



OpenStack Backup & Recovery Competitive Feature Comparison

Storware Backup & Recovery vs Rubrik Security Cloud vs Commvault Cloud

OpenStack Backup & Recovery

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Executive Summary

This document provides a technical comparison of OpenStack backup and recovery capabilities across three enterprise platforms: Storware Backup & Recovery, Rubrik Security Cloud, and Commvault Cloud. The analysis covers integration depth, backup strategies, recovery granularity, security posture, storage backend flexibility, management capabilities, and licensing economics — evaluated from the perspective of organizations running or migrating to OpenStack private cloud environments.

Key finding: Storware Backup & Recovery is the only platform in this comparison built for open-source infrastructure from day one. As an OpenInfra Foundation member, Storware delivers the deepest native OpenStack integration — including direct Ceph RBD support, Horizon and Skyline UI plugins, cross-hypervisor V2V migration from VMware, and a universal licensing model with no per-platform fees. Rubrik's OpenStack support, announced in mid-2025, delivers strong cyber-resilience tooling but carries premium SaaS pricing. Commvault provides broad enterprise data management but relies on a legacy VSA agent architecture that adds operational complexity to OpenStack deployments.

LEGEND				
✓ Yes – Full support	✗ No – Not supported	⚠ Partial – Limited or conditional	• Native – Deep native integration	⦿ Limited – Via partner/plugin

Detailed Feature Comparison Matrix

Feature / Capability	Storware Backup & Recovery	Rubrik Security Cloud	Commvault Cloud
OpenInfra Foundation member	✓ Yes	✗ No	✗ No
1. OPENSTACK API INTEGRATION & ARCHITECTURE			
OpenStack version support	Wallaby → Epoxy + RHOSP 17.1, 18.0 (RHOSO), Canonical Sunbeam	Limited info; recent release focus	RHOSP actively supported versions + Ussuri/Victoria (older docs)
OpenStack API coverage	Nova, Glance, Cinder, Keystone, Swift (S3-compatible)	Nova, Cinder (Cinder snapshot-based)	Nova, Cinder, Glance, Keystone

Feature / Capability	Storware Backup & Recovery	Rubrik Security Cloud	Commvault Cloud
Horizon UI plugin	✓ Yes	X No	X No
Skyline console plugin	✓ Yes (v7.4+, requires compilation)	X No	X No
Agentless backup	✓ Yes	✓ Yes	✓ Yes
Proxy VM deployment	Manual	Automated	Package auto install (Instance must exist)
2. BACKUP STRATEGIES & METHODS			
Disk-attachment via Cinder	✓ Yes	✓ Yes	✓ Yes
Multi-Ceph RBD cluster setups	✓ Yes	X No	X No
Full backup	✓ Yes	✓ Yes	✓ Yes
Incremental backup	✓ All strategies incl. Ceph CBT + synthetic full	✓ Forever-incremental	✓ Yes
Changed block tracking (CBT)	✓ Yes	✓ Forever-incremental CBT	✓ Yes
Crash-consistent snapshots	✓ Yes	✓ Yes	✓ Yes
Application-consistent snapshots	✓ Native QEMU guest agent + Pre/post snapshot custom scripts	✓ Native QEMU guest agent	✓ Native QEMU guest agent + Pre/post snapshot custom scripts
Snapshot type	Volume snapshot	Volume snapshot	Instance snapshot
Image-level backup (Glance)	✓ Yes	Not documented natively	✓ Full image backup via reader
3. RECOVERY OPTIONS & GRANULARITY			
Full VM / instance restore	✓ Yes	✓ Yes	✓ Yes

Feature / Capability	Storware Backup & Recovery	Rubrik Security Cloud	Commvault Cloud
File & folder level recovery	✓ Yes (Download & Remote Upload)	✓ File-level restore from snapshots	✓ FREL (File Recovery Enabler for Linux)
Volume-level recovery	✓ Yes	✗ No	✓ Attach restored volumes
Cross-environment restore	✓ Yes	✗ No	✓ Yes
Cross-cluster restore	✓ Yes	✗ No	✓ Yes
Override instance flavor during recovery	✓ Yes	✓ Yes	✓ Yes
Specify volume types during recovery	✓ Yes	✓ Yes	✓ Yes
Select the key pair during recovery	✓ Yes	✓ Yes	✓ Yes
Bring back the original MAC address to the NIC	✓ Yes	Not documented for OpenStack	✓ Yes
Select security groups from both the backup and the existing environment	✓ Yes	✓ Yes (environment only)	✓ Yes (environment only)
Power off instance after restore	✗ No	✓ Yes	✓ Yes
Cross-hypervisor restore	✓ VMware -> OpenStack, ✓ Citrix/Xcp-ng -> OpenStack,	Limited; SaaS-centric	Not documented for OpenStack
V2V migration (VMware → OpenStack)	✓ Dedicated V2V license, bundle of 10	✗ No	✗ No
V2V migration (Citrix/Xcp-ng → OpenStack)	✓ Dedicated V2V license, bundle of 10	✗ No	✗ No
Instant VM recovery / live mount	✓ iSCSI mount for file browsing	Not documented for OpenStack	Live browse via File Recovery Enabler for Linux

Feature / Capability	Storware Backup & Recovery	Rubrik Security Cloud	Commvault Cloud
Recovery Point Objective (RPO)	Policy-driven (As low as 15 minutes)	✓ As low as 5 minutes	Policy-driven
4. SECURITY, RANSOMWARE PROTECTION & COMPLIANCE			
Immutable backups	✓ Yes	✓ Yes	✓ Yes
Air-gap / IsoLayer	✓ IsoLayer + Air-Gap Backup	✓ Rubrik Cloud Vault	Air-gap via policy
Object Lock	✓ Yes	✓ Yes	✓ Yes
Retention Lock	✓ Yes	✓ Yes	✓ Yes
RBAC / Access management	✓ Yes	✓ Yes	✓ Yes
Multi-Factor Authentication (MFA)	✓ Yes (with Keycloak)	✓ Yes	✓ Yes
Anomaly detection/ransomware	Immutable destinations protect against ransomware	✓ ML-based anomaly detection	✓ Threat Hunting + monitoring
GDPR / NIS2 compliance support	✓ Yes	Yes (enterprise compliance)	Yes (strong compliance focus)
5. STORAGE BACKENDS & DESTINATIONS			
Local storage	✓ Yes	✓ Yes	✓ Yes
Ceph Object Storage (S3/RBD)	✓ Native Ceph RBD + S3	S3-compatible	S3-compatible
S3-compatible object storage	✓ Yes	✓ Yes	✓ Yes
Tape storage	✓ Yes (v7.2+)	✗ No	✓ Enterprise tape support
ZFS-based backup destination	✓ Yes	✗ No	✓ Yes

Feature / Capability	Storware Backup & Recovery	Rubrik Security Cloud	Commvault Cloud
Cloud tiered storage	✓ Storware Cloud (N-able/Vault/Seagate Lyve)	✓ Rubrik Cloud Vault (AWS, Azure, GCP)	✓ Commvault Cloud (multi-cloud)
6. MANAGEMENT, MULTI-TENANCY & SCALABILITY			
Centralized management console	✓ Yes	✓ Yes	✓ Yes
Multi-tenant support	✓ Yes	✓ Yes	✓ Yes
Policy-driven automation	✓ Yes	✓ Yes	✓ Yes
Auto-discovery of new VMs (using names and tags)	✓ Yes (both names, tags, and additional criteria)	✓ Yes	✓ Yes (names only)
RESTful API	✓ Yes	✓ Yes	✓ Yes
Scale-out / scale-up architecture	✓ Yes	✓ Yes	✓ Yes
Deployment model	On-prem software (Linux-based node)	SaaS (Rubrik Security Cloud) + appliance	On-prem / SaaS (Commvault Cloud)
Backup appliance	✓ Physical + virtual appliance (v7.1+)	✓ Rubrik appliance (hardware)	Partner appliances
7. LICENSING & TOTAL COST OF OWNERSHIP			
Licensing model	✓ Universal license (all platforms)	Subscription per node/capacity	Capacity / entity-based licensing
Per-platform fees for OpenStack	✓ None — all hypervisors included	⚠ Platform-specific pricing	⚠ Virtual Server license required
Free trial/entry tier	✓ Free version + 60-day trial	Demo / POC only - without public now access	60-day trial (Commvault Cloud) without public now access

Why Storware for OpenStack – Technical Differentiators

1. Horizon and Skyline integration

Storware is currently the only vendor that provides Horizon and Skyline integrations to allow end users to run backup and recovery processes directly within their main console. It offers multitenancy support, so the end users will only see what should be visible in the selected project.

2. Ceph RBD: First-Class Citizen

Ceph is the dominant storage backend in production OpenStack deployments. Storware offers native Ceph RBD integration, allowing incremental backups even using disk-attachment method. This CBT capability significantly reduces RPOs and I/O impact on production workloads.

3. Cross-Hypervisor V2V Migration (VMware → OpenStack)

Storware v7.1+ introduces a dedicated VM-to-VM (V2V) migration engine that enables organizations to migrate vSphere VMs directly into OpenStack environments. This capability — absent in both Rubrik and Commvault for OpenStack — positions Storware not just as a backup tool but as a strategic migration enabler for organizations affected by Broadcom's VMware pricing changes. The V2V license is sold in bundles of 10 migration jobs, providing predictable migration economics.

4. Universal Licensing — No Per-Platform Fees

Rubrik charges per workload/node, and Commvault requires Virtual Server licenses per protected environment. Storware's universal license covers all supported hypervisors — VMware, OpenStack, OpenShift, Kubernetes, Nutanix, Hyper-V — under a single license, with no hidden per-platform costs. In hybrid environments combining multiple hypervisors (a common scenario for organizations migrating from VMware to OpenStack), this delivers a fundamentally lower and more predictable TCO.

5. European Data Sovereignty & Open-Source Alignment

Storware is a European company with a Linux-native, on-premises deployment model that places data fully under the operator's control — with no mandatory cloud SaaS component. Rubrik's Security Cloud is fundamentally a SaaS platform, which raises data residency concerns for organizations subject to GDPR, NIS2, or sector-specific data sovereignty regulations. Commvault offers hybrid deployment but carries a more complex compliance posture. Storware's architecture is inherently aligned with European data protection frameworks.

Known Limitations

Storware:

- No built-in SaaS management plane — suited for organizations that prefer on-prem control rather than cloud-managed operations.

Rubrik:

- OpenStack support was announced in mid-2025 — the feature set is newer and less battle-tested at scale compared to Storware's multi-year OpenStack track record.
- No native Ceph RBD integration, no Horizon/Skyline UI plugins, and no V2V migration capability.
- Premium SaaS pricing models with complex licensing can be difficult to justify for mid-market or public sector OpenStack operators.

Commvault:

- No Horizon or Skyline UI integration — operators must context-switch between Commvault console and OpenStack dashboard.
- General high resource requirements are required for deployment

Note: This comparison is based on publicly available documentation from Storware (docs.storware.eu, storware.eu), Rubrik (rubrik.com), and Commvault (documentation.commvault.com) as of Q1 2026. Feature availability may vary by software release and regional availability. Vendor claims have been cross-referenced where possible. For authoritative confirmation of competitor capabilities, consult the respective vendor's current documentation.