PEER SOFTWARE POWERS MIGRATION OF MESSAGING FILES FOR MILLIONS OF USERS FROM EMC TO NETAPP

PROJECT PROFILE

- PEER SOFTWARE SOLUTION
  PeerSync® Migration Edition

- CUSTOMER’S PLATFORM
  Windows Server, NetApp FAS 6200

- LOCATIONS
  Multiple US-based data centers

- INDUSTRY
  Cloud-based Microsoft/Exchange Email and Messaging Services.

THE CHALLENGE

One of the most challenging aspects of efficiently bringing a new storage system online is the ability to migrate existing data from older systems onto new storage servers, NAS or SAN solutions. Resource demands, risks, potential technical incompatibilities between heterogeneous environments along with data corruption / loss must be considered and managed to ensure that everything goes as expected.

As an established market leader in hosted email and messaging solutions for over 10,000 customers including Farmers Insurance, United Airlines, Adecco and UPS Stores, the team at SilverSky (formerly USA.NET) was used to migrating millions of users from internally managed corporate email and messaging infrastructure to their hosted services, but now they faced a different migration challenge.

The company had recently standardized their storage platform for messaging services on the NetApp FAS 6200 series and needed to migrate over 300 terabytes of messaging related files from their existing EMC Isilon environment to the new NetApp system.

"NetApp not only had some cost advantages, overall it was a better fit for the smaller files typically found in a messaging environment like ours," stated Scott Eckhoff, Business/Continuity Manager, SilverSky.

At first the migration team creatively utilized tools like PuTTY and developed their own scripts for automating migration tasks, but quickly ran into performance and manageability related problems.

After consulting with their local NetApp SE, they were introduced to PeerSync from Peer Software as a potential solution for helping the team move data from the existing Isilon storage to the new NetApp environment.

"Peer’s project-based pricing, high-level support and features like centralized monitoring and management along with the ability to run multiple jobs over multiple threads helped make it easy for us to choose PeerSync® “

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SilverSky deployed PeerSync Migration Edition to efficiently and reliably migrate millions of customer email accounts and related data from an EMC Isilon system to a NetApp FAS 6200 series storage platform.

**KEY FEATURES**

- MRS Migration Process - Map and real-time Sync minimizes disruptions
- Centralized Configuration and Management
- Multiple Connection Options
- Migration Source/Target Mapping with CRC-based Validation
- Real-time, Byte-level Replication and Synchronization
- Multi-threaded Performance
- Email Reporting / Alerts
- Unicode Compliant

**RESULTS**

Data migration at SilverSky is a multifaceted operation with over 20 defined processes, including reviewing each client’s data retention policy before customer data is moved to the new storage server. The final step is deleting the data on the old system, so it has to be done efficiently and accurately.

“Peer’s project-based pricing, high-level support and features like centralized monitoring and management along with the ability to run multiple jobs over multiple threads helped make it easy for us to choose PeerSync, but you have to trust it, our reputation is on the line,” added Eckhoff. “Peer’s CRC validation technology gave us a high level of confidence throughout the project by ensuring that there was an exact binary match between source and target files.”