S2|DATA

Global Energy Company uses S2|DATA to sunset SourceOne data while responding to Litigation Requests

90+% Reduction, Proprietary SourceOne email folders, Mailbox Reconstitution

Overview

A global energy company embroiled in litigation while restructuring required creation of multiple user mailboxes from an unsupported EMC SourceOne mail NDMP dump. The original environment's storage infrastructure was inaccessible, and the volume of requested user mailboxes overwhelmed the existing system's I/O capabilities (100+).

S2|DATA was engaged to solve this challenge using its proprietary TRACS and QuickCull platforms and expertise in handling legacy data backup formats.

Industry:
Energy

Location:
London

S2|DATA Solutions:

- SourceOne email selective remediation

- Fast migration with attachment repopulation

- Filtered search in parallel for discovery

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The Challenge

1. **Unsupported SourceOne Environment:** The infrastructure was no longer under active support, complicating direct access to required data.

2. **Backup Tape Format Complexity:** Secondary backup tapes containing NDMP NAS filer dumps from a Networker system were the only available data source.

3. **Large-Scale Mailbox Creation:** Hundreds of user mailboxes needed restoration, requiring robust processes to ensure accuracy, timeliness, and cost-efficiency.

4. **Filtering for Litigation:** The restored data needed to comply with legal requirements, including deduplication and responsive data filtering.

Solution Delivered by S2|DATA

S2|DATA established a secure facility in its Central London data center to handle the operation. Using TRACS and custom-developed processes, the team delivered a multi-stage solution:

Stage 1: Data Organization and Restoration

- **Tape Sequencing and Session Mapping:** TRACS was employed to organize the NDMP dump tapes into backup sets, identifying the sequencing and backup sessions.

- **Recreation of NAS Snapshots:** A replica of the original NetApp NAS storage subsystem was built using internal disks large enough to host the restored data, allowing access across multiple servers.

Stage 2: Mailbox Creation and Reconstruction

- **Custom Mailbox Scanning:** Thousands of mailboxes were successfully created

- **Attachment Restoration:** TRACS automatically identified and reattached single-instance stored mail attachments to their corresponding emails within user mailboxes.

Stage 3: Data Reduction and Transfer for Review

- **Custodian-Level Deduplication:** Using S2|DATA's QuickCull utility, the restored mailboxes were deduplicated at the custodian level to eliminate redundant data.

- **Responsive Filtering:** Mailboxes were filtered by responsive date ranges to include only relevant emails, further reducing the dataset size.

- **Discovery-Ready Export:** The final dataset was securely transferred to a Relativity instance for legal review and discovery.

Results

1. **Timely Email Restoration:** Thousands of mailboxes were successfully restored within litigation deadlines.

2. **Cost Reduction:** Deduplication and filtering processes reduced discovery costs by limiting the dataset to unique, relevant emails.

3. **Data Integrity:** The recreated NAS snapshot and restoration process ensured the accuracy and completeness of the restored email.

"Email archive systems focus so much on rapidly archiving email that extracting data from them is onerous and slow. The benefit of our technical solutions is that 100% of the development emphasis was placed on message extraction, allowing for speeds that are unheard of when it comes to the original product, saving our customers a tremendous amount of both time and money!"

Shawn Strickler, CTO of S2|DATA

Summary

This project highlights the critical role email plays in legacy data restoration. S2|DATA's innovative TRACS platform and decades of expertise enabled a successful email recovery despite significant challenges.

Through meticulous planning and execution, S2|DATA delivered a secure, efficient, defensible process, enabling the company to meet its legal obligations while removing its future risk and dependency on SourceOne.

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