



### ABOUT ADAPTEC

Adaptec is the global leader in innovative storage solutions. Adaptec's hardware and software solutions for business and Internet applications move, manage, and protect critical data and digital content so people can do business and enjoy their lives more richly. Adaptec's direct-attached server storage, network storage solutions and desktop solutions for digital content are found in high-performance networks, servers, workstations and desktops from the world's leading manufacturers, and are sold through distribution channels to ISPs, enterprises, medium and small businesses and consumers.

### THE STORAGE ISSUE

Today's e-Commerce, network globalization, large email installations, document imaging and other forms of data are pushing storage technologies to the limit. Corporations of all sizes are reevaluating their storage budgets in an effort to keep pace with overwhelming amounts of data and, with SAN (Storage Area Network) interoperability still in question, there has been little relief in sight.

While the price per megabyte of disk space continues to drop, applications tend to use more data, and companies are keeping data around longer. Adding more disk space becomes a temporary solution for a permanent problem. Disk space needs continue to grow, consume hardware budgets and force IT departments to manage larger quantities of data.

### ADAPTEC'S CHALLENGE

Adaptec needed to save disk space on its five file and print servers that are serving 1500 users in its Business Information Group. The files stored on these systems are typical of large corporate environments; Word and Excel documents, PowerPoint presentations, email directories, engineering files, etc.

### THE e-SPACE SOLUTION

e-Space is the only software that automatically compresses data files and archives them online, based on assigned policy. Benefits to the enterprise include increased online storage capacity, less downtime, and savings in storage management time and cost. Time is saved in performing faster network transfers, restores, and disaster recovery.

In the past, common solutions for increasing online storage space have included archiving files offline or near line, to tape or to HSM. These methods were time-consuming and made the data less accessible for quick online use. Manual compression software products have been inefficient for general archiving, because they change the file names or attributes and make it hard for users to find and use their files. e-Space compresses files, without changing the names or attributes, so that the files remain online for easy user access 24x7-for e-business, regulatory compliance, customer service, and historical analysis.

Two days after successfully installing e-Space on 5 file and print servers, Adaptec found it had freed up an impressive amount of disk space based on their original policy. Initially, Adaptec selected a few high-use file systems shares for the policy, then added additional sub-directories to the policy each subsequent day. They enabled e-Space to run full-time, defined as "always" in one of the property tabs. Adaptec was happy to see that e-Space was not a system hog – their servers never bogged down, even in the catch-up phase when new directories were added to their archive policy.

The e-Space Solution compresses and decompresses at rates between 1 and 6 megabytes per second and the operation is completely transparent to the user. The compression and archiving does not change the file attributes. Thus, applications will continue to function without change.

Ed Holmes, System Administrator at Adaptec said, "We have realized anywhere from 25 to 45 percent space savings in hard drive space. And where we were into arrays of PowerPoint, Word and Excel files, we've saved 35 to 40 percent in file compression." Continued Holmes, "Our end users have no idea that e-Space has been installed – it's totally innocuous and the files are available when they need them. We have not seen any visible performance issues for our users."

On one particular server that was full of data, e-Space bought Adaptec the 10 percent margin of free space needed to run the machine at optimal performance. This was immediately obtained by installing and running the program. This server, like the others were running RAID level 5 disks at 35 gigs. It instantly went from near 35 gigs of space down to 31 gigs. Had Adaptec opted to merely install more disk space, they were easily looking at 8 to 10 hours in just restoring the data back to the machine. Added Holmes, "e-Space gave us the margin we needed to keep this machine operational. Not having to purchase an array of drives was a great benefit to us in terms of both purchase price and installation time."