

## Using Otium Utilistor to maximise the benefits of networked attached storage

Network attached storage, whether it be NAS, iSCSI SAN or Fibre SAN is becoming increasingly common place across many organisations.

The benefits of Network attached storage are numerous, However consolidating storage hardware and making it "shareable" does not in itself entirely solve the issues around data storage management.

Even though Networked Storage may have been used to successfully consolidate Storage hardware it does not mean that issues are not left outstanding. As examples.

If you are still holding un-required data on that storage, then you will still be wasting time, resource and money on inefficient backup processes.

If you still have numerous volumes for different servers and applications, then the problems of monitoring utilisation and I/O performance can still be considerable.

If you have consolidated your storage hardware but not your data, then you may still have inappropriate amounts of "white-space" on your storage, leading to earlier purchases of extra capacity.

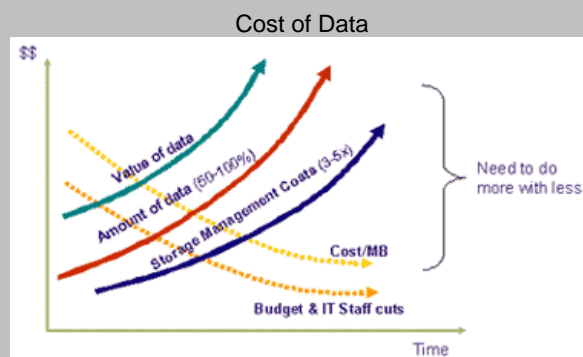
It is possible that different categories of data are still being treated in the same way in respect of High availability and data protection. In essence, time, resource and money could be being wasted on applying high SLA's to unimportant data.

Implementing networked storage alone is not enough to solve this issues. SAN's and NAS provide the infrastructure to react quickly and easily to changes in storage requirements, but without an accurate fix on your data it becomes impossible to make best use of this infrastructure.

Otium's Utilistor provides real time and report generated information on the content of your data, ensuring you maximise your investment in networked storage.

Otium's Utilistor suite of products, allows IT administrators to categorise, analyse and identify data, in order that it can then be stored, managed, and protected in the most appropriate fashion. Further Utilistor ensures that a volume never runs out of capacity before it's too late, and by analysing underused capacity Utilistor will also ensure you maximise your investment in Networked Storage hardware and infrastructure.

**Before proceeding with any new consolidated storage plan (NAS or SAN),** though, IT teams must know what data is present and what its characteristics are. Storage resource management (SRM) tools are the best source of this information - [snwonline.com](http://snwonline.com) (article by Robert Infantino)



**I consolidated my storage...now what?** People now want to mine all the captured data that resides in corporate SANs. They also want to find out what TYPES of data they are storing. Questions like "Hey, why do we suddenly require so much more storage? Are we becoming the storage mechanism for our employees MP3 files"? Everyone wants to determine if they can eliminate stale, useless and non-essential data – [searchstorage.com](http://searchstorage.com) (article by Christopher Poelker)