



EMC Centera FileArchiver

Integrated policy engine means simplified and transparent archiving of file system data between EMC Celerra network-attached storage and EMC Centera content-addressed storage.

The Big Picture

- Proven, policy-based file migration engine provides an efficient means to archive file system data from networked storage
- Best-of-breed retention enforcement leveraging EMC Centera archive allows individual retention settings per defined policy
- Zero data loss solution insures that data securely migrated to EMC Centera prior to it being removed from Celerra
- Sophisticated management of “orphaned files” provides administrators the ability review and modify delete requests
- Scheduler to minimize infrastructure resource utilization at peak access times, and a simulator to ensure that policies are defined the way you want them

Integrating file management and archiving enables better management of filesystem environments through the use of an active, easily accessible archive. EMC® Centera® FileArchiver software works in conjunction with EMC Celerra® to deliver policy-based data management and movement. EMC Centera FileArchiver is an affordable policy engine that easily identifies and migrates static data from the EMC Celerra NAS system directly to the EMC Centera CAS active archive.

Business challenges

Leaving static data on active production systems results in over-utilized file systems, long backup windows with high potential for quality issues, and the need to buy more production capacity more often. By moving this static data based on automated policies to a self-managed archive, you can reclaim significant volumes of production storage capacity, reduce backup volume, and improve backup quality while maintaining transparent access to archived files.

All data is not equal in terms of value, so it does not all belong on the same class of storage. Infrequently accessed data files cause inefficient use of high-performance disk storage since these files generally do not require high-end storage capabilities. Network file servers that have disk space allocated on corporate network-attached storage (NAS) are a prime example. End users typically specify a file system and directory when data files are first created, but do not have the time and skills to manually move these files to less-costly storage locations as they age.

Reducing complexity with file system archiving

A key component of an information lifecycle management (ILM) strategy is the ability to move data between storage tiers based on its value over time. Businesses need to move data between storage tiers for a variety of reasons including cost, protection, or compliance reasons. The ability to create flexible automated policies to map data movement between tiers of storage against business requirements is a significant step forward in providing ILM functionality. However, businesses are looking for better ways to optimize their existing file systems. EMC Centera FileArchiver offers the benefits of enterprise-grade, policy-based archiving while complementing the existing infrastructure.

Common backup practice is to perform a weekly full backup combined with daily incremental backups. Individual files or entire file systems can be recovered from a combination of the full backup and incremental backup tapes. This process is constantly challenged by file systems that contain growing amounts of data. As new data files are created, backup processes take longer and longer. Often, the result is incomplete backups and the IT staff is forced to back up servers selectively based on perceived priority. It also increases risk of data loss with potentially severe consequences. The resulting backup data sets are larger, more expensive to store, and more difficult and time-consuming to restore when needed. Longer recovery times can result in longer application downtime, lower service levels for employees and customers, and substantial cost to the organization. EMC Centera FileArchiver ensures an efficient, consolidated filesystem archive environment to improve filesystem management and IT operations, reduce the costs of archiving, and enforce internal corporate governance policies or regulatory requirements for records retention and retrieval.

Technology integration enabling innovation

EMC Centera FileArchiver software works in conjunction with EMC Celerra network-attached storage to deliver policy-based data management and movement. EMC Centera FileArchiver easily identifies and migrates static data from the EMC Celerra NAS system directly to the EMC Centera active archive. EMC Centera FileArchiver is an automated, distributed, hierarchical storage management (DhSM) policy engine that facilitates transparent movement of static data from the NAS file system.

EMC Centera FileArchiver delivers dynamic file mobility-the ability to automate movement of files within an EMC Celerra NAS environment. Using Celerra FileMover in conjunction with EMC Centera FileArchiver, a direct link is created to the NAS Data Mover. Celerra remains the primary interface to clients and applications while EMC Centera maintains and protects long-term archived data.

Deployed on an EMC Centera node or on an external Intel server, EMC Centera FileArchiver scans the Celerra file system then queues data for migration into the EMC Centera archive. When the migration write from Celerra to EMC Centera is completed, EMC Centera FileArchiver confirms the write and removes the object from the Celerra, leaving behind a stub file. Celerra users notice no change to the production environment. The result is a zero data loss disk archive directly linked to the Celerra environment.

At the heart of EMC Centera FileArchiver resides a simple set of policy option controls that enable the IT manager to determine which data enters the EMC Centera archive at what time and for how long. The policy engine utilizes the common range of logical operators to establish policies based on file metadata characteristics such as file access and modification histories, extensions, size, and directory location. EMC Centera FileArchiver allows IT managers to establish specific retention periods for each policy created, allowing multiple business objectives to be addressed with the same deployment. The policy engine also contains a simulation tool that lets the administrator model which files will be moved and the associated capacity impact.

EMC Celerra Primary Storage



EMC Centera Primary Storage



EMC Centera FileArchiver Policy Engine

Key EMC Centera FileArchiver Benefits

- Menu-driven
- Policy-based file migration engine
- Logical operators: and, or, not
- Ability to specify a retention period per policy
- Enhanced Availability option for advanced system protection
- Scheduler
- Simulator

Celerra delivers consolidation, high availability, and simplified management of network-attached storage. EMC Centera provides active archiving with guaranteed authenticity, self-management and self-healing capabilities. Celerra, combined with EMC Centera FileArchiver, enables transparent movement of files onto EMC Centera storage, keeping archived files accessible and eliminating duplicate data while reducing the size of backup.

Key to cost-effective operations is the integration of both Celerra for file server consolidation and EMC Centera for file archiving. This combination provides the best way to consolidate and manage your file systems and archive and backup environment, while helping you reduce costs, create operational efficiencies, and improve service levels.

EMC Centera FileArchiver System Requirements

- TCP/IP access from the Celerra to a EMC Centera cluster
- EMC Centera with CentraStar® V2.4 or higher

Take the Next Step

For more information on EMC Centera FileArchiver, contact your EMC sales representative or authorized value-added reseller, or visit our website at www.EMC.com.



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