

## How Otium Utilistor suite can be fundamental in ongoing consolidation projects

When companies embark on consolidation projects, a number of facts tend to always be the case.

Whether the push for consolidation is around storage or servers, the starting point always needs to be what **data** is being consolidated. Quite simply you can't consolidate servers or storage without paying attention to where the data is ultimately going to reside.

It should also be remembered that consolidation isn't something you do then forget about, disciplines and procedures need to be implemented after the initial project to ensure that your systems stay organised and "consolidated".

Consider the following:

- Do you know how much duplicated data is stored across your network?
- How much of your data is not required for business purposes and where is that data located?
- Can you identify and locate "ownerless" data in your enterprise?
- Which data is it more important is recovered first in the event of a crash?
- Can you predict data growth across your enterprise?

Unless an IT department can answer these sorts of questions they cannot expect to gain all the promised benefits of consolidation.

They will still have data growing out of control, still have ever expanding backup windows, still have difficulties managing storage. Consolidation without knowledge of the data you are attempting to consolidate is a false panacea.

Otium's Utilistor suite of storage utilities ensures that when you embark on a consolidation process, that you know exactly what data you are dealing with, and provides you with accurate information ensuring that appropriate technologies are used for each category of data that an organisation holds.

Once the major work of consolidation is complete, Otium's Utilistor enables administrators to remain in control of data going forward. It is often forgotten that one of the main reasons that systems become disparate in the first place is because out of control data growth drove reactive hardware purchases.

### **Consolidation and SANs driving SRM**

**deployment** Storage resource management (SRM) is transitioning from a report generator function into an active, policy-based system that transforms information into decisions and actions. Two trends that are driving the deployment of an action- and policy-based SRM solution are server consolidation and SAN implementation – **snwonline.com**

**The major cause of unsuccessful** server consolidation is poor planning that does not take account of the possible roadblocks that must be overcome – **techrepublic.com**

**As the amount of stored information** continues to grow, just adding capacity is not always the answer. Understanding and managing the actual data ensures that only appropriate information resides on the storage consolidation infrastructure. Reducing the amount of redundant, unused, or unnecessary information can dramatically reduce the amount of capacity required, which means less to manage – **Datalink whitepaper**

**Storage Management: Solutions That Consolidate and Automate** According to research by the **Enterprise Storage Group**, a picture is worth about 18,000 words. All those bits and bytes are adding up fast too: the amount organizations are spending on data storage this year is over 100 percent more than they spent in 2001.