

Success Story: Amway Japan



Company background

Amway are a Global manufacturer of cosmetics, dietary supplements, and other high quality products. Their world headquarters are located in Ada, Michigan, USA. They employ more than 14,000 people worldwide. Amway Japan purchased NXPowerLite for File Servers to use in their Tokyo office, where they employ over 500 people.

The challenge

Amway Japan first recognised in 2007 that they had issues with file size and their corporate storage following an inventory audit of their 3 file servers. They were running the file servers with a total capacity of 4.5TB to support around 1000 users. Each member of staff had their own storage allocation of around 250MB. Sitting on the 3 servers was an estimated 4 million files.

Like many manufacturing companies it was the production of large files that took up the majority of space on their servers. Large PowerPoint, Word, Excel and JPEG files created by the sales and marketing departments were often in excess of 10MB. Of the 4 million files sitting on the servers only 0.7% of those were over 10MB in size, however these files took up a huge 61% of the total space.

To solve the problem initially Amway Japan purchased more storage space. They soon realised that this approach of buying more storage had other implications. Buying more power, rack space, switches etc. Not to mention the annual maintenance costs meant the cost of the challenge was enormous. They decided to look for another solution.

After analysing the alternative solutions of data compression, deduplication and storage visualization, Amway Japan discounted all 3 for a variety of reasons. Deduplication was found to take up too much of the administrator's time. Data compression offered a very poor user experience with file extensions changing to '.zip' and low rates of compression. Finally virtualization was found to be too expensive.

The solution

In their hunt for another solution Amway Japan, came to the NXPowerLite website. After reading about its file reduction magic they downloaded a trial of NXPowerLite Desktop Edition. Trialling it on a 50MB PowerPoint file left them staggered by the results. The output file was just a few hundred KB. After this the main concern they faced was the quality of the output file. They worried that users would question the image quality in the smaller files. After a lot of testing they realised that users were very happy with the visual content of the final files.

Dealing with the challenge by shrinking each file individually did not appeal to Amway Japan, they wanted a solution that did no impact users. They were very relieved to find that NXPowerLite for File Servers could be pointed at the files held on their servers and scheduled to drastically reduce them. Amway Japan introduced NXPowerLite for File Servers in August 2009, using it once every 3 months to drastically reduce the impact of large files.

Amway Japan cited three great reasons why they bought NXPowerLite for File Servers:

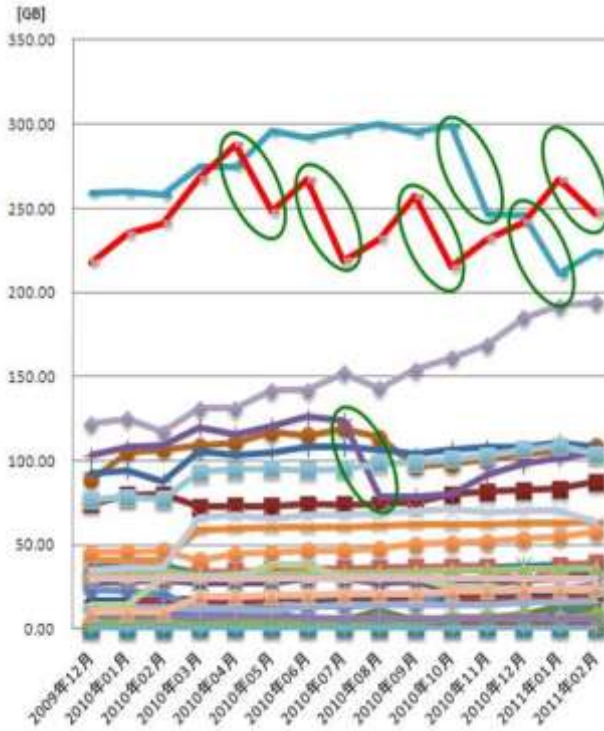
1. It's a lightweight solution to reducing the amount of storage they use.
2. It doesn't impact any of their users.
3. It's very reasonably priced.

“We recommend NXPowerLite for File Servers as the perfect solution for IT administrators struggling to find investment for infrastructure. The time spent installing and evaluating NXPowerLite was worth every second.”

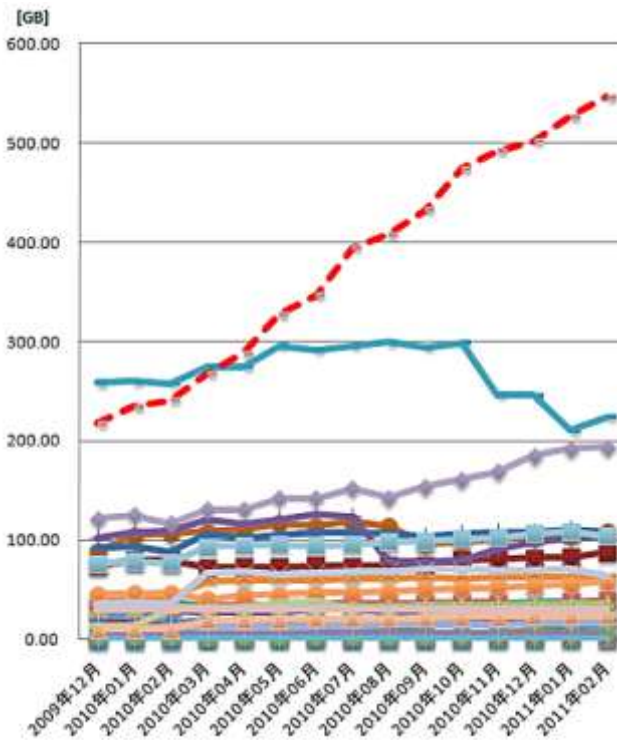
Shin Tsutsui manager Service Technology Group

The result

The graph below shows in the highlighted rings each time NXPowerLite for File Servers ran and the subsequent reductions in data. Each of the coloured lines represents a specific departments' usage of data on the server.



In the following graph we have predicted how the department coloured in red data usage may have looked had it not been reduced using NXPowerLite.



The image below shows the effect NXPowerLite can have on just one folder. In this case reducing the overall size by 35%.

Report - 2010-Aug-23 09:39:45

Job Summary

Start time	2010-Aug-23 09:39:45		
Finish time	2010-Aug-23 21:24:45		
Total elapsed time	11:45:00		
Mode	Optimize (files will be overwritten)		
Status	Complete		
	Before	After	Reclaimed (Expected)
Optimizable files	76,356 MB	49,342 MB	27,014 MB (35%)
Non-optimizable files	220,855 MB	220,855 MB	-
Total	297,212 MB	270,198 MB	27,014 MB (9%)

Optimizable Files Detail

Optimization total

File type	Before	After	Reclaimed (Expected)
PowerPoint	9,895 MB	4,311 MB	5,583 MB (56%)
Word	7,841 MB	7,239 MB	601 MB (7%)
Excel	19,736 MB	19,377 MB	358 MB (1%)
JPEG	38,884 MB	18,413 MB	20,470 MB (52%)
Total	76,356 MB	49,342 MB	27,014 MB (35%)

Conclusions

By regularly using NXPowerLite Amway Japan has managed to keep the volume of storage used at the same constant level for 3 years.

As well as the clear results Amway Japan saw in terms of data reduced and space reclaimed, they also cited the reduction in time to backup and to replicate to their data site in Osaka.

For further information, prices or evaluation software, call us on:

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Alternatively, contact your local software reseller or visit www.neuxpower.com