

Business White Paper

NOVELL FILE MANAGEMENT SUITE

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Novell® File Management Suite

Intelligently Manage File Storage for Maximum Business Benefit

Novell.

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† *File systems that are NSS, NTFS or Posix-based.*

Whether it's presentations, text documents, spreadsheets, videos or other types of user files, collaborative data embodies the primary output of employee creativity and productivity. In essence, these files represent an organization's intellectual capital. According to analysts, these files also represent the fastest-growing data-type in organizations, consuming more of their storage space at faster rates and for longer periods of time. The proliferation of collaborative data creates storage management challenges that not only continually increase administrative and infrastructure costs, but also prevent organizations from fully profiting from their digital assets.

To deal with the growth of collaborative data, most organizations simply purchase more disk space periodically, giving little thought to resource utilization or rationalization. Even though disk storage can be relatively inexpensive, managing it isn't. Storage management can be an expensive drain on IT resources since it often relies on manual, redundant processes that divert time and money from more strategic projects. Increasing storage also increases data center power, cooling and space requirements and costs.

Importantly, this approach makes storage management complex, and creates an environment of file system chaos. By treating all files the same, organizations don't understand the relevance or value of their data and therefore cannot intelligently manage it.

The majority of the tools available for file storage are "dumb." They treat all files the same, regardless of business relevance. They lack the ability to automate user-storage management tasks, set policies based on

business requirements and provide the visibility needed to understand the true state of the storage infrastructure. Current storage solutions lack the means to reconcile the relationships between individual files, their owners' roles in the organization and where the files are physically stored. Since file storage today is all about device or block management, storage of users' unstructured files (i.e., text, presentation, spreadsheet, audio and other non-database files) typically remains unmanaged and grows further out of control.

To address these challenges and turn file system chaos into organized efficiency, Novell® File Management Suite delivers intelligent file storage management at the file level for maximum business benefit. Novell File Management Suite enables organizations to better track and understand storage patterns, allocate and manage storage based on its relevance and value to the business, while saving money in the administration and procurement of storage resources.

Enhance Existing Storage Management

Novell File Management Suite allows organizations to augment their existing file systems to maximize the value of their data and to minimize the costs associated with managing it. Novell File Management Suite complements existing file systems—Windows*, Linux* or NetWare®—and does not require organizations to replace their current solutions. Novell File Management Suite is interoperable with any storage hardware or operating system†, and is easily implemented and administered even across heterogeneous environments.

For example, SAN and other storage hardware vendors offer solutions to help better manage their own block devices. While these solutions can provide some increased efficiencies, they tend to treat all data the same as they allocate it to huge blocks of storage. Organizations can significantly add to these efficiencies by leveraging the advanced capabilities in Novell File Management Suite to intelligently manage data based on its value to the business.

Additionally, the data management solutions that storage vendors offer are limited to their own proprietary hardware, while Novell File Management Suite can be used across any storage hardware, giving organizations a consolidated view and management framework for all their file storage across the enterprise.

Govern Your Information

As collaboration intensifies, more files are created. As economies grow, the base of knowledge workers expands, and more files are created. But in many industries, the primary driver of file system growth is pressure to comply with industry and government regulations as well as corporate policies. Current file system offerings do little to properly govern an organization's information.

Novell File Management Suite assists with information governance by tying every file to a user throughout the file's lifecycle. With Novell File Management Suite, security officers and auditors have the ability to easily locate, monitor and retrieve files based on employee identities. Additionally, by automating storage administration tasks, Novell File Management Suite helps ensure corporate and regulatory compliance by enforcing policies consistently across the enterprise. It gives organizations the ability to plan and execute policies from a central location, as well as provide them the needed visibility to fine-tune and determine the effectiveness of those policies.

Controlling data by its relevance gives organizations the ability to better determine what data can be eliminated. Most data retention regulations have logical links to identity. While organizations might be required to retain certain data stored or owned by their executives or controllers, they likely don't have the same requirements for all office workers. Knowing what to delete is just as important as knowing what to keep.

By bringing intelligence to file storage, Novell File Management Suite lets organizations better respond to information requirements of all types, from individual activity to organizational patterns. With Novell File Management Suite, you can "know thyself" and make decisions for the benefit of your business.

Automate Data Storage Administration

Typical file storage administration tasks are highly manual, redundant, low-value and can be prone to errors, as mundane repetitive tasks tend to be. User storage administration tasks include provisioning and de-provisioning of users' storage, managing quotas, making changes to storage resources to match user changes, setting up and adding members to groups, cleaning up "orphaned" folders, archiving and deleting. This doesn't even take into account back-up procedures and hardware maintenance. Industry benchmark studies show that each manual task averages 30 minutes of an administrator's time. In a 4,000-person organization, this could equal 2,000 man-hours of effort—roughly equivalent to a full-time administrator. Surely there are better ways to allocate resources!

Novell File Management Suite manages a comprehensive set of storage management tasks automatically, once the customized policies are assigned. Users are provisioned storage based on their role in the organization, where they work and, most importantly, what they are authorized to access. When users

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change roles, move or leave the organization, File Management Suite can automatically update those storage resources. Novell File Management Suite goes on to handle all file storage events including moving, grooming, de-provisioning, archiving and deleting.

By eliminating tedious tasks that consume resources that can be used better elsewhere, the business benefit is a quick return on investment in administration costs alone.

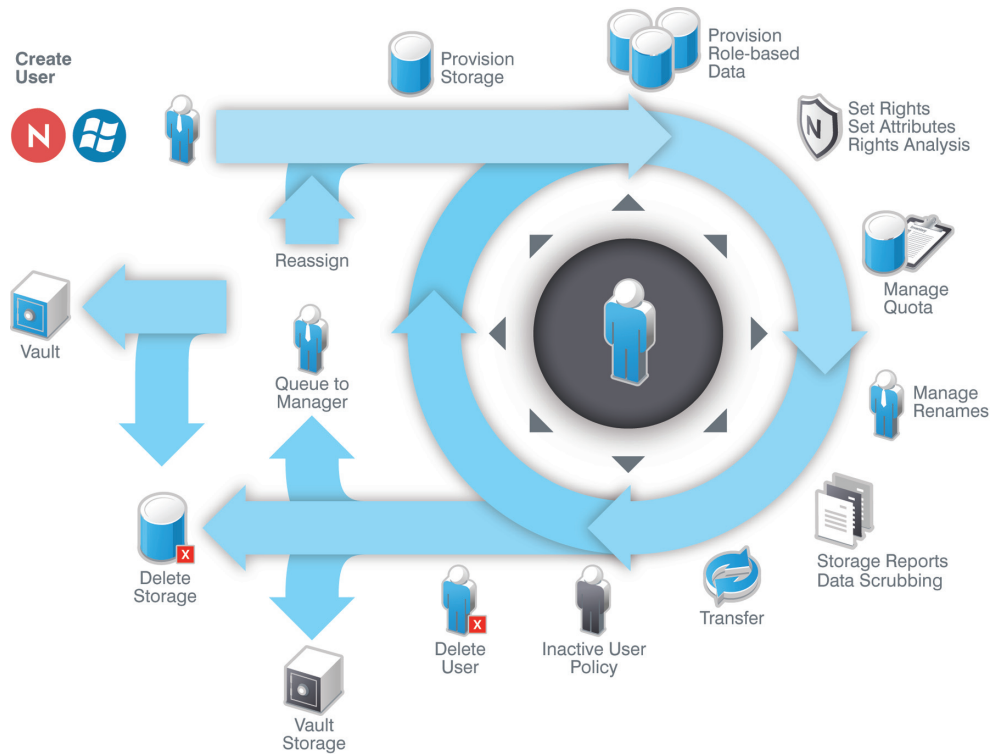


Figure 1. Lifecycle Storage Management Based on Identity and Policy. Automate administration across the full storage lifecycle.

Control Data by its Relevance

Not every file is equally valuable. Why do storage solutions treat them as if they are? While other solutions focus on managing blocks of data by their size and prompt organizations to add more disk space when capacity is full, Novell File Management Suite focuses on managing files based on their relevance and value to the organization.

For example, files that belong to an organization's most creative and productive employees can be located on its fastest, most expensive storage systems. However,

data belonging to functions less connected to the profit-center may be stored on less-expensive storage. Moreover, Novell File Management Suite can identify files that haven't been touched in six months, or non-business files such as MP3 and AVI files, and direct them all to less-expensive storage.

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Additionally, one of the most chaotic aspects of file storage is back-up. With Novell File Management Suite, you can get smart about back up by offloading stale or less-relevant data to secondary devices that don't require daily back-ups. You can focus daily back-ups on the 20 percent of organizational data that is most important.

Considering that high-end storage can cost ten times what low-end disk storage costs, there is an immediate return on investment by using Novell File Management Suite to better utilize existing storage resources, streamline bloated processes and avoid incremental hardware purchases.

Understand Your Data Better

One of the biggest challenges in controlling file storage chaos is that organizations typically lack a logical means for understanding the value of the millions of individual files across their network. Too many unanswered file storage questions exist. So, where do you even begin? Novell File Management Suite provides organizations with a clear picture of their unstructured data, enabling them to better plan and deploy an efficient storage infrastructure, and execute on compliance and governance requirements.

Novell File Management Suite answers the vital questions that allow organizations to analyze file storage patterns and design policies to control the chaos. How much unstructured data exists on network storage volumes? Whose files are relevant and need to be archived? What files can be moved or deleted? How many orphaned folders exist? How much storage is being used to store media files like MP3s or AVIs? What departments are using most of the organization's storage capacity? Do redundant files exist and who do they belong to? When were certain files last used and who owns them? Is there any storage abuse? If so, by whom?

The intelligence gleaned by leveraging Novell File Management Suite can bring informed insights into strategic IT decisions, such as how cloud storage can be best leveraged based on current usage patterns. The new insights gained by answering these questions drive greater efficiencies, facilitate compliance and lead to greater savings.

For example, to accommodate growth, a typical large organization might add 10 to 20 percent of its storage capacity each year through disk purchases. By merely understanding its data picture better and then intelligently allocating existing hardware resources, an organization might be able to eliminate or reduce this annual cost for immediate return on investment.

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Aging Report

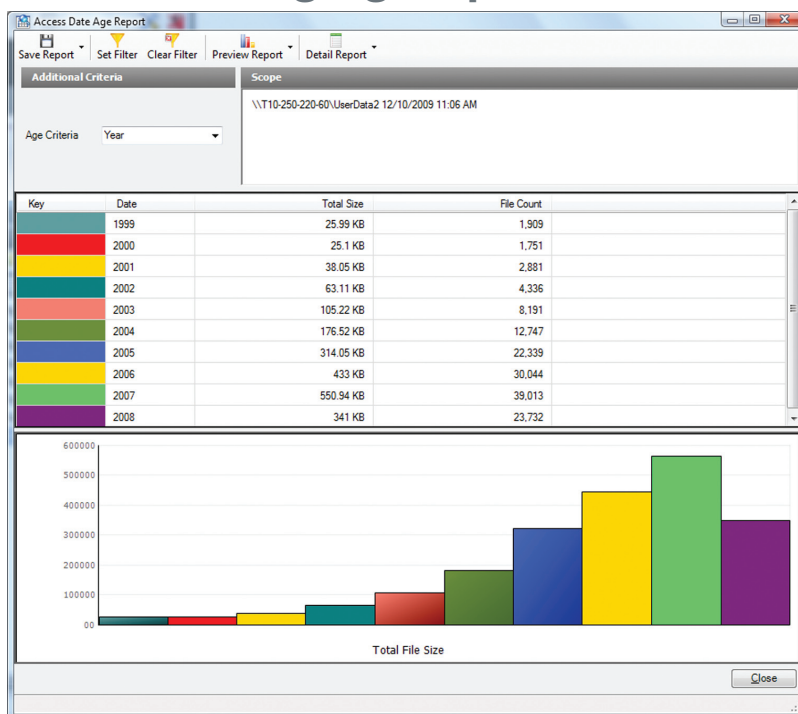


Figure 2. Discover patterns in storage usage that can be exploited for greater efficiencies.

Novell File Management Suite offers the most advanced, business-oriented file storage solution available today.

Unlock Hidden Value

Novell File Management Suite allows organizations to unlock the hidden value of their data that is buried deep within their file systems. In addition to providing more intelligent management of data, the solution enables organizational knowledge to be better identified, accessed, leveraged and stored. This in turn makes collaboration efforts richer and more efficient.

Collaborative data—such as presentations, text documents, spreadsheets and videos—is the primary output of employee creativity. Typically, this collaborative data exists in monolithic file systems, with little logical organization. Organizations that can intelligently manage these assets can enjoy a competitive advantage through the ability to locate and access relevant information quickly. Novell File Management Suite delivers this collaboration data management capability, enabling organizations to unlock the hidden value in their intellectual capital to drive greater business growth and success.

Novell File Management Suite

By merging Novell file storage expertise with market-leading Novell identity technologies,

Novell File Management Suite offers the most advanced, business-oriented file storage solution available today. The solution integrates three Novell products that work together to discover, analyze, provision, relocate and optimize file storage based on customized business policies.

- **Novell Storage Manager** automates redundant storage management tasks with customizable policies based on business requirements. Identity-driven data management provisions, moves, adjusts, vaults and deletes users' storage resources, increasing productivity and ensuring compliance.
- **Novell Dynamic File Services** optimizes the use of storage resources by transparently directing less valuable files to less expensive storage devices in a way that lowers hardware, power and cooling costs, streamlines back-up processes and does not impact the end user.
- **Novell File Reporter** inventories file systems to provide visibility into an organization's storage patterns and expose the "junk in the drawer," delivering information that can be used to set policies for automating storage management with Novell File Management Suite, or for use with complementary solutions.

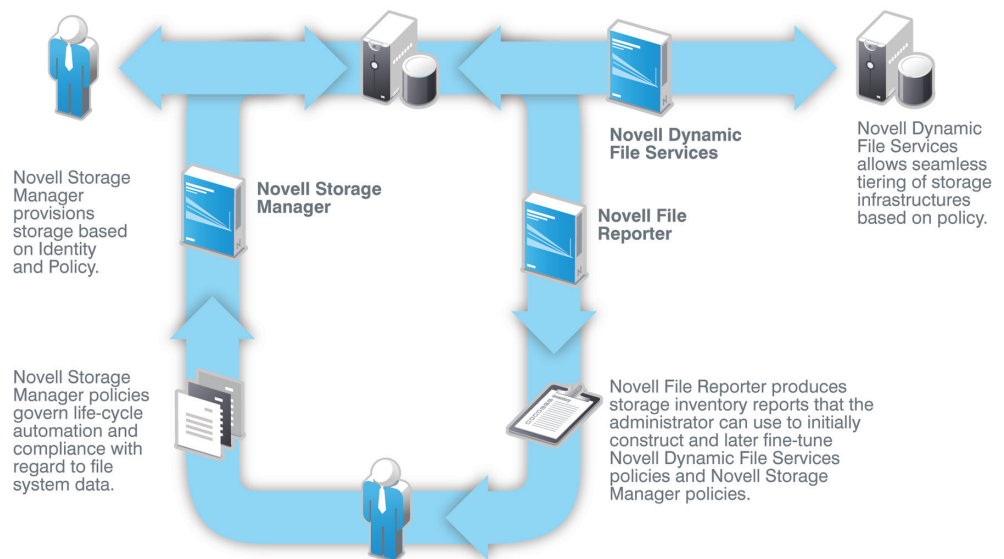


Figure 3. Novell File Management Suite Interactions

Novell File Management Suite addresses the pain of growing data storage costs and chaos. With the integration of three Novell file solutions—Novell Storage Manager, Novell Dynamic File Services and Novell File Reporter—Novell File Management Suite intelligently manages unstructured data

based on business requirements and for the most business benefit. With Novell File Management Suite, organizations can finally get a handle on the unchecked proliferation of data, while enhancing collaboration and regulatory compliance, and driving down infrastructure costs.

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Contact your local Novell
Solutions Provider, or call
Novell at:

1 800 714 3400 U.S./Canada
1 801 861 1349 Worldwide
1 801 861 8473 Facsimile

Novell, Inc.
404 Wyman Street
Waltham, MA 02451 USA