Maximize the availability of health data while minimizing storage costs

Smarter storage solutions for the healthcare industry to support today's complex requirements

Highlights

- Apply data protection and retention best practices to help meet regulatory and service level requirements

- Help minimize the capital and operational costs of storing exponentially growing amounts of data

- Facilitate rapid retrieval of important health data, whether treating an individual patient or addressing a viral outbreak or other emergency

Managing information cost-effectively and maintaining your standard of care

Today's healthcare organizations collect, manage and exploit enormous amounts of digital information in the forms of patient records, accounts, images and studies, supply chain and other types of data. The organization requires reliable access to this data to perform its core functions and back-end services. The growth in regulations and the threat of lawsuits further complicate data storage. Losing any of this data or extended access to it can result in a risk to patient well being, as well as severe costs and penalties, and loss of reputation. And as the amount of healthcare data continues to grow, more efficient solutions for storing, protecting, retaining, and managing this data through its life cycle are needed.

The data storage requirements for a healthcare provider are among the largest and most demanding in any industry. As diagnostic technology has advanced rapidly, the amount of information that a healthcare facility must manage has grown exponentially. A provider must handle Electronic Health Records (EHR), digitized paper records, digital images, video, sonograms, PET scans, CAT scans, X-rays and much more. Concerns about storing terabytes of data are giving way to a need to manage petabytes of information kept on very large networks of heterogeneous storage media.

Manage, protect, and preserve your electronic health information

What does this mean from a healthcare provider perspective? First, the costs of storage must be controlled. Low-priority, infrequently accessed data should be moved to lower-cost storage media. And storage management needs to be automated as much as possible to minimize the information technology (IT) operations costs associated with the ever-increasing amounts of data.

Second, the information must always be available to clinical staff in ways that make them more efficient and help them deliver a high level of care. Too much information creates clutter that slows staff down, but not being able to access relevant information quickly is similarly unacceptable.

Third, data must be retained and protected in accordance with your internal policies and to address regulations such as the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) and the Health Information Technology Act (HITECH).

IBM storage management software solutions help to address the challenges associated with growing amounts of data in the healthcare industry. Protecting and retaining electronic information across the healthcare organization, with all the different locations, system types, applications and business/regulatory requirements, is a very complicated problem. Ideally, you would like to have a single tool that does everything, across the entire organization, providing the ability to effectively respond following any type of event. While many vendors promise to solve your problems, nobody can provide this capability in a single package—the problem is just way too complex.

IBM is driving towards a unified recovery management capability that enables you to manage a selection of tools from a single administrative interface that will help to reduce costs and mistakes. This approach helps meet stringent goals for

data and application availability, allowing you to use the right technologies for each application, but tying it all together to reduce the amount of data at risk and to reduce downtime when something goes wrong.

Get control of your IT costs and reduce risks

While the volume of data is growing exponentially, government regulations are expanding and competitive pressures are increasing—forcing you to retain more of your data for longer periods of time. But your budgets are likely flat or being cut. And as we become more dependent on digital information, the costs of losing any of it are increasingly painful. The bottom line, of course, is that we need to do a better job of managing data assets, and as these assets grow and the budgets shrink, we need to do more with less. So we need smarter solutions.

Storage administrators are on the front lines of the "Tidal Wave of Data" battle. Some of the challenges from data growth that administrators are struggling with include:

- It takes longer to perform backups; often not completing within "backup window" allowances leaves some data inadequately protected
- It takes longer to perform recoveries; increased downtime equals lost revenue opportunity or worse; data that isn't protected can't be recovered
- Can't keep buying more storage; running out of floor space and/or electrical and cooling capacity; IT administration and management costs are exploding
- New data sources are complicating the problems; new applications and clinical systems coming online; mergers and acquisitions are increasing the number of systems to be supported

IBM can help you build a smarter storage management infrastructure that will enable you to cope with these challenges. We have solutions to help reduce your data storage footprint, and the goals that we set out in these solutions are: to reduce your capital and operational costs by up to 60 percent; to improve your application availability and service levels; and to help you mitigate the risks associated with losing data in a rapidly changing environment.

The data reduction opportunities that IBM can help you exploit include: eliminating unneeded or nonclinical data; moving older data to less expensive/easier-to-manage tiers of storage; avoiding duplicating data; compressing and deduplicating what's left; and maximizing the utilization of storage resources.

IBM Tivoli® storage management software can help you manage, protect and preserve your electronic health data. Our data management capabilities will help to improve the performance of care delivery and back-office systems while minimizing the costs associated with exploding data storage requirements. Your data will be protected against almost any type of loss, and IBM storage software solutions can help ensure that sensitive data remains protected from unintended use, and help maintain compliance with local, national and international regulations.

The IBM Tivoli storage management family includes:

- **Tivoli Storage Manager:** The leader in enterprise-wide data protection, unified recovery management and effective data reduction; supporting hundreds of devices and operating platforms with many application-specific connectors
- **Tivoli Storage Manager FastBack:** Advanced continuous data protection and near-instant recovery software solution for business-critical Windows and Linux servers, remote offices and small- to mid-sized enterprises
- **Tivoli Storage Manager FastBack for Workstations:** Automated, continuous data protection and recovery software solution for desktop and laptop computers, with central management for thousands of systems
- **Tivoli Storage FlashCopy® Manager:** Perform and manage frequent, near-instant, non-disruptive, application-aware backups and restores, leveraging advanced FlashCopy snapshot technologies in IBM storage systems
- **IBM Information Archive:** Secure, scalable, cost-effective information retention solution for all types of content—structured and unstructured, compliant or noncompliant
- **IBM Tivoli Storage Productivity Center:** Combines the management of assets, capacity, performance and operations into a single platform

For more information

To learn more about IBM Tivoli storage management solutions, please contact your IBM marketing representative or IBM Business Partner, or visit the following website: **ibm.com**/tivoli/solutions/storage

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Tivoli® software