

Otium Storage Audits



Otium Storage Snapshot Assessment

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Otium Software write and publish Utilistor™ a powerful yet simple set of storage management software products for IT professionals designed to automate repetitive and time consuming storage management tasks.

Otium Software have devised a repeatable format for storage audit services using Utilistor™ software to provide a cost effective and valuable storage audit assessment.

This document describes a copyrighted format and methodology for conducting an Otium approved storage audit. Otium have authorised a select group of Consulting Partners that have been trained to deliver an Otium Storage Audit.

The details in this document describe the Otium “Storage Snapshot Assessment”. Otium have also devised a larger audit called the Otium Full Storage Audit, for details of this service visit www.otium.co.uk

Otium Storage Audit Services

Otium has selected the Utilistor™ Storage Management Solution from Otium Software to deliver Storage Audit Capabilities.

Otium has two types of storage audit it can offer to customers:

- 1) Storage Snapshot Assessment - a micro audit that provides a point in time analysis of a subset of your company's data.
- 2) Full Data Storage Audit – a longer 30 day assessment that provides a snapshot view of storage along with trend and predictive analysis.

This document describes the Storage Snapshot Assessment. For details of the Full Data Storage Audit please contact your account manager.

The Issue

Data growth can be the cause of numerous problems for I.T. Departments. If data growth is uncontrolled or unpredictable, the problems created can manifest themselves in many ways. These include:

- ✚ Drops in application performance
- ✚ Backup Jobs over running
- ✚ Backup costs increasing
- ✚ Servers running out of disk space and crashing
- ✚ Administrators wasting time and productivity managing disks that are at near to full capacity.
- ✚ Ad-hoc non-budgeted storage hardware purchases.
- ✚ Unplanned maintenance and downtime.
- ✚ User productivity affected due to personal “data housekeeping requests” from IT departments.

The Cause

The amount of information that companies hold continually increases. Electronic systems, e-mail, multimedia, and communications technology all contribute to the rate at which data is growing. The profile of data stored on corporate systems has never been more varied or large. As a result it has become increasingly difficult to efficiently manage **what** data is being stored on **which** corporate assets.

Options for Accommodating Data Growth

I.T. Departments need to consider the options available for dealing with expanding volumes of data. In order to cater for increasing amounts of electronic information I.T. Departments have to consider a number of options including:

- ✚ Server consolidation
- ✚ New backup infrastructure
- ✚ NAS
- ✚ New disk purchases
- ✚ SAN
- ✚ Secondary Storage
- ✚ Off line Storage
- ✚ High availability solutions

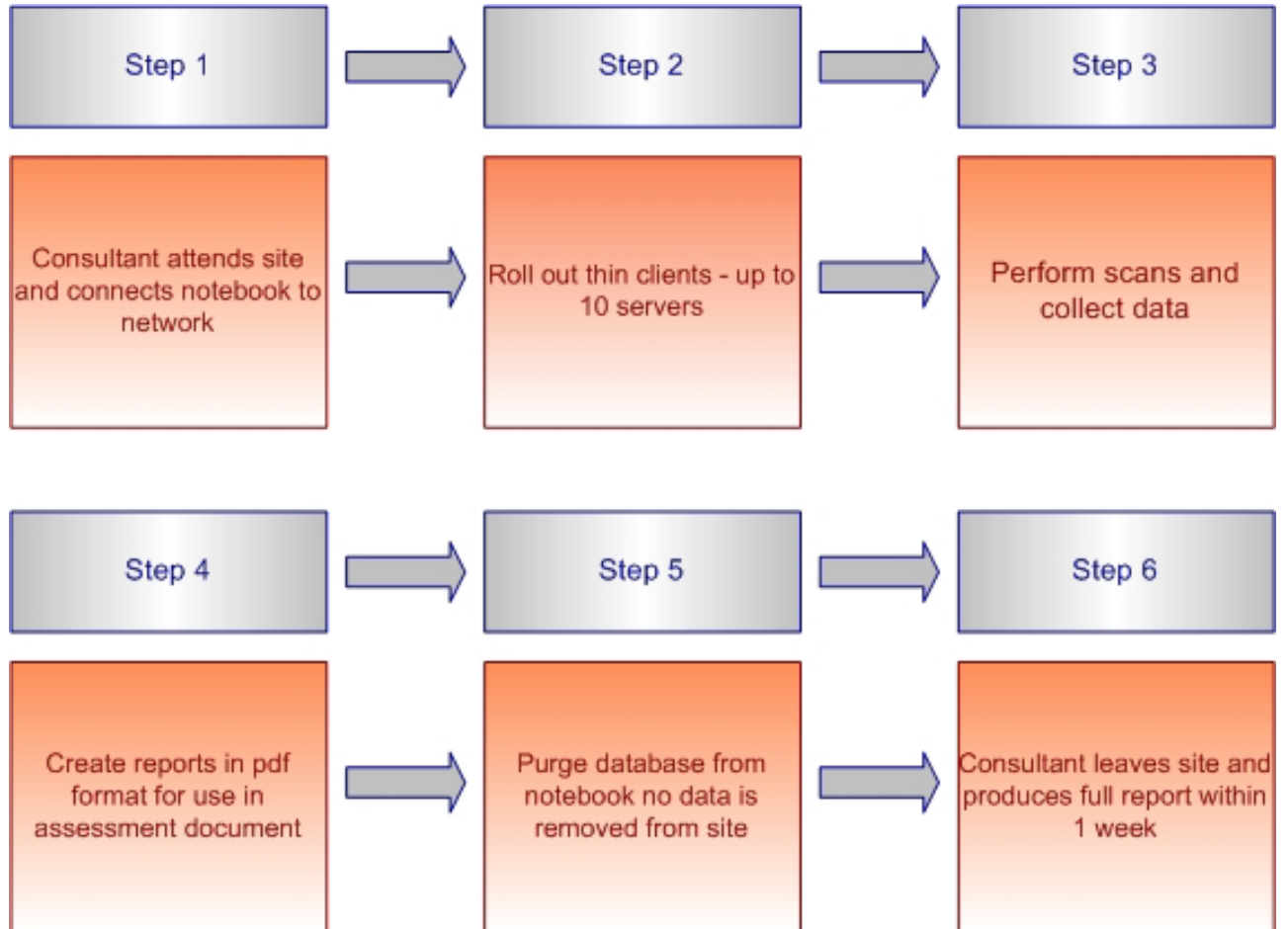
I.T. Managers should never make purchasing decisions around the technologies identified above without first knowing **what** data they are storing in the first place. However it is not uncommon for this to happen.

Before, making any storage based purchasing decision; IT managers should be able to answer questions such as the ones below:

- ✚ What data is business critical?
- ✚ What data can I delete?
- ✚ What data can I archive?
- ✚ What data can I put on secondary storage?
- ✚ How much wasted space is there across my servers?
- ✚ How much capacity could I reclaim if I consolidated to NAS or SAN?

Otium's Storage Snapshot Assessment is a fast and effective service that provides answers to the questions above and to many more.

The Service



The deliverables

Storage Summary
This provides a macro level view of your entire storage infrastructure The report details: <ul style="list-style-type: none">☺ space used on servers☺ list of "full" volumes☺ top file types consuming disk space☺ Ten servers with most reclaimable space.
All Volumes
A macro report that shows, free space, used space and volume size for every volume and server in your storage assessment sample.
Multimedia Files
A macro report that shows the total amount of space on a given server and volume that is being consumed by multimedia files.
Aged Files Least Accessed
A macro level report that shows files that have not been accessed for a defined time period (you can choose the time period), across the assessment sample. The report includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none">☺ Total Disk Capacity☺ Amount of Space being consumed by aged files☺ Amount of space being consumed by other files☺ Amount of free space
Temporary Files
A macro level report which provides details of temporary files consuming space across the assessment sample. The report includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none">☺ Total Disk Capacity☺ Amount of space being consumed by temporary files☺ Amount of space being consumed by other files☺ Amount of free space
Duplicate Files
Macro level report identifying duplicate files across the assessment sample. The report includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none">☺ Details of the total number of servers in the report☺ Details of the number of duplicate files that have been identified.☺ Details of the number of individual files (e.g. a count for each of three identical files)☺ The amount of space consumed by duplicate files.☺ List of details and locations for the ten largest duplicate files.
At Risk Files
A macro level report that identifies files on the servers in your assessment sample that have not been backed up. The report shows the total number of files by volume that are "at risk"
Choice of detail level report
The final report that is provided is file by file list, drilled down from a choice of any one of the macro level reports (excluding the Storage summary) above.

Otium will top and tail these reports with expert advice provided by one of their seasoned storage consultants. This expert input will provide guidance on:

- ☺ Interpreting the data in the reports.
- ☺ Using information in the reports to your best advantage.
- ☺ Setting the context of the assessment into a wider IT relevance.
- ☺ Considering the storage infrastructure technologies that would best suit your data profile.

Otium will provide a quotation to implement a permanent version of the Storage Management Software they have used to conduct the storage audit.

The snapshot assessment is priced at £1199+VAT this includes one permanent DSR License from Otium Software