

# Back up event databases

Consider backing up the event databases frequently, depending on the volume of audit data you collect and your established disaster recovery strategies. For best results, use the following guidelines:

- Perform a full backup, including the transaction logs
- Schedule the backup during off-hours, or times when you expect the least audit activity
- Back up all event databases during the same backup procedure
- Save each database to a separate backup file
- Back up the SQLcompliance database during the same backup procedure to ensure audit data integrity remains intact

## To back up the event databases:

1. Use SQL Server Enterprise Manager or Management Studio to take the SQLcompliance database offline. ***If you cannot take the SQLcompliance database offline***, stop the Collection Service.
2. Use a tool such as IDERA SQL Safe to perform a full backup, including transaction logs, of the SQLcompliance database. For each event database, perform a full backup, including the transaction logs. Each registered SQL Server instance has a corresponding event database. For more information, see [Product components and architecture](#).
3. Use SQL Server Enterprise Manager or Management Studio to bring the SQLcompliance database online.

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