Hewlett Packard Enterprise

HPE IT increases and stabilizes performance with intelligent archiving

HPE Structured Data Manager drives increased productivity and reduces costs

Objective
Increase application performance by archiving aging data while ensuring availability and compliance.

Approach
Deploy HPE Structured Data Manager to optimize tiered data storage while preserving data integrity and access.

IT Matters
- 48% reduction in Tier 0 storage requirements

- 48% reduction in backup/restore window

- 37% reduction in disk-to-tape backup duration

- Reduced resource contention on database servers

Business Matters
- 89% average performance increase for data queries, resulting in increased productivity

- Accelerated eDiscovery with seamless, automated retrieval of archived data

- Performance stabilization with expedited backup and restore

- Reduced data footprint, storage and maintenance costs

HPE IT utilizes HPE Structured Data Manager (HPE SDM) to increase query performance, reduce data management costs, improve business productivity, raise information value, and mitigate risks associated with increasing regulatory compliance requirements.

Delivering accelerated query performance and increased productivity

"We see the greatest impact of archiving with HPE Structured Data Manager (HPE SDM) on databases of over 100GB," says Peter Rospond, Operations Manager for HPE IT Center of Excellence (CoE). "With hundreds—or thousands—of users across the globe submitting online queries simultaneously, performance counts. Records need to be retrieved with lightning speed. Having millions of unnecessary, aging records lying around in the database impacts query times and—when users are kept waiting—productivity."

Case study
HPE IT Center
of Excellence

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> "By intelligently archiving millions of records using HPE SDM, we've significantly increased query performance across all of HPE's applications, driving increased productivity while realizing significant dollar savings."

— Peter Rospond, Operations Manager for HPE IT Center of Excellence (CoE)

With rapidly growing data volumes, HPE IT (previously HP IT) needed to find a way to optimize their data management lifecycle to meet their Service Level Agreements (SLAs). They also needed to ensure data compliance along with fast, easy retrieval when required. The deployment of Database-to-Database (D2D) archiving using HPE SDM archived historical data from the production databases on high-performance, more expensive Tier 0 storage, to Tier 1 and Tier 2 storage. It also ensured seamless access to archived data for easy search and retrieval.

Managing growing volumes of data—before and after the split

"When HPE SDM was originally implemented (before HP split into Hewlett Packard Enterprise and HP Inc.) the initial impact was huge," reflects Rospond. "Three production instances in Atlanta, Austin, and Houston supported over 70 business-critical applications across 180 source databases and environments, running a total of 1800

D2D archive jobs. We archived over 100 billion rows—equating to more than 83TB of compressed archive data with a typical compression ratio of 3:1—from the production databases over a five-year period, reducing query times by up to 89%. We also reduced our backup/restore window at that time by up to 48%, and the duration of full database backups to tape by 37%."

A reduction in storage capacity was one of the key objectives of deploying SDM, with savings multiplied across database clones used for high availability, disaster recovery, and standby instances. The SDM implementation resulted in Tier 0 storage capacity being reduced by up to 48%[1].

"During the company split we took the opportunity to further optimize the SDM environment," continues Rospond. "We created a completely new SDM environment for the HPE applications, and migrated the existing archives across to the new system. The whole process was quick and seamless."

[1] Application improvements vary greatly by age of application, current business volumes, business process supported, and application data model. An older application that has accumulated more aged data will realize higher benefits than a new application with little to no "aged" data.

Customer at a glance

Application
• HPE IT utilizes HPE Structured Data Manager (HPE SDM) to increase query performance by an average of 89%, reducing data management costs and improving business productivity.

Software
• HPE Structured Data Manager

"Since the split in November 2015, we've already archived over 1.3 billion rows, reducing our Tier 0 storage requirements by an additional 15%. This has contributed to reduced resource contention on the database servers, increasing query performance by an additional 43%."

– Peter Rospond, Operations Manager for HPE IT Center of Excellence (CoE)

Ongoing benefits of intelligent archiving

"Now we've reduced the number of archive jobs for the HPE environment to 140 covering 51 applications—24 of which are mission critical—across 123 source databases/ environments," states Rospond. "Since the split in November 2015, we've already archived over 1.3 billion rows, reducing our Tier 0 storage requirements by an additional 15%. This has contributed to reduced resource contention on our database servers, increasing query performance by an additional 43%."

Rospond sums it up: "Data volumes are going to continue to grow. But HPE SDM enables us to manage that data efficiently and cost-effectively. By intelligently archiving millions of records using HPE SDM, we've significantly increased query performance across all of HPE's applications, driving increased productivity while realizing significant dollar savings."

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