

## Best Practices Summary

Date: April 5, 2012

**Project/Point-Event:** SQL Server Backup Verification

**Team Leader/Dept:** Brian Borchers/ITS-MIS

**Process Owner/Dept:** Dan Ewart, CIO/Executive Director of ITS

**Business Need:** There is currently no defined process for regularly verifying the daily backups for databases hosted in the centrally-managed SQL Server infrastructure.

**Summary of Event:** The team reviewed possible restore scenarios to clearly understand the potential scope of the problem, and identified all of the currently available log data and reports from the backup processes. We then identified methods for utilizing this existing information to verify backup results and reduce the potential exposure to data loss.

**Results:** We developed a guidelines document for database administrators to use in interpreting the available backup reports. We also made a single configuration change to our backup process that reduced the maximum risk to our SQL Server databases from one week to one day!!

**Team Members:** Shawn Clabough, Mark Schemmer, and Cameron Zapf

