

Comparing Semperis' and Microsoft's Capabilities for Entra ID Identity Resilience

What you need to know about protecting Entra ID now from malicious actors

QUICK VIEW

Microsoft announced the public preview release of Microsoft Entra Backup and Recovery, which will provide Entra ID snapshots of certain resources that organizations need to ensure authentication and access to business-critical apps and services.

As a strategic partner of Microsoft, Semperis applauds Microsoft's progress toward improving Entra ID resilience. In the meantime, Semperis continues to lead the market with Disaster Recovery for Entra Tenant (DRET), which integrates—in collaboration with Microsoft—unmatched identity resilience capabilities with Microsoft Entra ID recovery features and APIs. The Semperis-Microsoft collaboration is designed to help organizations prevent, withstand, and recover from identity-centric attacks with a comprehensive and operationally streamlined approach.

Microsoft's service allows a scope-limited backup and restore of changes to the tenant, while Semperis DRET enables full backup and restore of the tenant with a rich admin experience.

KEY RISK: *Microsoft Entra Backup and Recovery will NOT support recovery of hard-deleted objects, which remains a significant risk for Entra ID customers.*

As a longtime Microsoft partner, Semperis built Disaster Recovery for Entra Tenant (DRET) to cover use cases that Microsoft doesn't.

The public preview release of Microsoft Entra Backup and Recovery takes a daily snapshot to back up an Entra tenant and keeps five snapshots on a rolling basis. As such, the maximum timespan to recover a supported object is to a point five days prior. The supported objects for recovery are Entra ID users, groups, apps, service principals,



conditional access policies, named locations, authorization policies, and authentication methods policies.

Purpose-built in collaboration with Microsoft to advance Microsoft’s Entra ID backup and recovery capabilities, Semperis DRET provides on-demand and scheduled full backups and recovery—including recovery from hard deletion—of all Entra ID data and relationships. DRET backups for Entra ID data and relationships remain available for 365 days.

The joint offering from Microsoft and Semperis, targeted for release later in 2026, will provide:

- High-level visualizations of changes and deletions in the tenant over time
- Quick identification of—and recovery from—specific changes, and only those changes

At-a-Glance Comparison of Semperis DRET and Microsoft Entra Backup and Recovery

	Microsoft Entra Backup and Recovery	Semperis Disaster Recovery for Entra Tenant (DRET)
Interface	API + basic UI	API + powerful UI with backup statistics and trends
Control	Daily automatic snapshots	Customizable scheduled backups or on-demand backups
Retention	5 snapshots (max 5 days for restore)	Up to 365 days
Objects	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Users• Groups• Applications• Service principals• Conditional access policies• Named location policies• Authorization policies	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Users• Groups• Applications• Service principals• Conditional access policies• Named location policies• Authorization policies

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Authentication methods policies 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Authentication methods policy • Admin units • Claims mapping policies • Devices • Domains • Intune device configuration • Roles • Additional tenant policies
Attributes	Limited to undo changes to specific attributes, specifically for user and group objects. For example, changes to group owners or dynamic group rules cannot be undone.	Allows recovery of all writeable attributes of the backed-up objects. This includes group owners and other relationships, as well as dynamic group rules.
Recovery scope	Overwrite of existing objects or recovery of soft-deleted objects	Overwrite of existing objects or recovery of soft-deleted objects, as well as recovery for hard-deleted objects (permanent deletions)

How to protect Entra ID from a key risk

Microsoft Entra Backup and Recovery will not support recovery of hard-deleted objects, which remains a critical risk for Entra ID customers. To mitigate the risk of failure to recover deleted objects, organizations need to:

1. **Follow least-privilege principles when assigning admin permissions:**
Adhere to least-privilege principles to avoid granting excessive permissions that could allow unwanted users or groups to perform hard deletions on business-critical identity objects.
2. **Apply Microsoft's Protected Actions feature:** Microsoft will likely continue to improve this feature to protect customers from unwanted hard deletions.
3. **Consider supplementing Microsoft Entra Backup and Recovery with Semperis DRET:** By adding Semperis DRET (which will integrate with Microsoft Entra Backup and Recovery in the future), organizations can implement deeper and broader recovery of Entra ID resources, including more objects, attributes, relationships between objects, and hard deletions. DRET backups remain available for a configurable duration of up to 365 days.

How the Microsoft-Semperis partnership expands hybrid Entra ID identity resilience

The Microsoft-Semperis partnership will continue to improve Entra ID resilience, with benefits to include:

- Comprehensive Entra ID recoverability that blends Semperis recovery with Microsoft recovery APIs to add change-based recovery alongside existing approaches, improving coverage for both basic and advanced recovery scenarios
- Faster recovery and reduced downtime through jointly aligned incident response workflows and feedback loops that accelerate feature cycles and harden day-2 operations
- Higher confidence and satisfaction as critical Entra ID recoverability needs are addressed end-to-end, increasing operational assurance for identity, security, and IT teams

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

Q: What is Microsoft Entra Backup and Recovery?

A: Microsoft Entra Backup and Recovery is a service that performs automatic daily snapshots of Entra ID users, groups, applications, service principals, and policies for conditional access, named location, authorization, and authentication methods. Microsoft Entra Backup and Recovery snapshots enable admins to recover object properties to a prior state from up to 5 days prior.

Q: What is Semperis Disaster Recovery for Entra Tenant (DRET)?

A: Semperis Disaster Recovery for Entra Tenant (DRET) is a SaaS solution that provides on-demand and scheduled full backups of Entra ID data and relationships, with specific focus on identity resilience through strengthened security posture and recovery for all Entra ID relationships and properties, including recovery from hard deletion.

Q: Is Microsoft Entra Backup and Recovery better than Semperis DRET?

A: No, the two products provide different approaches to resilience. Microsoft's service allows a scope-limited backup and restore of changes to the tenant, while Semperis DRET enables full backup and restore of the tenant with a rich admin experience.

Q: I have Microsoft Entra Backup and Recovery. Why do I need Semperis DRET?

A: DRET remains vital to protecting Entra ID because of its unique capabilities:

- DRET can restore from hard deletion; Microsoft Entra Backup and Recovery cannot.
- DRET can restore the entire security posture (including roles, custom security attributes, devices, Intune, and Privileges Identity Management configuration); Microsoft Entra Backup and Recovery cannot.
- DRET can back up data at any time; Microsoft Entra Backup and Recovery snapshots are not configurable.
- DRET can retain 365 daily backups for up to a year; Microsoft Entra Backup and Recovery will not allow long retention.



Q: If I have Semperis DRET, why do I need Microsoft Entra Backup and Recovery?

A: Microsoft Entra Backup and Recovery provides powerful new APIs that support faster rollback of specific mass changes, from which even DRET customers will benefit.

Q: Will Semperis add Microsoft Entra Backup and Recovery capabilities to DRET?

A: Yes! We are planning a Semperis recovery integration with Microsoft Entra Backup and Recovery capabilities. The new solution will make it simple and easy to identify change and deletion trends for the Entra ID tenant and roll them back.