Are you managing your data effectively, or buying more storage to cope?

Many companies today are finding that the amount of data on their systems is simply unsustainable. Users are collecting more data every second, all the while expecting this data to be stored indefinitely and retrieved readily. And of course, the information collected requires more storage space and more processing power than ever.

IT departments are bearing the burden of this digital explosion. According to Gartner, unstructured data is growing at 125% a year, and up to 80% of this data remains inactive in production systems, severely impacting performance and clogging up primary disk space. Moreover, IT personnel can spend up to 50% of their time shovelling data around and making continuous one-off decisions that amount to a series of band-aid solutions for the storage and management of their data.

As available space fills up, companies need to start thinking laterally and looking elsewhere for data storage solutions. That's where Moonwalk comes into the picture. Moonwalk is a solution that allows organizations to design and deploy rules for the governance of unstructured data, across the enterprise, from one central location. And as data administration takes place behind the scenes there is little if any impact on users.

SERVER COSTS

FLOOR SPACE COSTS

HARDWARE DISK COSTS

RAID COSTS

NETWORK COSTS

SYSTEMS ADMINISTRATION COSTS

DISASTER RECOVERY COSTS

BACKUP COSTS, ETC

About Moonwalk Universal

Moonwalk Universal is a privately owned company specializing in large-scale data management solutions. With a support base of more than 400 computing professionals Australia-wide, Moonwalk Universal solutions encompass best of breed technologies provided by some of the world's leading IT innovators.

Contact us

For more information about Moonwalk Universal software solutions, please visit us on the web at: www.moonwalkinc.com
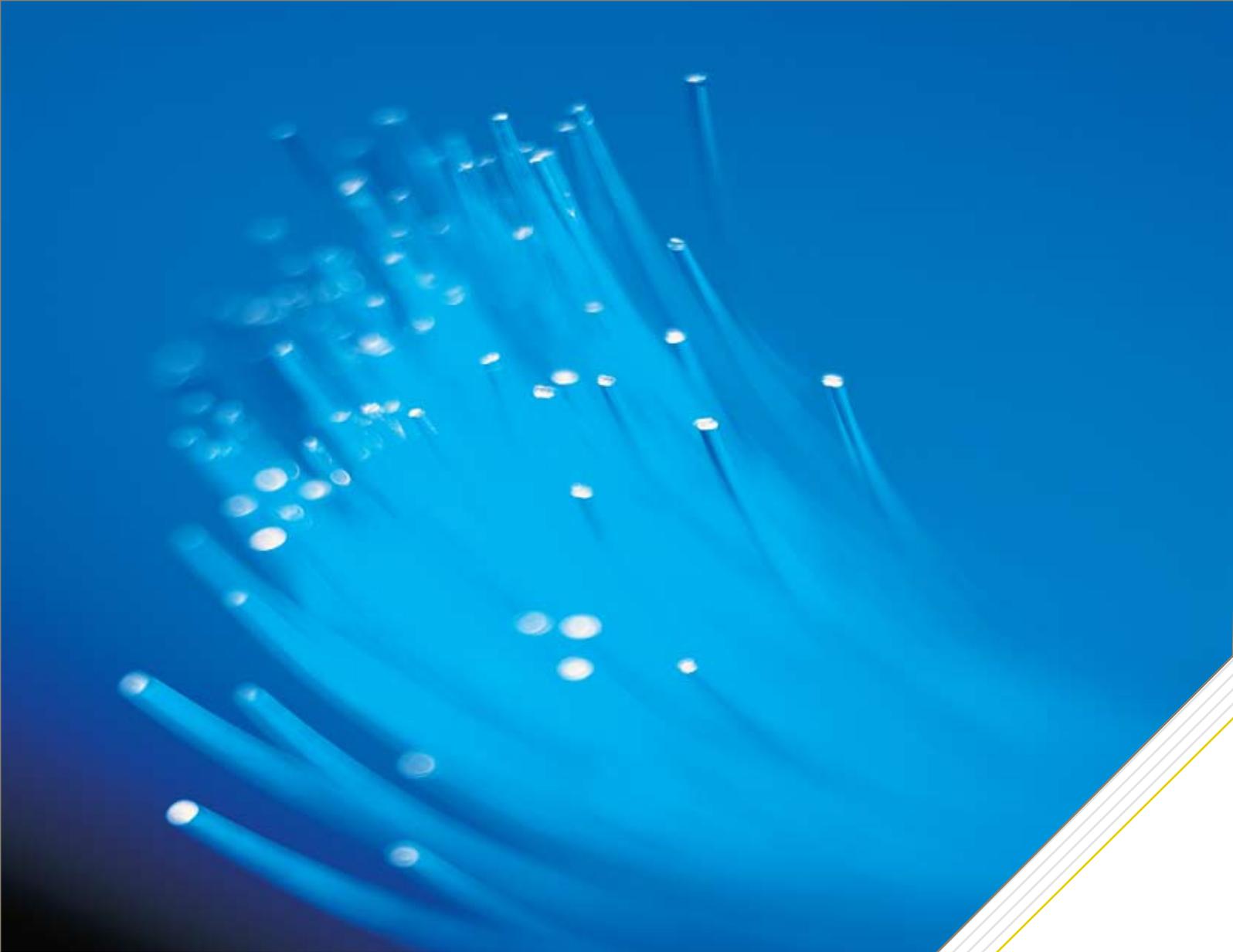
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moonwalk

manage your data from the inside

A revolutionary solution for your data management and storage

What is Moonwalk?

Moonwalk is an Enterprise Data Management system that allows organizations to manage cost effective tiered storage capabilities easily and efficiently. It puts unstructured data into perspective by intelligently migrating data to and from various storage locations, depending on the value of that data. This in turn gives organizations greater control of their data and optimum use of their storage infrastructure.

Moonwalk works by allowing you to deploy a set of policies for categorizing and migrating data, and it makes certain that these centrally configured policies will be distributed and enforced right to the edge of the network.
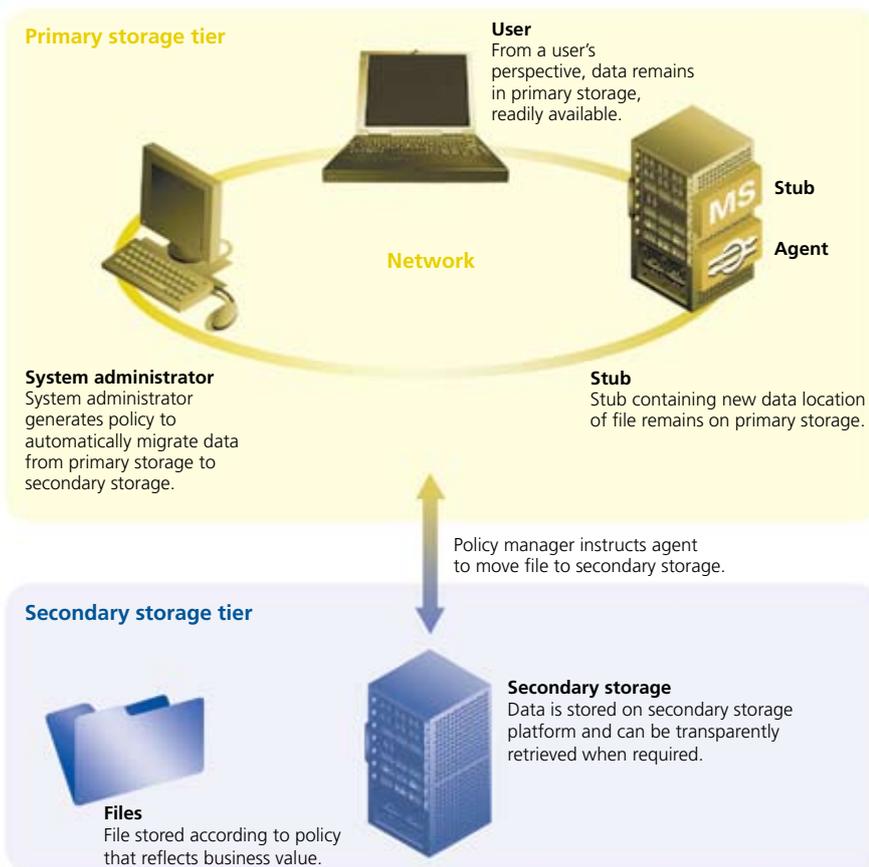
It's also network-aware and data-centric, so it allows for data management by project, location, user, group, size, name, time and other customer-defined attributes, making complex datasets easier to express in simple data management policies. It allows you to find data, allocate destinations, set rules and policies and run tasks – all from a single administrator interface that lets you manage your data from the inside, drilling down to information easily and swiftly.

Files can then be stored according to business value, and retrieved seamlessly whenever policies are issued. And by using Moonwalk, IT administrators can restructure their file systems transparently to the users, behind the scenes. They can also sweep their network for banned file types such as mp3 files, .WAV and .exe files, and take appropriate action.

Common practice has seen organizations simply buying more storage to accommodate these files, creating even bigger headaches further down the track. With Moonwalk, IT administrators can resolve many of these storage issues today, and maintain effective management of disk space on an ongoing basis.

How does it work?

TIERED MANAGEMENT SOLUTION

Primary storage tier

User
From a user's perspective, data remains in primary storage, readily available.

Network

Stub

Agent

System administrator
System administrator generates policy to automatically migrate data from primary storage to secondary storage.

Stub
Stub containing new data location of file remains on primary storage.

Policy manager instructs agent to move file to secondary storage.

Secondary storage tier

Secondary storage
Data is stored on secondary storage platform and can be transparently retrieved when required.

Files
File stored according to policy that reflects business value.

Moonwalk is designed for complete interoperability with Netware, Windows, Linux and UNIX, taking up only a small footprint in the operating environment.

It serves as a single tool to proactively manage the migration, copying and movement of data throughout the enterprise. It also allows for simulations to predict the impact of these migrations so that administrators can fine-tune rules to save maximum disk space and confirm that the policy will work as intended.

This unique software application migrates and archives files from their source volumes to any supported platform: Netware, Windows, Linux, UNIX and NFS. Files can then be distributed transparently across all available storage, making them as accessible as ever, but allowing them to be stored more effectively and economically in the mainstream data management system.

Moonwalk makes it easy to manage complex data relationships across your total environment - interdepartmental, interoffice, interstate or across the globe.

Save money
Moonwalk saves money on storage infrastructure by allowing companies to migrate data from captive primary storage volumes to secondary tiers (SANs, HSMs, NAS, JBOD, etc).

Save time
IT personnel are freed up from the tedious daily chore of having to shovel data around and are able to spend time on more profitable areas of your business.

Improve governance
With centrally managed rules-based policies, governance is improved. Rapid data retrieval also makes it easier for companies to fulfill regulatory data storage obligations.

Maximise disk space
Primary disk space is always available because automatic policy manages the removal and storage of data.

New York
SAN/NAS

London
NFS

Migrated files are as available as ever for users, even though these files have been moved elsewhere.

Management
Finance
Administration
IT Services
Data Centre

Beyond hierarchical storage

Traditional Hierarchical Storage Management systems (HSMs) introduce a new layer of technology, and along with this comes the associated management headaches, extra costs and risks. With Moonwalk, there is no introduced layer of technology – and no points of failure within the system. All data access occurs within the network, and if you remove the Moonwalk policy engine from the equation, people can still access their files as normal.

HSM solutions have limited rule sets (i.e. file size & age of file) and are triggered by storage demands rather than data demands. Moonwalk on the other hand, offers full flexibility in setting rules, allowing IT staff to build everything from simple to complex policies for data and allowing them to conveniently reuse these policies whenever necessary.

Moonwalk isn't just a substitute for HSM – it's an information lifecycle management system (ILM) with greater capabilities and intelligence all round. Moonwalk can send data to your HSM system, whereas an HSM system on its own never has this seamless data management capacity.

Increase control
Using an IP-based interface, IT staff can manage unstructured data for the whole organization from one central location.

Increased control

Moonwalk uses an IP-based interface that allows IT staff to manage their unstructured data files for the entire organisation, from one central location. Also, by decreasing the time spent micro-managing servers and storage systems, Moonwalk gives your IT staff more control over the management of the network.

Less time wastage

According to MetaGroup, IT personnel can spend at least 50% of their time shovelling data around. With Moonwalk, your staff are freed up from this tedious daily chore and have more time to focus on profitable activities within the business. They only need to decide how to value data and assign storage status, and their policies are executed throughout the network automatically.

Improved cost efficiency

For too long the true cost of data acquisition has been swept under the carpet. Users often aren't even aware of the issues they're creating as they amass files. In most cases, they would have no idea of the human resources that have to be allocated to manage data or the infrastructure involved in accommodating increasingly large file volumes.

Moonwalk saves money on storage infrastructure by allowing companies to migrate data from captive primary storage volumes to secondary tiers (SANs, HSMs, NAS, CAS, JBOD, etc) or CAS devices

such as EMC 'Centera' thus reducing the total cost of ownership for data. Tests across a number of different business environments have consistently shown that there was an immediate reduction of unstructured data on primary disk space – conservatively 40%, together with a significant reduction in time required to manage and store this data.

Better governance

With centrally managed rules-based policies, governance is improved. Rapid and secure data retrieval makes it easier for companies to fulfill requirements under the Privacy Act and other regulatory data storage obligations, which makes for greater peace of mind for CEOs and CIOs alike.

Users don't even know it's there

Users are typically oblivious to the expansion of their data. In response, organizations are continually demanding more storage resources. Once data administrators have introduced Moonwalk, it's so transparent that users don't even know it's there. Migrated files remain as available as ever, even though they've been moved elsewhere to protect primary disk space, and data is managed by the enterprise, not the individual.

A free month's trial

There are two major threats to the unchecked growth of your company's data: firstly the cost of maintaining it on prime disk space and secondly, the complexity of managing it once it's there.

Moonwalk offers you savings on storage space and also simplifies procedures involved with managing your data, making it easy and swift to move, group, band, delete, protect, prioritise, migrate and recall data easily, on demand.

This exceptional solution is also future-proof, as it works across operating systems and isn't hardware dependant. It can grow with your infrastructure, allowing you to maintain consistency in the control and management of your data over time.

Moonwalk offers you enormous savings – in time, money, stress, and disk space. To discover the advantages for yourself and explore the power of this unique data management technology, simply contact us today at **www.moonwalkinc.com** or call **+61 (07) 3247 1080** for your free month's trial.

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