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Whitepaper:

Email Archiving and Email Backup Comparison

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Intended Audience

This document is intended for anyone who is involved in the management policy and implementation for an organization's email.

Scope

Email is now the most prevalent form of business communication, accounting for 65% of all correspondence. Email volumes grow by 42% per year and average message size grows by 22% per year. An organization's email is a valuable knowledge base that can produce evidence in making current business critical decisions.

Email is simple to create, handy to use, and easy to send. However, by relying solely on today's backup procedures (or worse, no procedures), data and financial loss are inevitable.

Email Archiving and Email backup comparison

There is some confusion between email archiving and email backups and questions regarding the difference.

Email backups are for disaster recovery and email archiving is primarily for data discovery and email retention policy compliance.

Email backups are generally thought of as insurance in case of a disaster. Email backups require large amounts of time to recover, an available system for recovery, plus the storage space available for a full recovery.

Email archiving is specifically designed to quickly and easily meet retention policy and regulatory requirements. Email archiving allows for a reduction in the primary Exchange email store, plus reduction in storage costs for those expensive fast hard drives.

Email archiving offers tamper proof storage and tape backups only record what has not already been deleted from Exchange. Email Archiving prevents data corruption and report data tampering, backups don't.

What's possibly the most important benefit to email archiving is the ability to immediately execute quick searches on all email content and any word or phrase in attachments or file names. Virtually, anything can be easily found in an email archiving solution that offers robust discovery search tools. Once discovered, messages can be opened with their native application, placed on legal hold or arranged in temporary working space for collaboration with authorized knowledge workers.

Conclusion

Keep in mind that email and attachment data is one of the primary data stores for understanding what goes on in your organization internally, with customers, suppliers and other related associates.