

NORTHERN & ISILON

Controlling Cost and Content in Mixed Environments

ESSENTIALS

Encourage Efficient Usage:

Make users more aware of usage policies and better able to comply; make efficient use part of business culture.

Automate Reporting:

Providing regular, automated status reporting eliminates the need for time-consuming and resource-intensive information searching

Enable Quota Management:

Implementing a quota management solution will result in more effective storage utilization, reducing costs and improving efficiencies

Identify & Remove Unwanted Data:

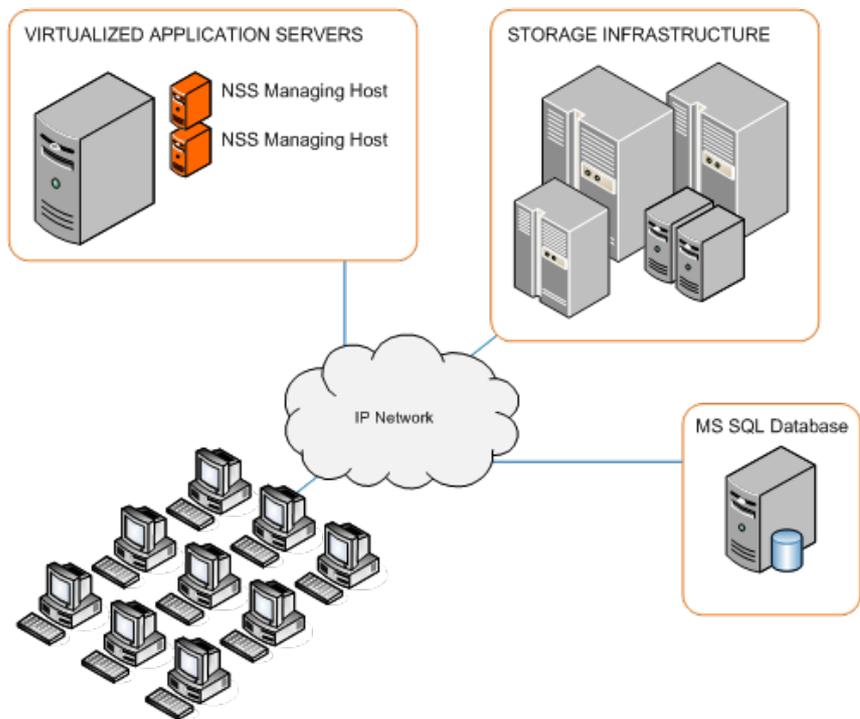
Using binary-level reporting and other meta-data sensitive tools you can identify and remove unwanted data, reducing compute resources by an average of 30 percent.

Reduce Cost & Administrative Overhead:

Achieve effective capacity planning by reclaiming wasted capacity and understand and controlling user behavior.

Over the next decade the number of files in the digital universe will grow by 75 times, while IT staffing budgets will not even triple. At an enterprise level, companies need to carefully consider which solutions will effectively manage this escalating data growth and what type of hardware is best suited for this type of storage expansion.

Isilon is the number one scale-out NAS solution on the market and a natural first choice for enterprises when looking to extend their infrastructure. While Isilon offers very effective tools to manage unstructured data on their own platforms, NORTHERN's solution has the benefit of offering this management over all types of platforms, which is a crucial aspect for enterprises running multi-platform environments.



NORTHERN Storage Suite is an enterprise-wide software solution offering support across all Windows, SAN, NAS and virtualized environments, including platforms such as Isilon and EMC® VNX®. The solution is aimed at controlling and managing unstructured data no matter where it resides. From one interface, IT-administrators can see who is storing what and where; view data growth trends, create storage policies and see real-time storage health on all platforms.



SOLUTION OVERVIEW

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IDENTIFY USAGE

Storage usage patterns have implications for whatever technologies companies choose to implement and build their storage environment around. Northern Storage Suite will help answer the following questions to help companies gain control over unstructured data growth and create an efficient storage environment:

- How fast is your company's data growth?
- What is causing the data growth?
- How many duplicate, old or obsolete files are you housing?

CONTROL USAGE COSTS

The next step is to focus on controlling usage levels and associated costs. Controlled data growth enables accurate planning for additional resources. Defining reasonable usage levels for your particular organization and putting control mechanisms in place will help contain the running costs of housing data.

- What is the optimal storage usage per user for the business to run smoothly?
- Is your current cost for storage usage reasonable?
- Can your usage costs be contained, or even reduced?

MAXIMIZE RESOURCES

Hardware and IT staff time are the biggest investments affected by data growth. With storage policies in place and routines automated, hardware will be protected from misuse and the number of administration hours can be reduced.

- What kind of storage policies will ensure efficient usage of hardware?
- How many work hours can be reclaimed by automating maintenance tasks?

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DISTRIBUTE COSTS

The IT budget often carries the storage costs for the whole organization when in fact it is other departments that are racking up the storage expenses. Notifying about usage costs, or even implementing internal debiting, will spread cost awareness about storage usage and help curb costs.

- Which business units are more storage intensive?
- Are they aware of their storage usage costs?
- Can storage costs be distributed to actual cost centers?

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PROMOTE EFFICIENT USAGE

Only end-users know the true value of their data. Given the right tools, end users can manage a lot of the day-to-day management themselves. When properly implemented, shared data stewardship will ensure effective usage of storage space, IT staff time and ultimately the IT budget. Consider:

- How much time can be saved from IT staff by involving end-users?
- Can user self-management achieve even higher levels of efficient usage?

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