

Increasing utilization rates with vendor-neutral storage management

CUSTOMER PROFILE

A major U.S. banking institution with over 2,000 offices and more than 4,500 ATMs, this company provides a comprehensive line of banking, brokerage, insurance, investment, mortgage, trust and payment services products to consumers, businesses and institutions.

Problem

Increase utilization rates and strengthen negotiating position with storage vendors

A new storage administration team was seeking to improve utilization rates on the EMC disk subsystems at its primary data center and at its disaster recovery site. Without implementing new technology, however, it did not have the ability to accurately determine how its 60 to 80 terabytes of storage was being used.

In addition to improving utilization rates and overall management, the company wanted detailed reports and assessments on all aspects of its environment to strengthen its negotiating position with storage vendors. Rather than rely strictly on a vendor's analysis of the environment, the customer wanted independent verification of its storage usage patterns and consumption.

Solution

Consistent utilization monitoring and enterprise-wide reporting

The company chose Storability Global Storage Manager (GSM) software, the only solution that could meet its requirement for an end-to-end view of the entire infrastructure, from server to back-end array. With the software installed in its two key locations, storage administrators have up-to-the-minute utilization data at their fingertips. Any storage that is misconfigured or unused is immediately identified, so administrators can always be confident that storage capacity is being used efficiently. In addition to tracking disk capacity utilization, Global Storage Manager software allows administrators to track database utilization for the first time, providing that all space allocated is being used to the fullest extent.

The banking institution is making use of Global Storage Manager software's multi-site reporting capabilities to gather more than just utilization data. With the software's powerful management applications, managers have access to configuration, operational and performance information about the complete storage infrastructure. Global Storage Manager software provides multiple levels of drill-down from the enterprise to multiple sites to multiple SANs to individual devices. The information is automatically filtered based on the viewer's role in the organization.

The GSM software advantage

Higher utilization rates, reduced capital expenditures and independent verification of storage consumption

The company has accomplished its objective of providing storage administrators with an efficient way to manage the entire infrastructure from one location. In addition, it has found a way to level the playing field in vendor negotiations. With data gathered by an independent resource — Global Storage Manager software — the company always has a precise picture of its storage environment. In addition to reducing new capacity purchases by increasing utilization of existing systems, this wealth of information has resulted in more accurate capacity planning, better purchasing decisions and maximum ROI on the company's current storage investments.

About Storability®

A leading provider of storage management software, Storability is a division of StorageTek® and a vendor-neutral resource for companies seeking to measure and manage their storage like a business. Storability's Global Storage Manager (GSM) software complements StorageTek's robust information lifecycle management (ILM) offerings and allows enterprise organizations to optimize asset utilization, increase management efficiency, enhance quality of service and achieve higher availability.

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