

## Lost your data? Don't lose heart

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Many computer users would have faced this problem. Having written something important, you lose it. And then starts a recovery process with the help of the IT department. Sometimes it works; sometime it doesn't. At such times you wish you could go to a recovery specialist. Well, help may be at hand. Data storage and recovery is becoming a specialised field of study. Gurgaon firm Ace Data Devices has tied up with San Francisco-based Storage Networking Industry Association to set up a first of its kind centre for training people on storage and recovery of data. The centre, called Institute of Storage, Integration and Future Technologies (Insift), will be set up in Delhi as an independent institution. At present, the institute is working out of India Habitat Centre.

"The objective is to train people through comprehensive vendor and product neutral education. Insift has tie-ups with international players for the courseware and certification," said Ace Data's managing director Neeraj Mediratta. The responsibilities of storage networking professional and engineers have become more complex. IT professionals and MIS departments are now required to maintain the integrity of the data, ensuring that it is always available, affordable and manageable. It's critical for storage professional to keep themselves abreast of the latest developments in sector, Mediratta said.

Storage and recovery are an integral part of every company. A company's whole business can crumble, if proper system for storage and backup are not in place. According to industry estimates, the global storage market is expected to create a demand for one million new storage professionals by 2012. A recent IDC study says this sector will grow at a compound annual rate of 57 per cent till 2010. In non-Japan Asia Pacific markets it is expected to grow at 30 to 40 per cent faster than the mature economies.

With an institute in Delhi, companies would save on travel and logistics expenses for their IT applications. The cost for short term programmes worked out to be at least \$2,395 or about Rs 1 lakh. The same course would now be

available at Rs 25,000 at Insift, according to Ace Data.

Companies which had used the existing training by Insift say it was a good initiative. Apollo got five people trained at the facility while Hughes sent two of its IT experts. A workshop held by Insift saw attendance of 35 representatives from companies like EXL, Airtel, Ernst & Young and Spectranet. Sumit Trivedi of Spectranet, said it was an opportunity for them.