVault
  Label: NetApp AltaVault Plugin
  Build Version: 11
  Build Version Minor: 1
  Operating Version: 11
  Vendor Version: v1.2 /08-Dec-16
```

The plug-in should now be installed.

To configure AltaVault OST Plug-in for SSL on Linux

SSL is optional on Linux and is disabled by default. To enable SSL, perform the following steps.

Note: If the NetBackup media server will be communicating with multiple AltaVault appliances using SSL, this procedure must be repeated for each targeted AltaVault appliance.

1. If not already configured, log in to the AltaVault Management Console and configure OST shares. Refer to the *NetApp AltaVault Cloud Integrated Storage Administration Guide*.
2. In the Management Console, select Configure > OST > Global OST Settings.
3. Check the box to enable SSL.
4. Choose Maintenance > Service and restart the optimization service.
5. Choose Configure > Web Settings.
6. Under Web Certificates section, select the PEM tab and copy the certificate.
7. On the Linux NetBackup media server, navigate to /usr/ntapav.

8. Create a text file called <hostname>_cert.pem if the file does not exist. Open the file in a text editor and paste the certificate contents from Step 6. If the file already contains the web certificate of an existing AltaVault, you can append the new AltaVault certificate information to the end of the file starting on a new line. Here, <hostname> refers to the storage server hostname or IP address specified while creating the storage server for which SSL connection is needed.

Configuring AltaVault OST

After installing the plug-in on the NetBackup media server, configure OST shares on AltaVault for access by NetBackup. OST shares are available in two types:

- **Regular Shares:** Regular shares treat incoming data by AltaVault the same as traditional SMB shares or NFS exports by writing the data on cache, and replicating the data to the cloud. A minimum of one regular share is required for OST to move data to AltaVault.
- **Cloud Shares:** Cloud shares are used to create an optimized duplicate of data in regular shares replicated in the cloud that are managed via NetBackup storage life-cycle policies (SLP). One or more cloud shares can be created to extend duplication of regular or cloud shares for policies requiring longer retention.

AltaVault OST shares and user account creation is described in the section *Configuring OST* in the *NetApp Cloud Integrated Storage Administration Guide*.

After setting up OST shares and user accounts, configure NetBackup media servers for AltaVault OST as described in [Chapter 3, “Deploying Veritas OST with AltaVault.”](#)

CHAPTER 3 Deploying Veritas OST with AltaVault

This chapter provides information for setting up the NetBackup media server for OST communication with the AltaVault appliance.

Prerequisites

Prior to setting up communication between the NetBackup media server and AltaVault, you must configure regular shares, cloud shares, or both on the AltaVault. Additionally, OST shares must have associated local user accounts set up on AltaVault to be used by NetBackup storage server. To configure OST shares and users on AltaVault, see the section *Configuring OST* in the latest *NetApp AltaVault Cloud Integrated Storage Administration Guide*.

Run the NetBackup Storage Server Wizard

The NetBackup Storage Server Wizard configures the necessary storage devices, including the storage server, disk pool, and storage unit, enabling OST communications to AltaVault. Since each share created on AltaVault is associated with one storage server, disk pool and storage unit, you will perform the following procedure once per share you wish to enable with NetBackup OST.

1. Start the NetBackup Storage Server Wizard. On the Add Storage Server page, fill in the following fields:

Field	Description
Media Server	Specify the media server that has the AltaVault OST Plug-in installed.
Storage server type	If NetAppAltaVault does not appear in the drop down list, manually type in the value NetAppAltaVault . The value does not appear in the drop down list.
Storage server name	Enter in a name to call this storage server. This name is constructed using the OST share name configured on AltaVault, followed by an underscore (_) character, followed by the AltaVault data interface DNS name or IP address. For example, if the OST share is called OSTshare1, and the AltaVault data interface e0a entry in DNS is AltaVaultDataInterface, the constructed name for the field is OSTshare1_AltaVaultDataInterface.

Field	Description
User name	Provide the name of the OST user associated with the AltaVault OST share. Refer to the AltaVault OST page for the credentials.
Password	Provide the password of the OST user associated with the AltaVault OST share. Refer to the AltaVault OST page for the credentials.

2. Click **Next**.
3. Complete the storage server setup wizard. Ensure the **Create a disk pool using the storage server you have just created** checkbox is selected.
4. Click **Next**.
5. In the Disk Pool and Volumes page, select the appropriate pool type, and select the volume to add to the disk pool by clicking the check box next to the logical name of the AltaVault volume in the table:
 - Replication Source
Use this type when configuring a disk pool for AltaVault regular OST shares.
 - Replication Target
Use this type when configuring a disk pool for AltaVault cloud OST shares.

Note: The size of an OST share on AltaVault is set at 1.78 PB and cannot be changed. This value is reflected on the page. If you require additional storage, configure additional shares and add them to the OST disk pool.

6. Click **Next**.
7. In the Additional Disk Pool Information page, enter a disk pool name. Do not select the Limit I/O streams checkbox:

Selection	Description
Disk Pool name	Provide the name of the disk pool you are creating.
High water mark	Leave this value at its default value of 98 percent.
Low water mark	Leave this value at its default value of 80 percent.
Limit I/O streams	Leave this checkbox unselected for best AltaVault performance.

8. Click **Next**.
9. When the disk pool task is done, select the checkbox Create a storage unit using the disk pool that you have just created.
10. Click **Next**.

11. In the Storage Unit Creation page, fill in the fields as follows.

Field	Description
Storage unit name	Provide a name for the storage unit you are creating.
Only use the selected media servers	Identify the NetBackup media servers which are enabled with the AltaVault OST Plug-in to perform data movement of backups.
Maximum concurrent jobs	This establishes how many writers are allowed by data protection clients. Tune performance by setting a value higher than 1. The value will depend on your available resources and infrastructure environment. Adjust the number of streams accordingly based on your observed performance.
Maximum fragment size	The fragment size is the maximum-size object that NetBackup can create to store backups. The recommended fragment size is 20480 MB (20 GB).

12. Click **Next**.

13. The Storage Server Configuration Wizard completes. Click **Finish** to close.

Create a Storage Lifecycle Policy

You will need to create at least one backup operation in an SLP representing the primary backup to AltaVault. Additional optimized duplication operations can be created as tiered operations under a backup operation to reflect the longer term retentions of backups according to your business needs.

Create a backup operation

1. Open the Storage Lifecycle Policies page in the NetBackup Administration Console, and click **Add** to add a backup step to the SLP.
2. In the page that appears, fill in the fields as follows:

Field	Description
Operation	Select Backup to identify a backup job that will be sent to the AltaVault OST share.
Destination Storage	Select the storage unit configured to use the regular AltaVault OST share.
Retention type	Specify your retention requirements.
Retention period	Specify your retention time frame to maintain the backup. Backups after this time elapse expire from AltaVault and will be deleted.

3. Click **OK** to complete the backup operation creation.

Create an optimized duplication operation

Optionally, if you are using Cloud shares, you must

1. Select the backup operation created previously, and then click **Add** to add an optimized duplication operation.

2. In the page that appears, fill in the fields as follows.

Field	Description
Operation	Select Duplication to identify a duplication operation will be performed to a cloud-based AltaVault OST share.
Destination Storage	Select the storage unit configured to use the cloud-based AltaVault OST share.
Retention type	Specify your retention requirements.
Retention period	Specify your retention time frame to maintain the backup. Backups after this time elapse expire from AltaVault and will be deleted.
Alternate read server	You can specify an additional Media Server if you wish to read duplicated backups from a separate media server. This media server must also have the AltaVault OST Plug-in installed.

Note: The operation type should default to Duplication if you properly selected the backup operation in the previous step.

3. Click **OK** to complete the optimized duplication operation creation.

Summary of AltaVault OST best practices

Practice	NetApp Recommendation	Notes
Disk pool maximum I/O streams	Do not enable and provide a value for maximum I/O streams.	Use maximum concurrent jobs under the Storage Unit settings instead.
Assigning media servers to a storage unit	Manually select the appropriate media servers with the AltaVault OST Plug-in installed.	
Maximum concurrent jobs	Set appropriately according to your available media server resources.	Tune this setting rather than the maximum I/O streams value at the disk pool level. Set to 0 if you are switching cloud providers, or are experiencing intermittent cloud connectivity issues.
Maximum fragment size	20480 MB.	This can be left at the default if desired by your business, but is not recommended to be set lower than 20480 MB.
NetBackup Catalog backups	AltaVault OST can be used for NetBackup catalog backup operations.	

APPENDIX A Upgrading AltaVault OST Plug-in

If you have previously installed the AltaVault OST Plug-in and require an upgrade for compatibility with AltaVault as indicated in the IMT, refer to the following procedures:

- “Upgrading AltaVault OST Plug-in for Windows” on page 15
- “Upgrading AltaVault OST Plug-in for Linux” on page 16

Upgrading AltaVault OST Plug-in for Windows

Note: The AltaVault OST Plug-in requires compatibility with the AltaVault version running in your environment. Refer to the [Interoperability Matrix Tool \(IMT\)](#) on the NetApp Support site to validate compatible versions.

To upgrade the AltaVault OST Plug-in for Windows

1. Uninstall the existing AltaVault OST Plug-in from the Windows server:
 - a. Go to Control Panel.
 - b. Double-click on Programs and Features.
 - c. Select NetApp AltaVault Plug-in for NetBackup.
 - d. Right click on the selection, and click Uninstall.
2. Install the AltaVault OST Plug-in as described in the procedure “To install the OST plug-in for Windows” on page 7.
3. If needed, configure or re-configure the plug-in for SSL as described in the procedure “To configure the AltaVault OST Plug-in for SSL on Windows” on page 8.

Note: If you are upgrading to AltaVault OST Plug-in from a pre-1.2 to 1.2 or higher release, you must rename your cert.pem file to <hostname>_cert.pem for SSL to be available after the upgrade. Here, <hostname> refers to the storage server hostname or IP address specified while creating the storage server for which SSL connection is needed.

Upgrading AltaVault OST Plug-in for Linux

To upgrade the AltaVault OST Plug-in for Linux

1. Install the AltaVault OST Plug-in as described in the procedure [“To install the AltaVault OST Plug-in for Linux” on page 9](#).
2. Configure the plug-in for SSL as described in the procedure [“To configure AltaVault OST Plug-in for SSL on Linux” on page 9](#).

Note: If you are upgrading to AltaVault OST Plug-in from a pre-1.2 to 1.2 or higher release, you must rename your cert.pem file to <hostname>_cert.pem for SSL to be available after the upgrade. Here, <hostname> refers to the storage server hostname or IP address specified while creating the storage server for which SSL connection is needed.

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You can also contact us in the following ways:

- NetApp, Inc., 495 East Java Drive, Sunnyvale, CA 94089 U.S.
- Telephone: +1 (408) 822-6000
- Fax: +1 (408) 822-4501
- Support telephone: +1 (888) 463-8277

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