

## What is your biggest storage challenge, and what, if anything, are you doing to address it?

- As Central IT, our biggest challenge is fighting the misconception that storage is "cheap." It's hard to offer a serious storage service based on modern storage, DR, and SAN technologies when even the lowest tier is still more expensive per TB than what departments can buy bulk hard drives for at newegg.com. We're trying to get everyone to understand the TOTAL costs of solving the storage problem, including power, space, reliability, backup, and staff time, but it's too easy for departments to hide many of those costs in overhead or "other duties as required" to make our story believable.
- aging technology, NAS deployment
- Well by volume it is research data storage and particularly data generated by instruments like telescopes and sequencers
- Backup. Investigating elimination of tape
- How to integrate cloud storage in managed way without everything ending up unmanaged and locked in commercial cloud offerings.
- None.
- Unstructured data growth and individual file space. We have implemented a deduplication solution and are working on consolidating our resources to something more manageable.
- Storage encryption. We are still researching solutions.
- Providing cost effective solutions for managing data growth.
- Constant growth. Implemented de-duplication for primary storage. Working on the same for backups.
- growth accessibility security
- Providing more cost-effective, centrally provided, file storage services. Currently, virtually all file storage is implemented in a distributed fashion.
- . cost/TB . backup up very large filesystems, strategy and impl. . wan sync strategy & cost
- Bootstrapping a funding plan for central storage services where growth is explosive.
- Capacity Management and the perceived high cost of storage. We have moved to a tiered costing solution that has helped, but not eliminated the cost perception. We are in the process of continuing to mature our capacity management process improving our data reporting as well as adding inputs such as forecasting.
- Growth and management are the two primary challenges. The current strategy is to develop better metrics and projections possibly through the acquisition of new tools. Currently have an outreach effort established to create more accurate retention policies for data to facilitate data reduction.
- Research storage and backup. We hope to do some replication and de-duplication to reduce the amount that needs to be stored and HSM/tiered storage to reduce costs.

Common Solutions Group

May 12, 2010

- Getting the message out about our low-cost mid-Tier storage; once departments know about it, complaints about the cost of central storage disappear
- Our biggest storage challenge is meeting the needs of researchers and others with very large data sets. We recently added a low-cost server storage option, but we need to continue investigating options for lower-cost network file storage.
- That space in the middle of the continuum.... Requirements: "as much as I want," "whenever I want it and I don't really know when I'll need it," drag-n-drop, backed-up, archived.
- The cost of high performing Fiber Attached storage is high, and we'd like to be able to do more with lower-tier storage (we're currently piloting the use of lower-tier massive AFS for some of our lightly used centrally supported services; e.g. our streaming service)
- Providing a rational central storage infrastructure that can be managed as it grows.