

# ELPBack Online Backup Whitepaper – Data Security

Version 5.5.x

Jun 2008

Protecting Tomorrow with yesterday

## **ELPBack Offsite Backup** Whitepaper – Data Security



# Table of Content

1 Introduction .....	3
2 ELPBack Offsite Backup Server – “Secure, Robust and Reliable” .....	4
2.1 Secure 128-bit SSL communication.....	4
2.2 Backup data are securely encrypted.....	4
2.3 Encrypting key are well protected .....	4
2.4 Best encryption algorithm is used.....	5
2.5 Require $8.77 \times 10^{17}$ years to crack the 128-bit encryption .....	5
2.6 Restrict access to data by IP addresses .....	5
2.7 Physical Security of our Data Centers .....	5
2.8 HIPAA compliance .....	5

## **ELPBack Offsite Backup Whitepaper – Data Security**

3 of 5

### **1 Introduction**

This document describes the security measures available in ELPBack Online Backup software from the user's perspective. It serves as a reference for partners when addressing customers' queries on security.

## **2 ELPBack Offsite Backup Server – “Secure, Robust and Reliable”**

### **2.1 Secure 128-bit SSL communication**

All communications between ELPBack Backup Server and your computer are transported in a 128-bit SSL (Secure Socket Layer) channel. Although all your backup files travel through a public network (internet), eavesdroppers have no knowledge of what has been exchanged.

### **2.2 Backup data are securely encrypted**

All of your files are first zipped and encrypted with your defined encrypting key before they are sent to an ELPBack backup server. To all people but you, your files that are stored on an ELPBack backup server appear as no more than some garbage files with random content.

### **2.3 Encrypting key are well protected**

The encrypting key used to encrypt your files resides only on your computer and is known only to you. It is never transmitted anywhere across the network. Thus, even the system administrators will not be able to decrypt and view the content of your files stored on the backup server without your permission. This unfortunately means if the encrypting key is lost, you will never be able to recover your backup files.

#### **Technical Details**

The encrypting key for the different backup sets are stored the config.sys file, which is encoded by a proprietary algorithm:

(Windows) C:\Documents and Settings\administrator\.obm\config\config.sys

(Linux) ~/.obm/config/config.sys

(Mac OS X) ~/.obm/config/config.sys

If client software cannot locate the config.sys (due to accidental deletion or logon to a new machine with the same account), it will prompt the user to re-enter the encrypting key for the backup set and then store it in the local config.sys.

## **ELPBack Offsite Backup**

### **Whitepaper – Data Security**

Page 5 of 5

## **2.4 Best encryption algorithm is used**

Currently, the algorithm that we are using to encrypt your files is 128-bit Twofish. It is a block cipher designed by Counterpane Labs. It was also one of the five Advanced Encryption Standard (AES) finalists chosen by National Institute of Standard and Technology (NIST). It subjects to frequent public reviews but no known attack against this algorithm has been reported.

## **2.5 Require $8.77 \times 10^{17}$ years to crack the 128-bit encryption**

A 128-bit key size has  $2^{128}$  or around  $3.4 \times 10^{38}$  possible combination. Even if you have the world best super computer, ASCI White, SP Power3 375 MHz manufactured by IBM as of November 2000, it would take  $8.77 \times 10^{17}$  years to test all combinations. Assuming you have the super computer, ASCI White, SP Power3 375 MHz has 8192 processors which totals a capability of 12.3 teraflops (trillions of operations/second), available to you. Also it just needs one computer operation to test a possible combination (which is already faster than what it can do). To use brute force attack (checking all combinations) on this encryption algorithm. It would take:

$3.4 \times 10^{38}$

----- seconds  $\sim 2.76 \times 10^{25}$ sec

$12.3 \times 10^{12}$

I.e. 876530835323573935 years or  $8.77 \times 10^{17}$  years to successfully try all combinations. Let alone ASCI White cannot process as fast as what described here. You can be sure that your data stored on our server is 100% secured.

## **2.6 Restrict access to data by IP addresses**

You can also restrict access to your backup files from the set of IP addresses you defined. If someone tries to access your data from an IP address not on your defined list, their access will be denied. This additional security ensures backup files are not open to all location, even username and password is known.

## **2.7 Physical Security of ELPBack Data centers**

ELPBack Servers are stored in 2 geographically separate secure data centers. All ELPBack Data Centers require a numeric key to enter the building. All ELPBack Data centers have 24X7 security systems, with video surveillance. All ELPBack Data Centers have battery backups with generator power to insure maxim up-time. All ELPBack Data Centers have no less then 2 hi-speed connections to the internet. Here at ELPBack we strive not only to provide top notch electronic security measures, but we also have strong physical security. However in the un-likely event that a server or storage array was stolen, all user data is fully encrypted and un readable by anyone, except the user with security key.

## **2.8 HIPAA compliance**

ELPBack meets or exceeds all HIPAA Compliance requirements, and therefore is great for medical use, as in EMR.