



Enterprise Vault Competitive

Domino Native Archiving

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Applies to: Enterprise Vault – all versions

Introduction

Messaging administrators are all in one way or another forced to deal with large volume of email their users send and receive. Lotus Notes administrators will have concerns over the growing mail files, and the associated impact on servers, storage and database performance.

In addition to the storage problems many organizations are also faced with concerns over how to manage their archived data. The aim of this paper is to give the reader a better understanding of how the built-in Domino archiving works, so as to better compete against it.

It is important to note that Enterprise Vault obtained both the "Ready for Lotus" and "IBM System Storage Proven" validations. This indicates that our product functions as advertised and references have been checked by IBM themselves.

Overview of Domino Archiving

Basically, Domino "Archiving" is a simple form of hierarchical storage management. It uses rules to copy content to another database (also within Domino) and it can also use Agents to force deletion.

The following link shows how this is configured and the rather limited functionality: <https://www-304.ibm.com/support/docview.wss?uid=swg27010310>

There are several limitations with this approach. Instead of archiving the data, it simply moves the problem of a large database to another location. By doing so it further complicates eDiscovery capabilities for the data. Challenges continue to exist such as backup/restore/search/item-level legal hold. Database maintenance is also an issue because if this is not done properly, these newly created large databases are subject to corruption and data loss.

Large databases, in addition to being prone to corruption and data loss, slow all operation of a Domino server. The larger the database, the slower common tasks become. Backup, nightly maintenance routines, and even copying of messages to a Domino "archive" increase resource consumption and negatively impact performance.

Competing against Domino Archiving

Domino native archiving is simply a bulk storage feature that moves the storage problem further down the road for the next administrator.

Enterprise Vault will help to reduce the mail storage by introducing single instancing across the whole messaging estate, and adding compression. Enterprise Vault will also reduce the complexity and time it takes to perform eDiscovery searches. Additional components such as DAOS (Domino Attachment and Object Store-attachment deduplication per-Domino server) compliment Enterprise Vault and further improve the performance profile of the Domino servers. The best news to the administrator is that the archiving component will be completely transparent to the end user.

Key talking points:

- **Long term storage of information.** Discuss with the customer how many years of information is currently stored in the system, and think about benefits such as removing all those duplicate attachments. It's likely that they will be interested in reducing the amount of data to be backed up, as usually administrators suffer from time or storage constraints in this regard. In the Domino market the mail data will probably be held on the Primary (Expensive) Storage devices. Many Domino administrators are tired of backing up the same old, replicated data over and over again. The "using backup for DR" messaging definitely resonates with the Domino administrator.
- **Search/eDiscovery.** Most customers will have had significant trouble finding information within the Domino environment – just too much information stored across too many NSF file locations. Providing search tools to retrieve information will definitely benefit customers with eDiscovery/Compliance requirements, and showing our eDiscovery products is likely to impress Domino customers as there is no similar tool available natively.