Altaro Hyper-V Backup – Getting Started

System requirements

Supported Host Operating Systems:

- Windows 2008 R2 (all editions)
- Windows 2008 R2 SP1
- Windows Hyper-V Server R2 (core installation)

Please note that Altaro Hyper-V Backup needs to be installed on the Hyper-V Host (not within the guest VM).

Required Specifications:

- 128 MB RAM
- 100 MB Hard Disk Space (for Altaro Hyper-V Backup Program and Settings files)
- MS .NET Framework 2.0

Supported Backup Destinations

Altaro Hyper-V Backup supports backing up to:

- USB External Drives
- eSata External Drives
- USB Flash Drives
- Fileserver Network Shares using UNC Paths
- NAS devices (Network Attached Storage) using UNC Paths
- Internal Hard Drives (recommended only for evaluation purposes)

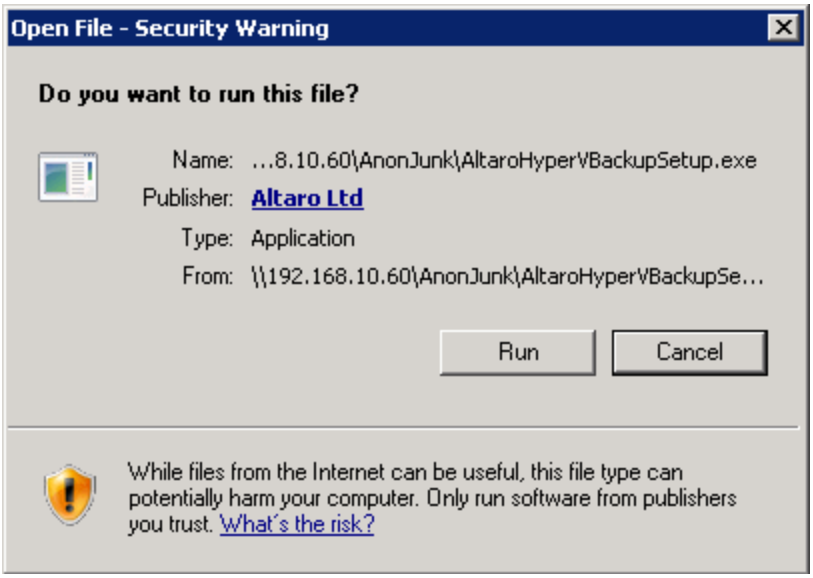
Installing & Uninstalling

- Installing Altaro Hyper-V Backup
- Entering the License Key

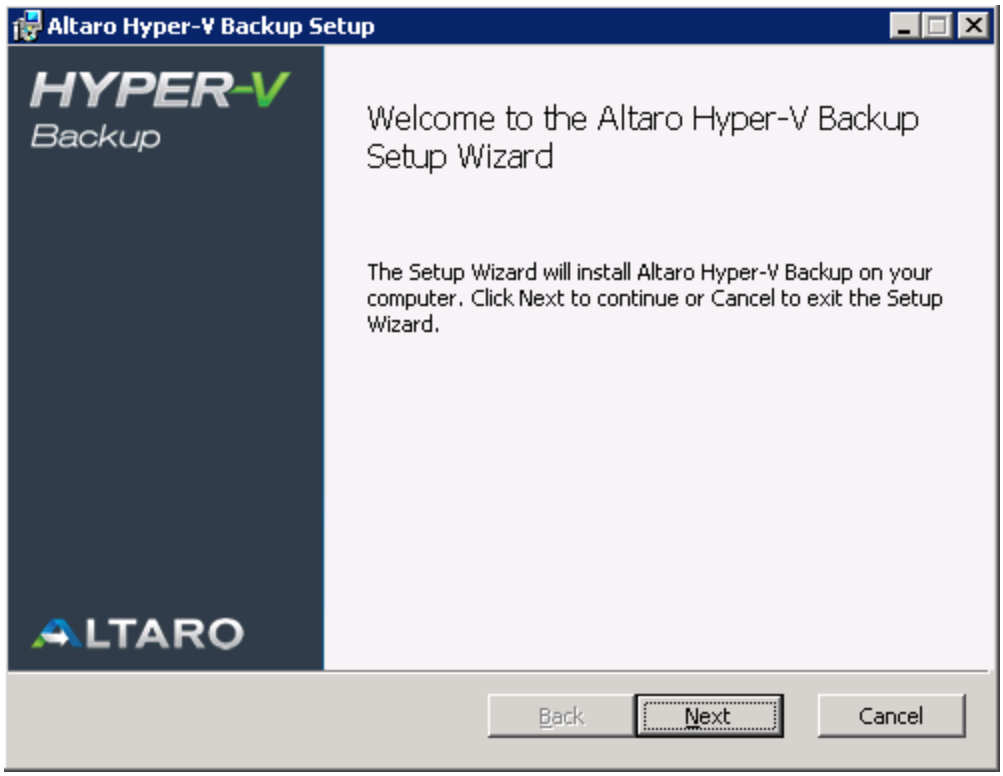
Installing Altaro Hyper-V Backup

If you do not have a copy of the installer for Altaro Hyper-V Backup please obtain a copy from http://www.altaro.com/hyper-v-backup/download-trial.php before following this tutorial.

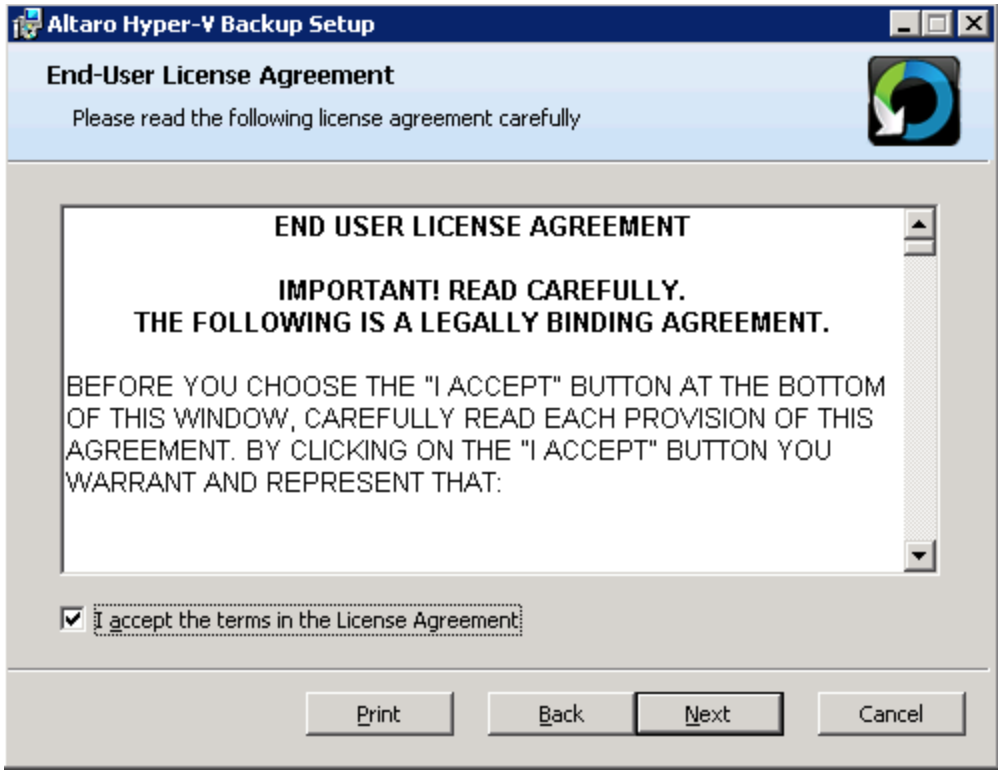
1. Launch the downloaded file: **altarohypervbackupsetup.exe**. On certain Operating Systems you may receive a warning informing you that certain downloads may be unsafe. Altaro Hyper-V Backup is signed using Altaro's digital signature and therefore this warning can be ignored.



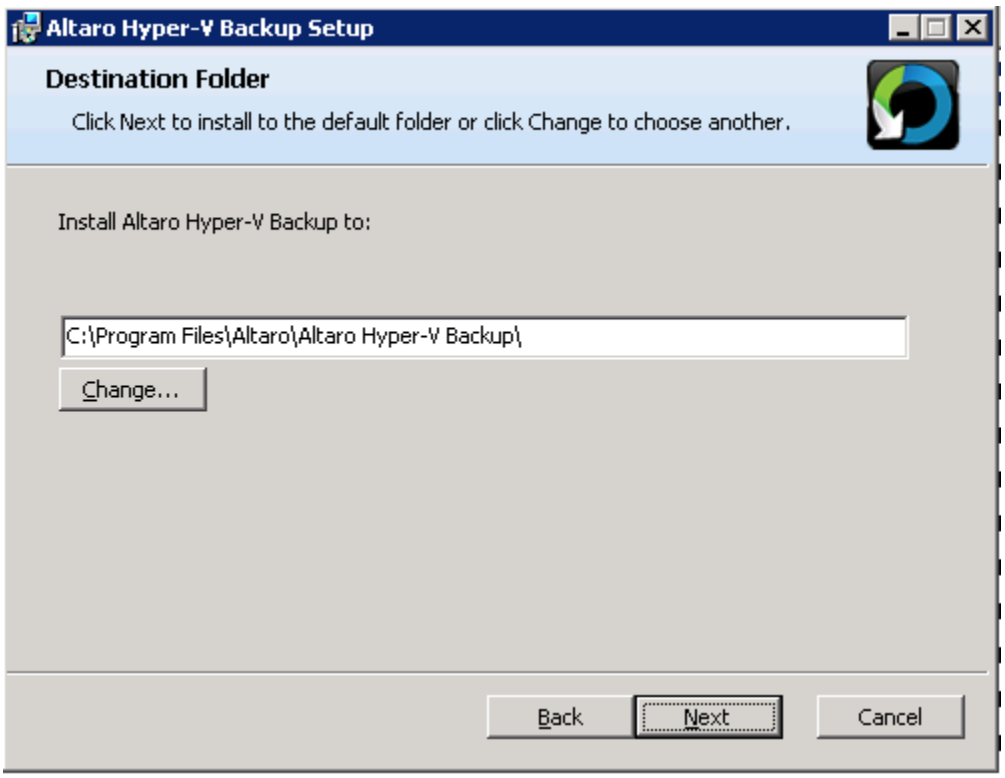
2. Next you will be presented with the welcome screen of the installer. Simply click [Next].



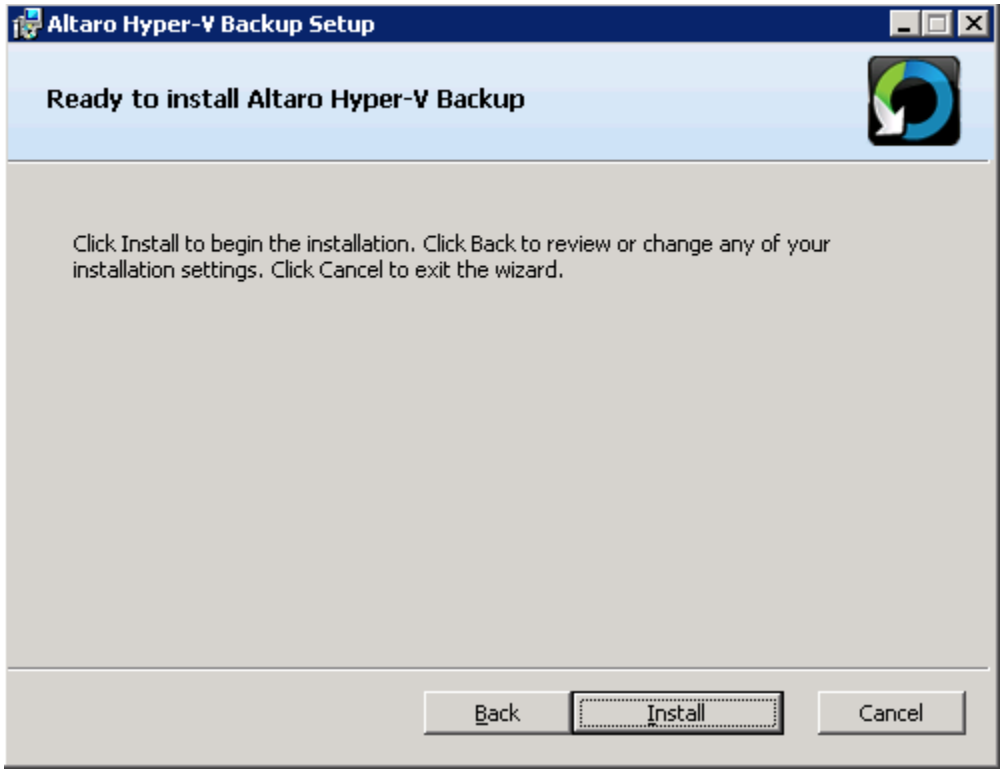
3. You will now see the End User License Agreement into which you will enter with Altaro Ltd. Please read through the agreement and check the "I Accept..." checkbox. Once you have agreed to the terms and conditions in the EULA you can press [NEXT].



4. At this point you will be prompted for the Destination Folder of the installation. In most normal cases you should leave the installation path as default. Altaro Hyper-V Backup will be installed within your Program Files folder.



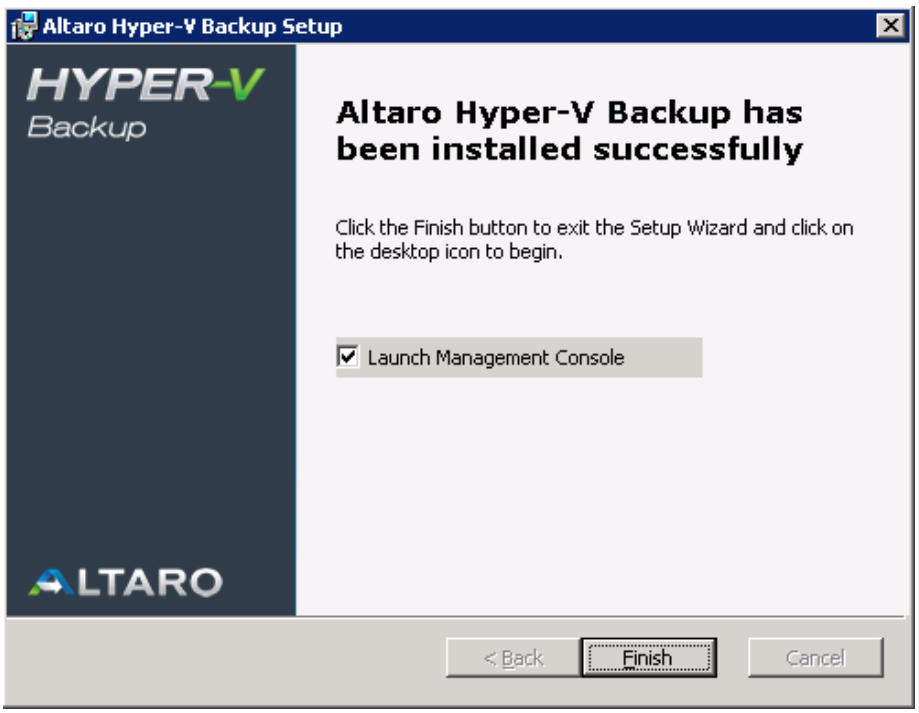
5. Next you will see a screen asking you for confirmation to install. Please press [Install].



6. At this point the installation will begin. You will be presented with a progress bar updating you with the progress of the installation. Installation should only take a few seconds. **Please note that if you have UAC enabled on the Server then a UAC prompt may be displayed**. Please click allow for the installation to complete. UAC is required for the following reasons:

   - Files are being copied to the Program Files Folder.
   - A Windows Service is being installed.

7. Once the installation is done you will be presented with the successful installation screen. A checkbox is displayed and checked by default indicating whether the **Management Console** should be launched automatically.



Should a screen informing you that the installation has failed appear please contact support.

8. Finally the Altaro Hyper-V Backup Management Console will appear. Please click here for a tutorial on configuring your Backup Profile.

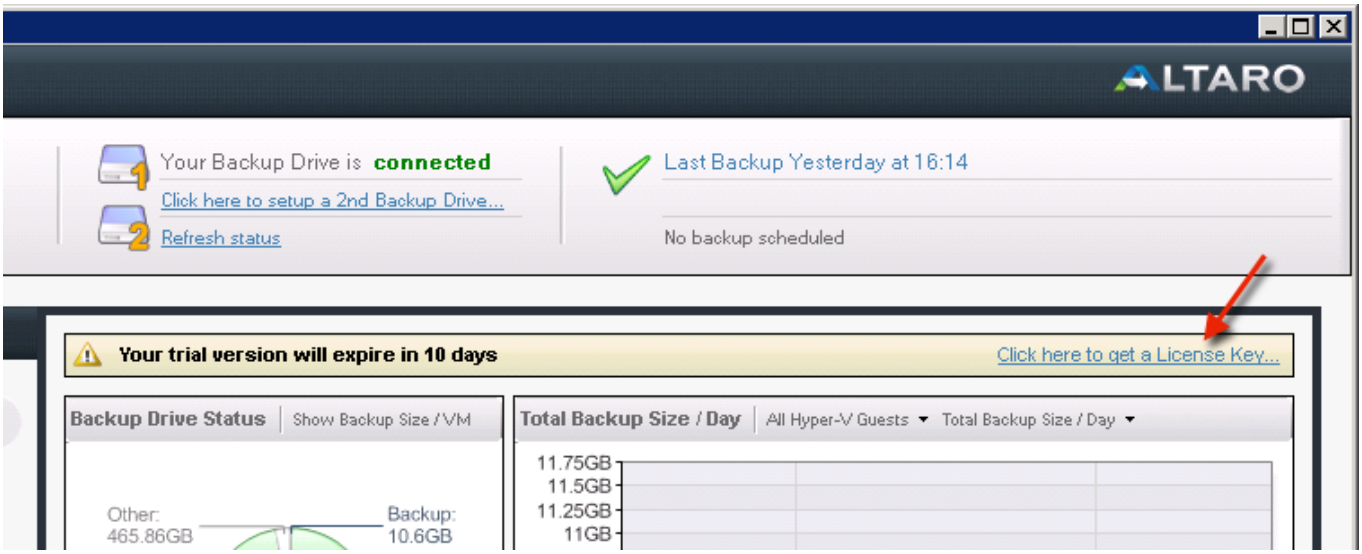
Entering the License Key

Once you order Altaro Hyper-V Backup you will receive an email containing your unique License Key. The License Key is a block of letters.

To enter your license key please follow these steps:

1. Launch the Altaro Hyper-V Backup **Management Console**.
2. Click **'Enter your License Key...**' from the bottom menu:

OR you may click on **'Click here to get License Key'** from the dashboard screen.



3. Next the license key window will appear as shown below.

4. Now open the email that contains your License Key. Once you select the License Key, right-click on it and select Copy.

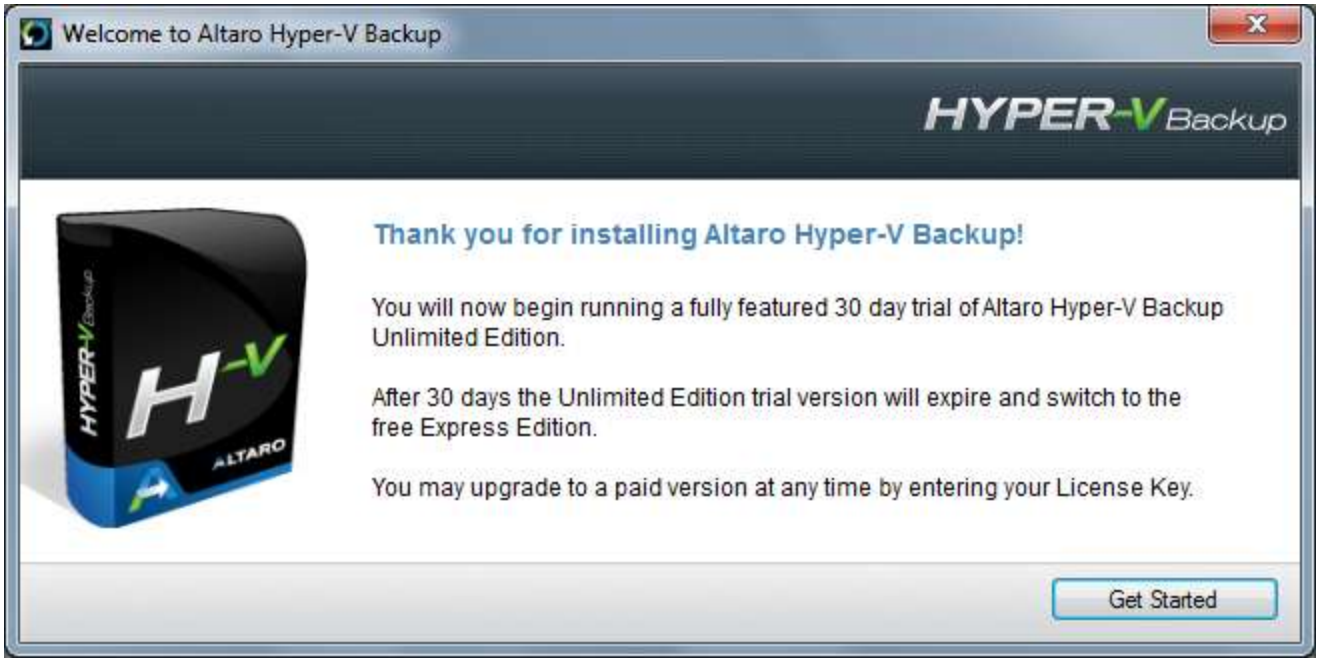
5. Go back to the License Key window, right-click on the white text box and select Paste.

6. Click the button [Verify License Key] to verify your License Key. Once verified the window will change to confirm that the License Key was accepted by thanking you for purchasing the product.

Configuration - Quick Start

Altaro Hyper-V Backup First Run

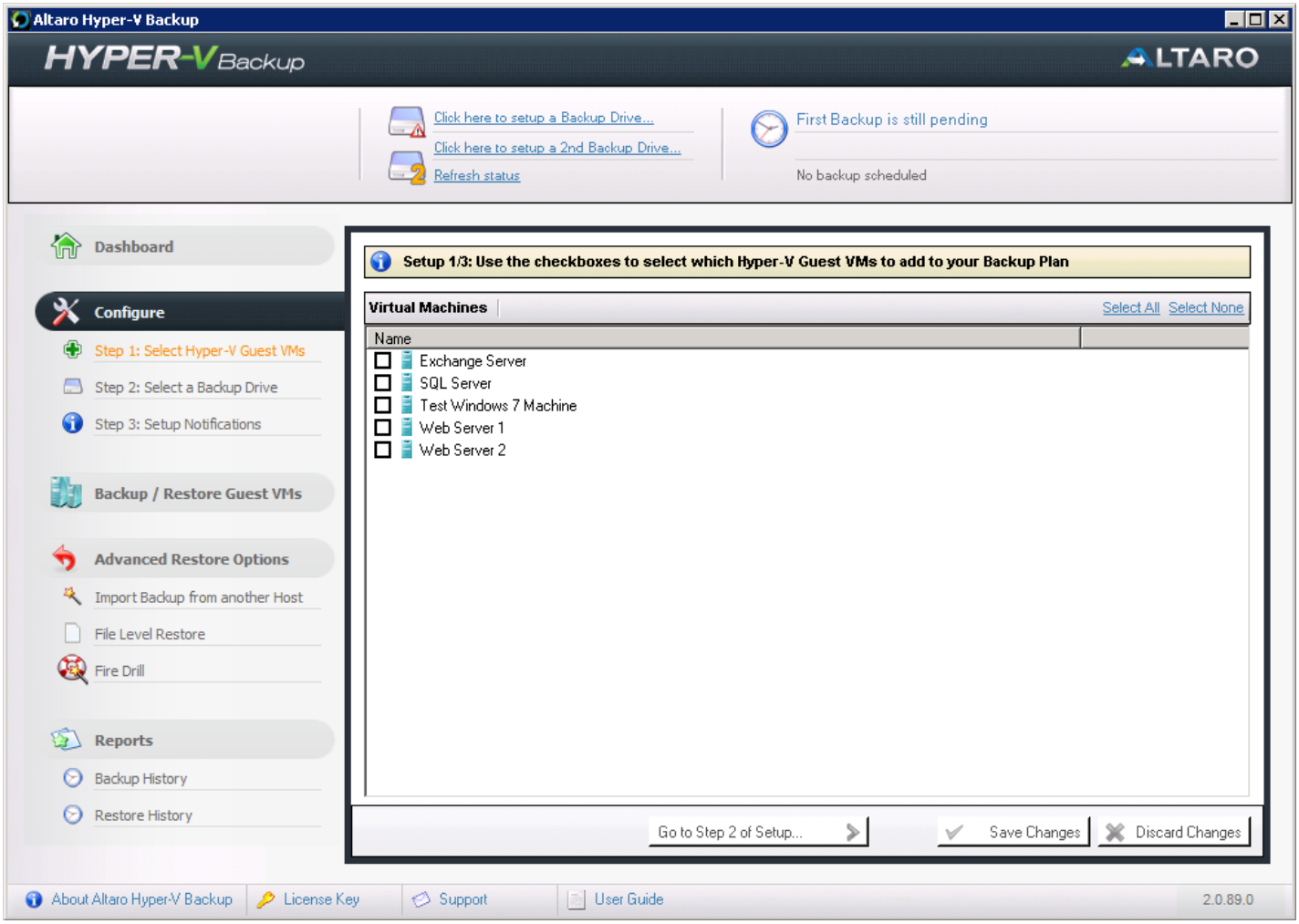
On first launch the Altaro Hyper-V Backup Evaluation mode will be enabled and you will be presented with the following dialog:



At any point during the evaluation you will be able to enter a License Key to activate a Hyper-V Backup Edition. If you choose not to purchase the software then you can activate the free Express Edition at the end of the Evaluation period. Read instructions on entering your license key here.

The first time that you run Altaro Hyper-V Backup the **Management Console** will launch into a special configuration mode. This will help you to:

1. Select which Hyper-V Guest VMs you would like to backup. Read instructions here.
2. Select which Backup Drive to back up to. Read instructions here.
3. Enable and disable backup and restore notifications. Read instructions here.



Opening the Management Console

The **Management Console** is opened automatically after you first install **Altaro Hyper-V Backup**.

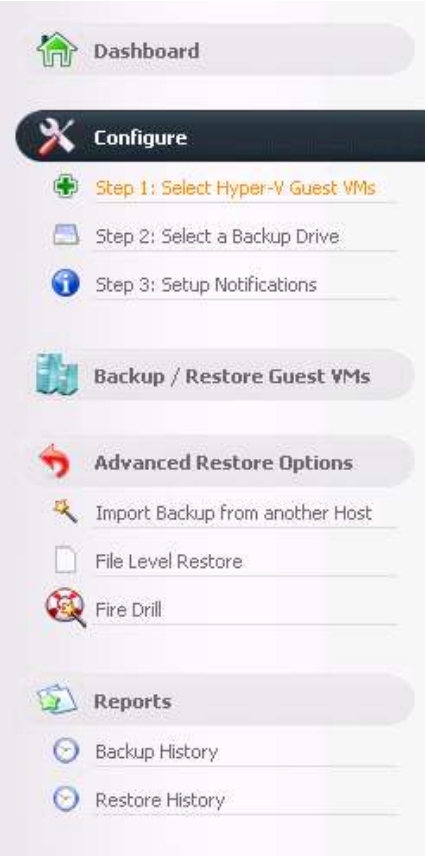
After this you can launch it easily using one of the following methods:

- Clicking on the **Altaro Hyper-V Backup** item within the *"Start Menu > All Programs > Altaro"* group.
- Launching "Altaro Hyper-V Backup.exe" application from the install location. By default this is *"C:\Program Files\Altaro\Altaro Hyper-V Backup"*.
- Enter the command **STARTALTARO** into a command prompt window. This may not work immediately after first install until you log out and in to the Server due to the Environment Variables not being refreshed.
- If the **Management Console** is already running in the background simply double click on the Altaro Hyper-V Backup System Tray icon.

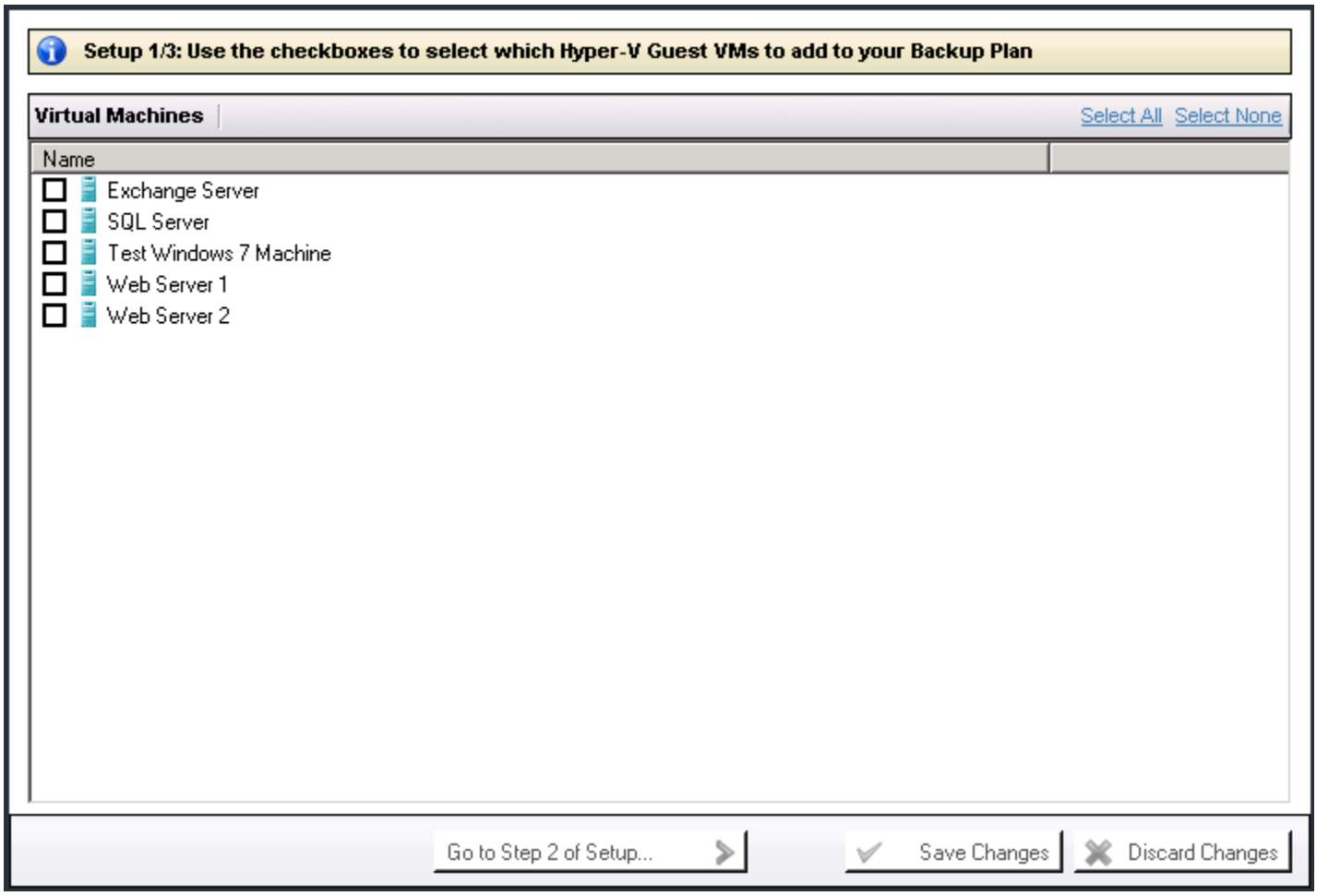
Choosing VMs to back up

To select which Hyper-V Guest VMs to backup simply open the **Management Console** and select the option **[Step 1: Select Hyper-V Guest VMs]** from the left hand side main menu.

Read instructions on how to open the Management Console here.



1. Once you select "Step 1" you will be presented with the following panel:



2. Simply use the checkboxes to select which Hyper-V Guest VMs you would like to add to your backup plan.

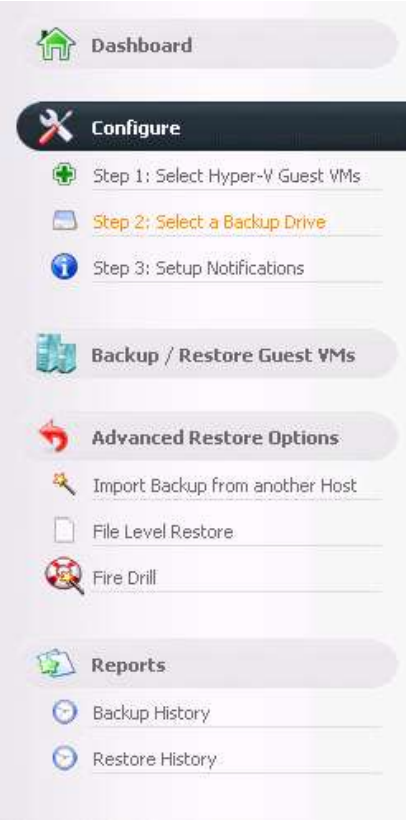
- You can return to this screen at any time to add / remove Hyper-V Guest VMs.
- The selected VMs will not be backed up automatically until you setup a backup schedule or take a manual backup.
- Hyper-V Guests that have been deleted from the Hyper-V Host but have already been backed up will continue to show up in this list.

3. Once the selections have been made simply click on [Save Changes] to update your backup plan.

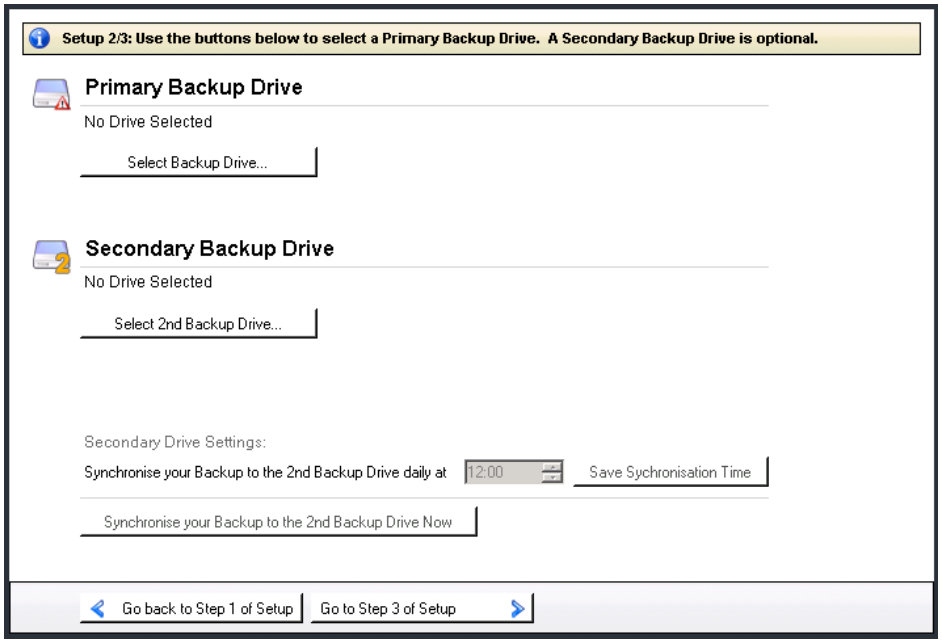
Selecting Backup Drive

To select which drive or UNC Path to backup simply open the **Management Console** and select the option **[Step 2: Select a Backup Drive]** from the left hand side main menu.

Read instructions on how to open the Management Console here.



1. Once you select "Step 2" you will be presented with the following panel:



2. Simply use the [Select Backup Drive...] and [Select 2nd Backup Drive...] buttons to select your backup drives.

   - For instructions on configuring a backup drive click here.
   - For instructions on configuring a secondary backup drive click here.
   - For instructions on backing up to UNC network paths click here.

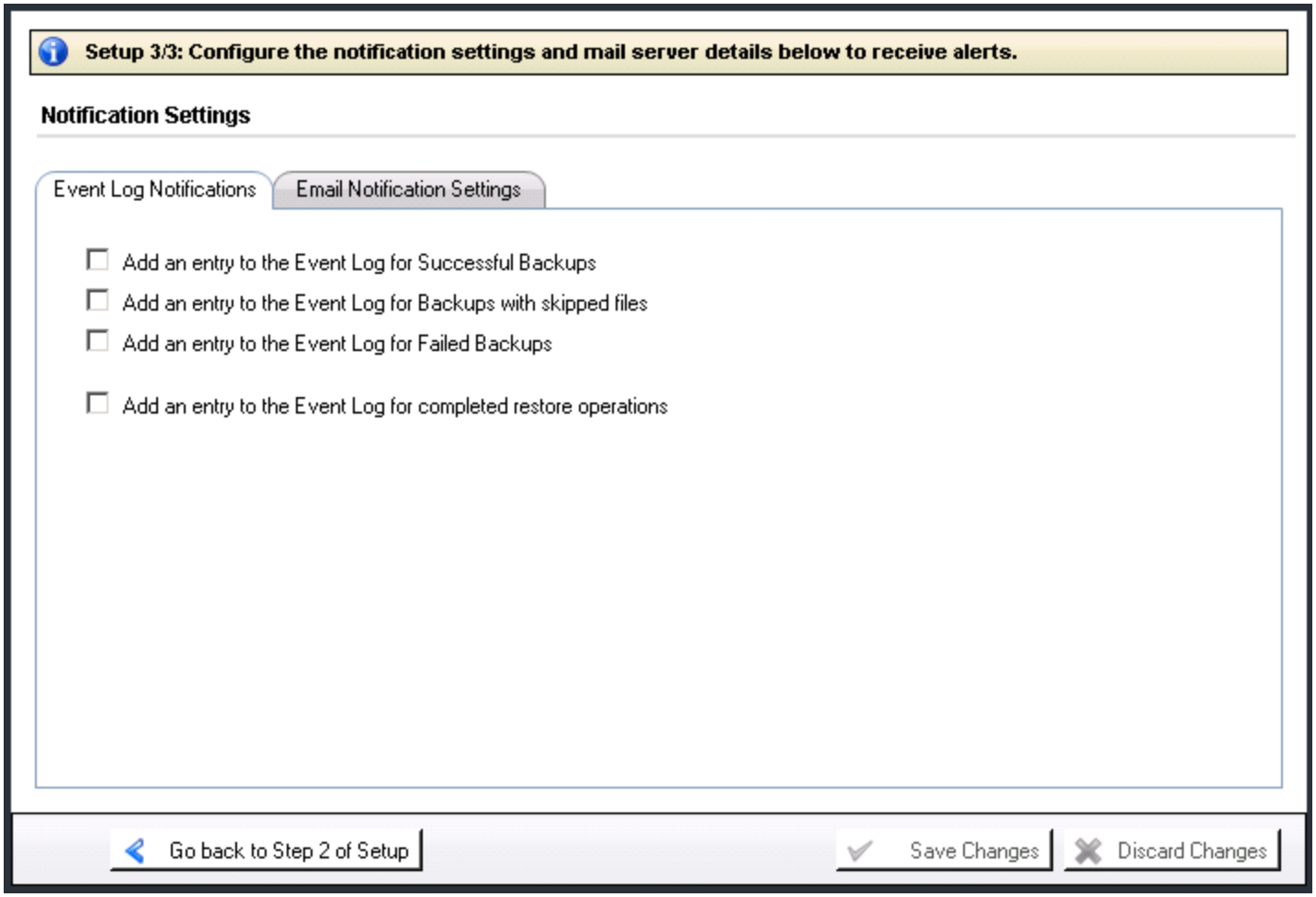
3. Once the selections have been made there is no need to click save as changes are saved automatically.

Enabling Notifications

To select which notifications to receive simply open the **Management Console** and select the option **[Step 3: Setup Notifications]** from the left hand side main menu.

Read instructions on how to open the Management Console here.

1. Once you select "Step 3" you will be presented with the following panel:



2. Simply use the checkboxes to select which notifications you would like to receive.

   - To learn how to configure Event Log notifications click here.
   - To learn how to configure Email notifications click here.

3. Once the selections have been made simply click on [Save Changes] to update your backup plan.

Email Notifications

Email Notifications allow users to receive Backup / Restore Reports by email. These reports indicate:

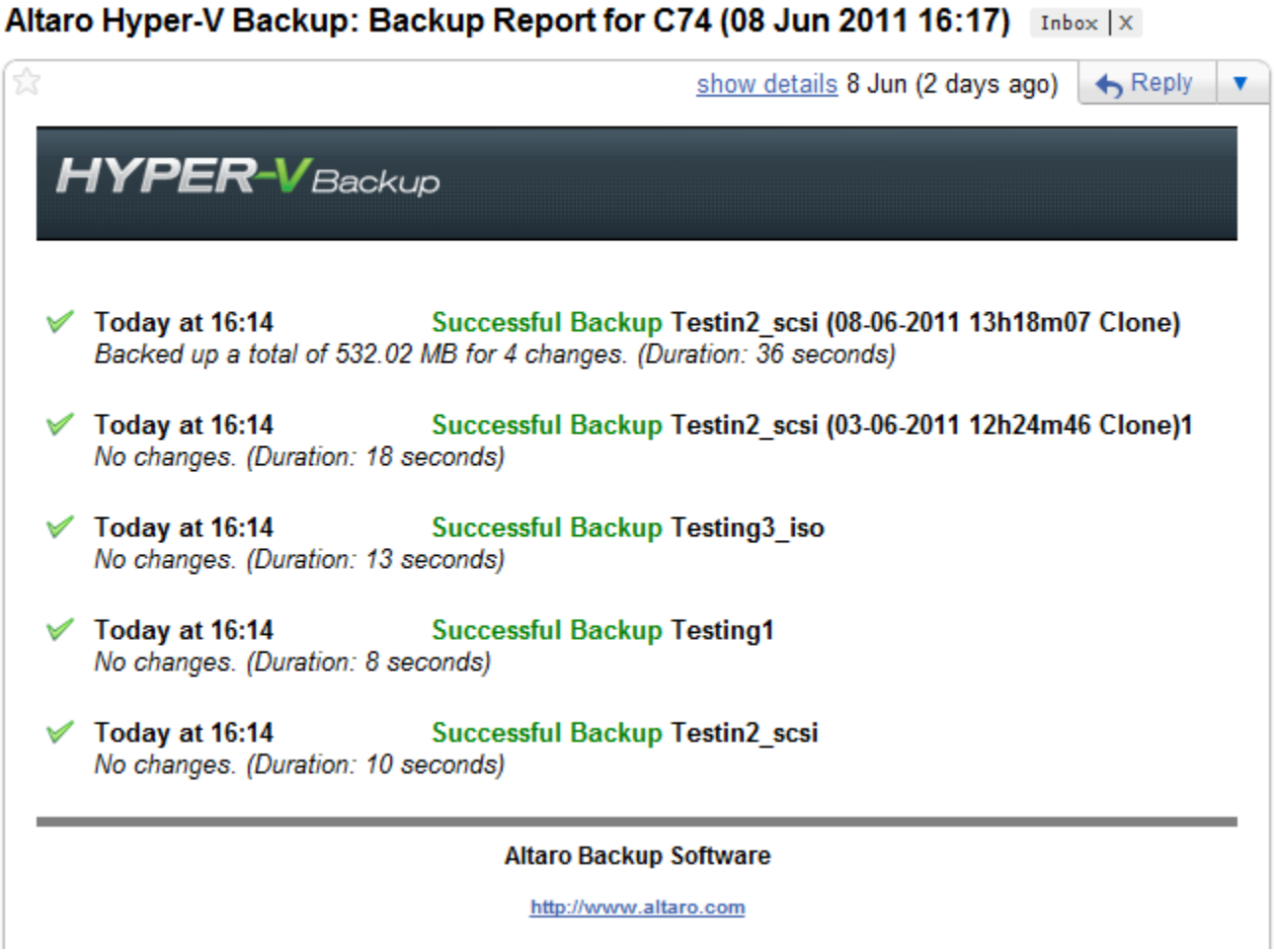
Backup Reports

- The status of each backup and the Hyper-V Guest VM that was backed up.
- The date and time of each backup.
- The amount of data backed up.
- The number of changed files.
- The number of skipped files.
- The duration of the backup.

Restore Reports

- The status of each restore operation and the Hyper-V Guest VM that was restored.
- The date and time of each restore operation.
- The duration of the restore operation.

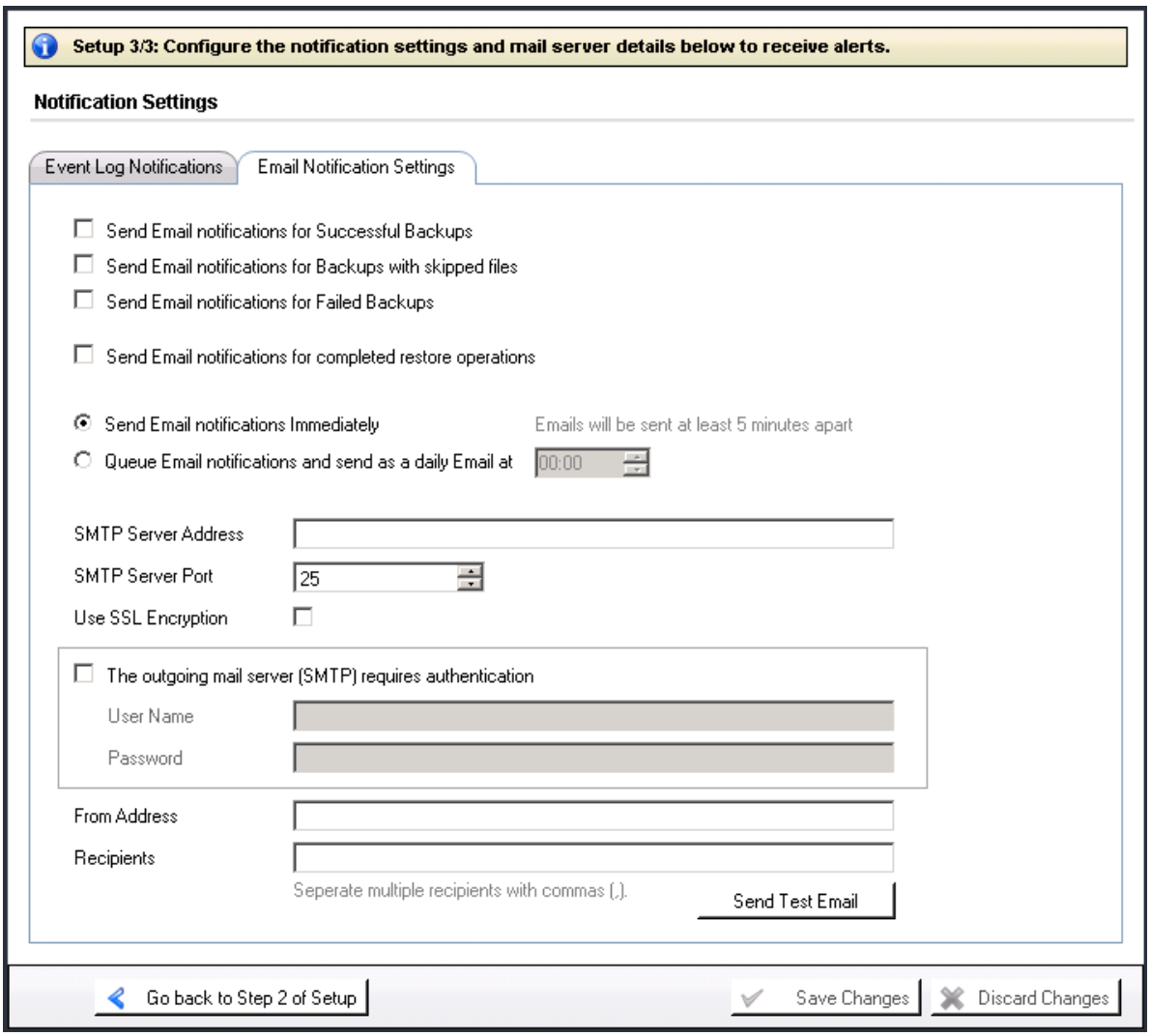
Here is an example of a Backup Report:



Here is an example of a Restore Report:

Configuring Email Notifications in order to receive Backup Reports:

- Navigate to the **Setup Notifications** screen as shown here.
- Once within the **Setup Notifications** screen simply select the [Email Notification Settings] tab.



- Use the checkboxes to specify which notifications you would like to receive by email:

  - You can choose to receive notifications for: successful backups, backups in which one or more file was skipped, failed backups and completed restore operations.

  - If you choose to receive notifications for failed backups you will also be alerted when a backup is skipped because your backup drive is not connected.

- Next specify the frequency of your Email notifications. There are two options:

  - Immediately after the operation has completed. (Emails will be sent a minimum of 5 minutes apart and multiple notifications may be grouped into one email).

  - As a daily email digest at a specified time each day.

- Finally configure your SMTP mail server settings and the email recipients. The [Send Test Email] button can be used to test the SMTP settings.

- Once you've finished configuring the Email notifications click on the [Save Changes] button at the bottom of the screen.

Event Log Notifications

Event Log Notifications can be viewed within the Event Viewer console on Windows Server. These are ideal for

monitoring the backup and restore operations remotely from another server.
These log entries indicate the following information:

Backup Reports

- The status of each backup and the Hyper-V Guest VM that was backed up.
- The date and time of each backup.
- The amount of data backed up.
- The number of changed files.
- The number of skipped files.
- The duration of the backup.

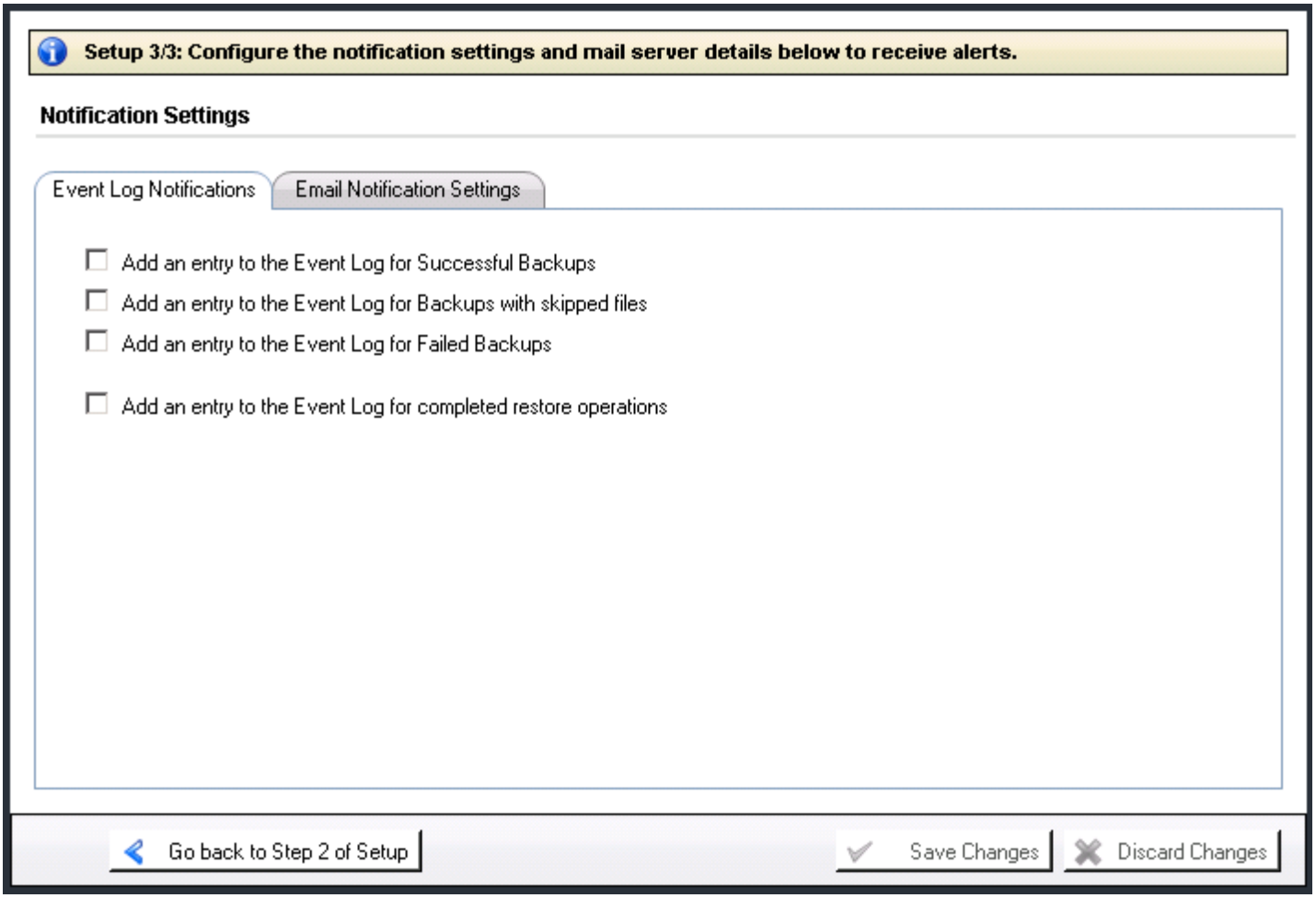
Restore Reports

- The status of each restore operation and the Hyper-V Guest VM that was restored.
- The date and time of each restore operation.
- The duration of the restore operation.

Configuring Event Log Notifications in order to receive Backup Reports:

- Navigate to the **Setup Notifications** screen as shown here.

- Once within the **Setup Notifications** screen simply select the [Event Log Notifications] tab.



- Use the checkboxes to specify which notifications you would like to log:

  - You can choose to receive notifications for: successful backups, backups in which one or more file was skipped, failed backups and completed restore operations.

  - If you choose to receive notifications for failed backups you will also be alerted when a backup is skipped because your backup drive is not connected.

- Once you've finished configuring the Event Log notifications click on the [Save Changes] button at the bottom of the screen.

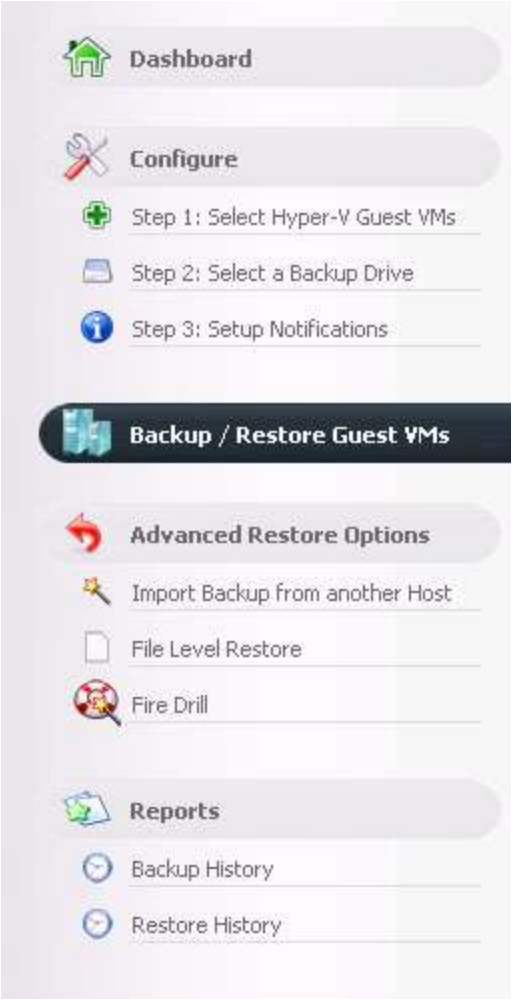
Configuring Backup Schedules

The final step in configuring **Altaro Hyper-V Backup** is to configure an actual Backup Plan for each selected Guest VM. This is simple and can be achieved by navigating to the "Advanced Settings" window of each Guest VM.

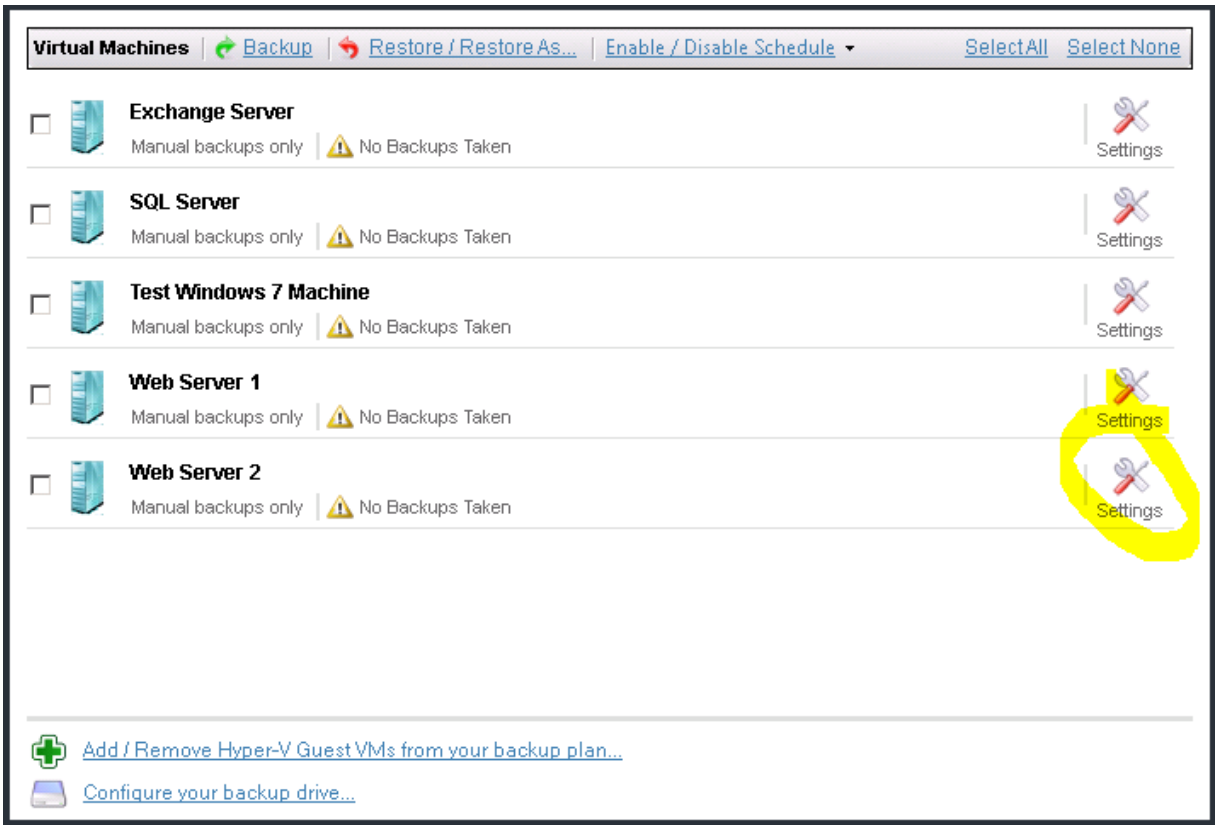
This can be achieved by following these steps:

1. Open the **Management Console** as described here.

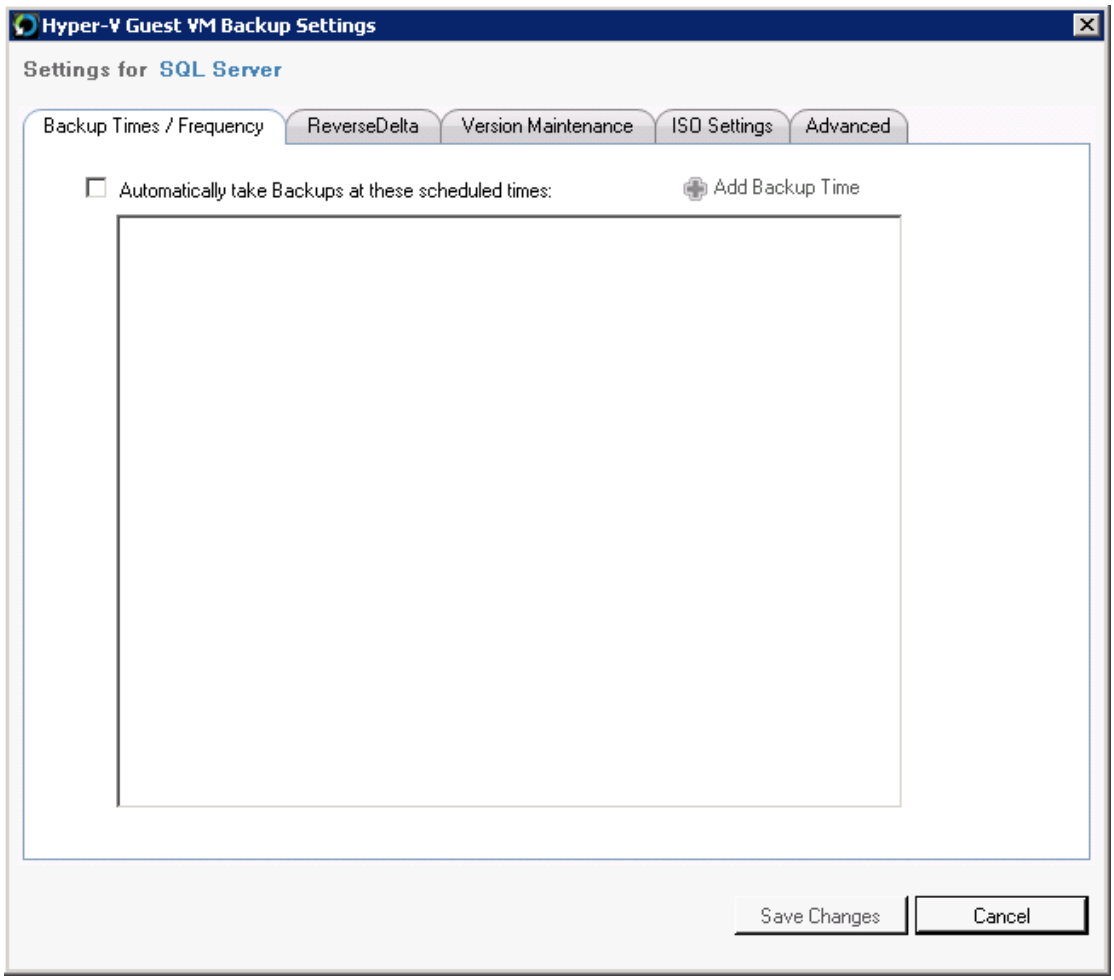
2. Navigate to the "**Backup / Restore Hyper-V Guest VMs**" screen.



3. You will be presented with the following screen. Please note the "Spanner and Wrench" icons to the right hand side of each VM.



4. Clicking on a "Spanner and Wrench" icon will display the "Advanced Settings" window for the VM in question.



5. From the advanced settings Window you can do the following:

- Setup a backup schedule.

- Enable / Disable Reverse Delta.

- Choose how many versions to keep of the VM and choose a schedule for deleting old versions.

- Choose whether to backup ISO files which are attached to the VM.

Contacting Technical Support

User Guide in Full

You can download the user guide in full from http://www.altaro.com/support.php

Email Support

Contact us via email - we will reply within 24 hours (business hours and weekdays).

You can contact us via email on support@altaro.com.

Check our Online Community Forum

Find answers to most common questions, suggest new feature ideas and see how other users are making use of our software.

Access the Online Community Forum here: http://community.altaro.com