

CU*Answers Defense MD



CU*Answers Defense MD

- A proven solution for securing member data.
- Complements the sound security and reliability of your iSeries.
- A “must have” for today’s in-house credit unions.



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Announcing Defense MD: Encrypted Tape Backups for Self-Processors

Defending CU*BASE Member Backups Through WESCO Net’s New Encryption Services

Do you cringe when you read the news articles about a company that misplaces a data tape and now must notify their entire customer base of the potential security risk because their personnel data has landed in unknown hands? Can your business afford either the risk or the expense of a similar exposure happening in your data center? How secure are your end-of-day backup tapes when they leave your building?

As self-processors, these are questions that we must continually ask ourselves, and most certainly be ready to answer when they are asked of us by members, examiners, or vendors. As a diligent CUSO partner, you have implemented secure and practical solutions to protect member data, but to what degree will they hold up? Can they go so far as protection against a disgruntled employee walking off with an unencrypted backup tape?

Member data is life blood of your business, and today’s marketplace requires all of us to step up to the challenge of preserving its security. As a data processor, this same challenge is magnified to the point where it became prudent to invest CUSO financial and staff resources to develop a even higher degree of data security—tape encryption.

**Securely
encrypting your
member data!**

After many months of testing, we can recommend this same solution—**Defense MD**— be deployed in your data center.

Defense MD allows you to securely encrypt data that you are currently putting on magnetic tape.

CU*Answers has partnered with Patrick Townsend & Associates to offer their Alliance AES/400 product to our self-processing community. The heart and soul of the Alliance AES/400 solution is its use of AES (Advanced Encryption Standard). AES is an encryption method that has been selected by the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) of the US government for use in private and public applications to protect sensitive information.

During our internal deployment, CU*Answers added a user-friendly wrapper around the AES/400 product to create an easy-to-use menu system, configuration options, and invaluable assistance with key management. Defense MD can even notify you when a new library has been added to your system so that its proper disposition can be defined.

Defense MD is the solution to safely and securely protecting your

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Defense MD—Taking the Offensive to Secure Your Data

valuable member data and to satisfy the scrutinizing eye of auditors and examiners.

How will this solution affect my system backup and business recovery strategies?

Several credit unions have approached us recently about the possibility of transmitting daily backup files to CU*Answers in order to eliminate the daily tape cycle. While we are working toward a solution to meet these requests, there are still valid reasons for all in-house clients to strongly consider tape encryption:

- Even if you are already using or considering a high availability/data replication solution, you will always have a need for tape backups for local restore purposes.
- And what about your full system backups?
- Or your month-end CU*BASE file backups (you should have two sets – one onsite and one offsite)

An examiner will certainly remind you that it is critical to retain a hard copy of these backup tapes for seven (7) years. Since moving data to tape is not going away totally any time soon (even after you deploy a data replication strategy), your member data will continue to be exposed to risk without a comprehensive encryption strategy like **Defense MD**.

How much will this solution cost to implement?

There are two costs associated with **Defense MD**. The first is a one time software and implementation services fee of **\$9,000** (plus applicable T&E). This cost covers a member of our iSeries team coming on-site to configure, document, and train your staff on AES/400. The second cost is a **20% Annual Maintenance Fee**. This \$1,800 fee will be invoiced upon installation and each subsequent anniversary.

How do I get started?

Please contact Jody Karnes at (800) 327-3478 (x105) or via Email at jkarnes@cuanswers.com if you would like a contract to review or simply to get more information on **Defense MD**.



Go On Offense to Secure Your Member Data