HITACHI
Inspire the Next

To help organizations manage accelerated growth of user-generated data, Hitachi Data Systems and Northern provide a joint solution: Northern Storage Suite integration with Hitachi NAS Platform enables organizations to control data growth, align the value of data with the cost of storage, and extend the life of storage infrastructure.

Hitachi Data Systems and Northern Solution Manages User-Generated Data

Growth rates in unstructured data continue to accelerate. The total amount of data in the world is more than doubling every two years, with enterprises liable for 85% of that data.

Organizations are generating data internally at unprecedented rates; data is also being gathered from external sources and being incorporated into data centers. This data, and the information that can be derived from it, is driving a new era of business development. Enterprises are becoming data-driven.

This new era presents many challenges and opportunities. Parts of the challenges can be solved through automated tools built into the storage hardware, such as deduplication, compression and file optimization. However, these tools only affect previously created data. In order to adjust to today's relentlessly changing demands for IT efficiency you need to start with the creators of the data, the end users.

HNAS Benefits

WATCH VIDEO

Together, Northern Storage Suite (NSS) and Hitachi NAS Platform (HNAS) create the optimal approach to supporting and managing the deluge of user-generated data.

The Challenges of Rapid Data Growth

Challenges of rapid data growth are threefold:

- Storage cost is not just about buying disk. Once you start adding up personnel, power, backup and so forth, you will see that while the cost of disk is decreasing, the cost for storing data is quite expensive.

- Operational risk increases with the amount of data. More data means more complexity and strain on the environment. It takes longer to manage the data, and downtime becomes more likely, thus increasing the operational risk.

- Compliance starts with knowledge. Without knowledge it's impossible to stay compliant, whether it's for government regulation or for legal exposure. Knowing what's saved in your environment, where and by whom is vital.

The Northern User Data Management Approach and Northern Storage Suite

Northern developed the software solution Northern Storage Suite and founded User Data Management (UDM) to address user-generated data. UDM supports the insight for companies to deliver information about the effect of data

storage practices and control over these practices.

Northern Storage Suite is making efficient storage consumption a part of business culture, by making organizations aware of how storage resources are being used, what type of data is being stored, where and by whom, and by enabling and enforcing guidelines and policies. NSS gives insight into current and future risk, highlights opportunities for increased efficiency, and changes the user's approach to saving data.

Specifically, Northern Storage Suite delivers:

- Insight into user-generated data.
  - Enterprise-wide reporting on global or business unit level show how resources are currently being used and how they will be used in the future.
  - Role-adapted reporting provides line of business, data custodians, project managers and end users with information about how their data storage behavior impacts the organization. By distributing reports into the organization, the business is able to support cost and risk reduction efforts by data owners and to improve cooperation between IT and other business divisions.

◎**Hitachi Data Systems**

- Control over user-generated data.
  - Disk quotas, showing the end user a reasonable upper limit for how much should be saved, bring hard control over directory size and usage by user, or soft control for monitored growth and enhanced accountability.
  - File blocking can decrease liability, help structure your data and inform end users what type of content is undesirable by preventing specific file types from being saved. Extension-based real-time scanning and scheduled binary-level scans preserve system performance.

Northern Storage Suite is a Microsoft® Windows®-based software solution that provides a single-pane-of-glass view into user-generated, unstructured data across hardware platforms, geographical sites, data sources and file formats.

Hitachi NAS Platform and Northern Storage Suite Integration

Working together closely, HDS and Northern engineers ensured the integration of Hitachi NAS Platform file filtering capabilities with Northern Storage Suite, resulting the ideal platform for this solution. HNAS helps organizations manage growing user data by delivering greater usable capacity, scalability and twice the performance of comparable products in its class. It delivers the power needed to handle large, mixed-workload environments with file sharing, file server consolidation and application storage for Oracle, Microsoft and virtual environments. With the highest performance per node in the industry, HNAS, through the global-active device feature, supports uninterrupted file access.

The integration of NSS into HNAS v12.3 allows NSS to operate a fail-open quota-locking mechanism and file-blocking functionalities. The additional functionality provided through the NSS and HNAS integration is available for all HNAS family systems that support HNAS v12.3 code, including HNAS 3000 and HNAS 4000 models and Hitachi Unified Storage systems.

About Northern

Northern is dedicated to helping organizations gain insight and control over their unstructured user-generated data. Founded in Stockholm, Sweden, in 1995, Northern has from the beginning served a global market focusing solely on User Data Management or UDM. The in-house developed software solution, Northern Storage Suite, is used by organizations around the world with large numbers of users and/or large amounts of unstructured data. Organizations in all areas, from aerospace and healthcare to government and education, have realized the benefits of the goal-driven, policy-based approach to UDM that Northern can offer. The company serves a global market through its six bases of operations: Sweden, United States, France, United Kingdom, Italy and The Netherlands. For more information visit: www.northern.net.

SOLUTION HIGHLIGHTS

- Manages user-generated data.
- Encourages efficient usage.
- Provides insight into the data pool.
- Identifies and removes unwanted data.
- Sets reasonable usage limits.
- Controls vulnerable content.
- Engages line of business (LOB) in data management.
- Distributes the cost of storage.
- Assists in migration planning.

About Hitachi Data Systems

Hitachi Data Systems, a wholly owned subsidiary of Hitachi, Ltd., provides information technologies, services and solutions that help companies improve IT costs and agility, and innovate with information to make a difference in the world. Our products, services and solutions are trusted by the world's leading enterprises, including more than 70% of the Fortune 100 and more than 80% of the Fortune Global 100. For more information, visit: www.HDS.com.
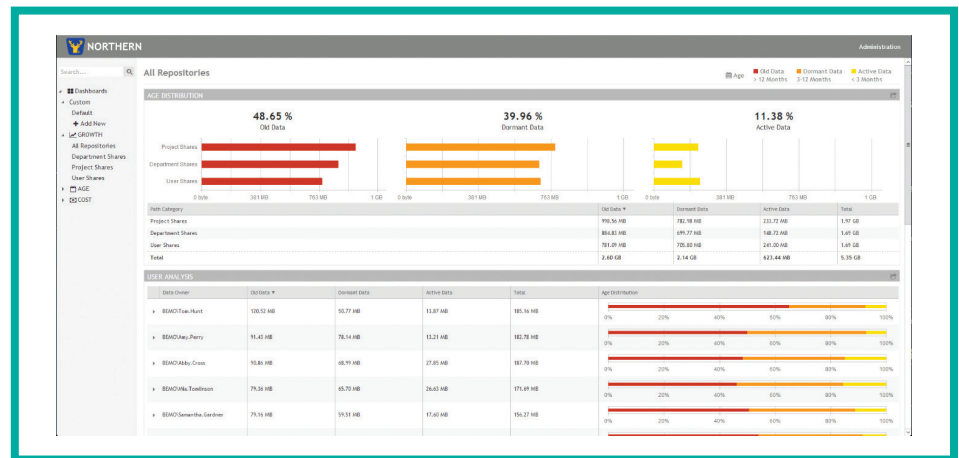

Figure 1. Fully integrated with Hitachi NAS Platform, Northern Storage Suite offers a single-pane-of-glass view into user-generated data.

Hitachi Data Systems