



Architecture Design

System Implementation

Specialised ICT Support

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STORAGE CONSOLIDATION

With the information explosion of the past few years storage requirements are growing at an astonishing rate. And yet, industry analysts estimate that, on average, only 30% of corporate data storage capacity is being utilised.

The biggest problem is legacy: over the years, file, print and application servers have proliferated, sometimes running a single application, at other times serving multiple purposes and almost always storing data specific to those programs. And that data is typically stored on internal hard disks.

As a result, organisations face a number of significant data storage challenges.

The Issues

- available storage capacity cannot always be shared among multiple servers;
- where used most SAN Storage solutions have been deployed in the same fashion as distributed servers;
- limited control is held over highly sensitive company information and data;
- storage administration and capacity management is cumbersome;
- when a storage device fails, there is typically no fail-over for the application;
- upgrading storage capacity is a logistical and technical nightmare;
- system support on widely dispersed storage resources is problematic;
- implementing an effective disaster recovery plan is virtually impossible.



The Solution

Centralisation of storage resources is the ideal solution. Connecting all servers - remote and otherwise - to a centrally housed and managed storage network allows additional capacity to be installed at will, but without disrupting operations. The extra capacity can then be dynamically made available to the servers that need it.

The primary benefits of this approach are:

- optimum reliability from a centrally managed data repository;
- a perfect platform for high availability and disaster recovery planning;
- servers house only their operating systems for easy replacement or fail-over;
- greater redundancy and more efficient utilisation of storage capacity;
- on-line configuration and dynamic allocation of storage capacity;
- enables establishment of more effective backup policies and procedures;
- brings economies of scale into play vis-a-vis storage devices;
- ease of upgrading both servers and storage with minimal disruption; and
- reduced risk of catastrophic data loss or backup and restore failure.

Because technology changes faster than business.™

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