



BRIEF ON

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GEN-I ADDS BACKUP TO CLOUD SERVICES



Gen-i has added a big piece of the Infrastructure as a Service puzzle to its ReadyCloud offering, with the addition of ReadyCloud Backup.

The service, which adds to ReadyCloud Server which was launched in April 2010, will be hosted entirely in Gen-i's New Zealand data centres, which are managed 24-7 by a locally-based team of experts.

Chris Quin, CEO of Gen-i Australasia, says with the rollout of UFB across New Zealand, more and more businesses are looking for services which will leverage the new technology.

"We advise clients on the best mix of on-premise, outsourced or fully hosted services to ensure they get the best value from their existing assets and the new cloud opportunities," Quin says.

"Our cloud services are based in data centres here in New Zealand, connected by hybrid fibre, copper and mobile networks, and managed by dedicated local people who understand our clients' businesses."

A third offering, ReadyCloud Storage, is still in the works.

Charges for ReadyCloud Backup start at \$1.70 per GB.

[Read more on www.itbrief.co.nz](http://www.itbrief.co.nz)

NEW BEGINNING FOR NUMARA

IT service and asset management software vendors Numara Software



have made their move to the cloud, launching a suite of four products supporting physical, virtual and mobile platforms.

The products, Service Manager, Service Lifecycle Manager, Endpoint Lifecycle Manager and Mobile Device Manager, assist IT managers in maintaining and integrating their IT solutions.

Dave Hansen, Numara CEO, says IT integration is becoming more important as more and more businesses themselves move to the cloud.

"Many [businesses] are leveraging the cloud to enable automation and solve a variety of business challenges," Hansen says.

"However, before businesses can take advantage of the cloud, it is critical that IT integrate its processes and solutions."

Of particular importance is the management of mobile devices, which have the potential to cause huge damage to a company's reputation, or even operations.

"Without proper control over mobile devices, sensitive company data can be accessed, and viruses can proliferate unabated, potentially jeopardising the security of the entire network," Hansen says.

Numara's local partner Komputer Kraft says Numara intends to offer the hosted services in New Zealand from next month.

[Read more on www.itbrief.co.nz](http://www.itbrief.co.nz)

INTERGEN & QUAL IT TESTING THE WATERS

Too many kiwi organisations treat IT testing as the 'ambulance at the bottom of the cliff', according to the business development manager of New Zealand testing firm, Qual IT.



That's why the company is partnering with solutions provider InterGen to encourage the view that testing is an integral part of the development process, and not an afterthought that can be cut if a project runs over time or budget.

"The later you find a defect, the harder and more costly it is to fix," says Qual IT BDM, Steve Willsher.

"It is far better to include testers right from the start of the project briefing."

The announcement comes a week after international testing firm Gag Gemini announced it would re-enter the New Zealand market, saying there are clear opportunities in the testing space.

Wayne Forgesson, director of marketing for InterGen, says the company has worked with Qual IT on several large-scale projects, and the establishment of a partnership demonstrates InterGen's 'ruthless approach to quality assurance'.

"With this partnership we can seamlessly integrate testing throughout the development cycle," Forgesson says.

"This gives testers a deeper understanding of the customer's requirements to ensure that the software meets them."

[Read more on www.itbrief.co.nz](http://www.itbrief.co.nz)

XERO'S SHRINKING LOSSES

Although online accounting vendor Xero may still be in the red, growth overseas and a solid base at home position the company as the 'emerging global leader in the online accounting market', the company has told the NZX in its half-yearly statement.

