

## Can IBM software *REALLY* save a relationship?



*“Yes, it’s true! It can be said that IBM software really did save a relationship.*

*Many people know that being married for 20 years has its share of highs and lows (hopefully, more highs).”*

*Douglas James Builders, Inc.  
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The software is IBM Tivoli® Continuous Data Protection for Files.

A Web search easily finds it or visit [ibm.com/software/tivoli/products/continuous-data-protection/](http://ibm.com/software/tivoli/products/continuous-data-protection/)

This story is one with which almost all married couples can identify. We were working on our taxes, using tax preparation software. But that is *NOT* the software that saved our relationship.

After seven hours of inputting two small businesses and a household of financial information into the tax preparation software, we were finally happy with our result. We saved the document (for the 15th time that day!), this time as FINAL, and stopped to have some supper.

Upon our return, and back at the computer, my *beloved* spouse opened an empty tax file, thinking there was something we had forgotten. But then we reconsidered and promptly saved the empty file on top of our FINAL document. (Did I mention the *seven hours* of work?) Even though the software prompted us with, “ARE YOU SURE YOU WANT TO SAVE XXX OVER FINAL TAXFILE XXX?” Yes, the SAVE key was pressed.

A look of panic came over the face of my *beloved* spouse. Seven hours of re-search, digging, collecting, inputting, arguing (of course) and finally finishing our annual reports for “Uncle Sam” on the LAST day before it was due. GONE in an instant, by the SAVE key and split-second (wrong) decision!

But we recently purchased an inexpensive (under \$45) product from IBM, of all places. It was a data protection product that continuously backs up your favorite files (music, pictures, e-mail, application files, etc.) and it was running in the background the whole time. The continuous data protection software kept a copy of ten SAVES of that tax file in a special folder. The eleventh save actually saved the file on top of the first one of the day. (It was configured that way so as to not fill up our hard drive.) It can also save to a USB port device such as a flash, zip, finger drive or a server.

So we went in to the folder for that data protection application to look for our final (perfect) tax file and, sure enough, there were ten files saved at all different times of the day. The last, DEAD empty file was #10. But #9 was the second last (perfect) FINAL tax file that was ready to submit electronically!

So, instead of finding *me* on Americas Most Wanted for “spouse-clubbing,” soon you can find *us* using that Internal Revenue Service (IRS) refund check for a much-needed 21st wedding anniversary vacation.

AHHH—the joys of software that can make your life (and even your relationships) better. “The relationship saving is a free benefit that IBM doesn’t even advertise. . . .”



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