TARMIN
Where Data Defines Value.

GridBank Provides Ease for UK Hospital

Tarmin-IBM Solution Cures Information Archiving Challenges

Introduction

Effectively managing and storing healthcare services information is critical to providers as well as patients – it is, without hyperbole, a matter of life and death. Aside from the potential impact resulting from losing patient data such as test results, increasing legal and regulatory demands on health data security and privacy require many important considerations, including data encryption, access authority, deletion/disposal, and other industry-specific workflows. There are significant new IT burdens on healthcare enterprises today, but with this great responsibility runs a great opportunity for healthcare as technology advances, particularly with innovations in radiology and imaging that deliver better diagnostics and care to patients.

The Challenge

Digital information, unlike paper or film, is easily stolen, corrupted, disseminated, copied and/or altered. Digital record management and archiving obligations – what, how, when and why records must be created, stored, accessed, maintained, and retained over increasingly longer periods of time – are frequently based on the type of data, thus demanding a Data Defined Solution.

Data from diagnostic imaging systems, document management systems and patient information systems cannot be stored, archived, and destroyed according to a single policy or schedule. Ensuring patient privacy has extended to online correspondence between a doctor and a specialist, including all attachments. Another reason for effective Data Defined Storage in healthcare operations is the medical malpractice lawsuits that often involve a complex and lengthy legal discovery process, where both parties need to have access to relevant information.

One of the UK's largest hospitals planned to implement a new information archiving platform for its three sites, which include a university teaching hospital and highly specialized cardiac and neurosurgery units, employing 8500 employees and caring for up to 1250 patients daily. The hospitals requirements included initial storage for 100 terabytes, boosting employee productivity through better data availability, consolidating their email system, archiving aging messages, regulatory compliance, and mitigating legal risk while improving their ability to respond to electronic discovery requests. Due to the nature of the data and the criticality of their mission, the organization's needs were both administrative and technical – covering data availability, protection, and control. On the administrative side, the number of employees required to manually manage and execute information retention and security policies, and to reactively process and retrieve data when requested, whether for patient care or legal reasons, had become onerous and costly. Even managing the storage itself increased labor costs as data grew.

The Solution

The organization selected the Tarmin GridBank data management platform running on IBM Systems hardware as a central repository for data. GridBank provides a data centric environment with automatic failover for high availability and performance for each user, as well as security and retention management that can be set for the unique needs of each type of content, whether archived user email or patient radiology results. Rather than constantly acquiring more storage hardware, GridBank employs data compression and deduplication to contain growth and rein in costs. Any storage can be used and could be utilized as compliant WORM media, preventing vendor lock-in to specialty content storage systems.

BENEFITS

- **Media Independent Data Storage**
  - **Improve Operational Efficiencies**
  - **Reduce Storage TCO**
- **Data Security & Identity Mgmt**
  - **Secure Data Mobility**
  - **Compliance & Risk Mitigation**
- **Distributed Metadata Repository**
  - **Data On Demand**
  - **Improve Business Agility**
- **Data Centric Management**
  - **Monetize Data to Extract Value**
  - **Increase Competitive Advantage**

STORAGE AWARDS
THE STORRIES X
WINNER

"Tarmin's GridBank software [addresses] all of the core issues with managing unstructured data over the long term"

Steve Duplessie

Founder, ESG

GridBank's Data Defined Storage solution also delivers the ability to categorize, filter, and index file content, file metadata, extended metadata and even custom metadata, then apply the appropriate strategy to that type of information. Once set, GridBank's policy engine controls the stored object's lifecycle, requires virtually no ongoing intervention, and enables more efficient search.

Tarmin's proprietary GridBank solution empowers organizations to store, control and understand the value of data as a competitive business asset, no matter its size, location or cost by uniting application, information and storage tiers into a single, integrated data centric management architecture.

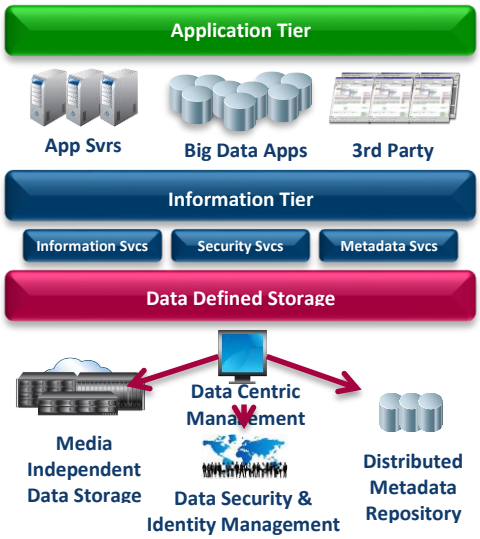

Figure 1: Data Defined Storage Architecture Delivers Globally Scalable Information Archiving

GridBank delivers a purpose built architecture that includes a comprehensive management capability including Data Centric Management, Media Independent Data Storage, Data Security and Identity Management and Distributed Metadata Repository. With Media Independent Data Storage, media centric data storage boundaries are removed, promoting linear scale-out functionality, Object Dedupe, File System Virtualization and transparent data access across the many different locations, silos and geographies within the healthcare organization. The hospital has reduced risk associated with data management through information governance, data security and identity management policies implemented through GridBank's Data Security and Identity Management functionality. Additionally, the Distributed Metadata Repository, enables the healthcare organization to aggregate file-based virtualization for single global namespace, and access metadata information that is necessary for important business decision making.

Product Highlights

- **Data Centric Storage**
- **File System Virtualization**
- **Distributed Object Dedupe**
- **AD/LDAP Security**
- **Information Governance**
- **GridSync & Smart Mobility**
- **Content Metadata Filtering**
- **Unified Enterprise Search**
- **Big Analytics Integration**

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*"**GridBank 3.0's massively scalable model allows businesses to consolidate their data globally across silos to reduce cost…and enhance the value of data.**"*

Ashish Nadkami

IDC

The Benefits

Among quantifiable administrative and technical benefits, the organization is expecting to achieve a lower total cost of ownership despite the sophisticated, feature-rich platform. Anticipated benefits include the below:

- Up to 80% lower incremental cost with compression and Object Dedupe
- A 75% savings per TB by deploying a flexible, heterogeneous array of fully compliant storage
- E-Discovery costs reduced by 95% compared to previous staff costs associated with litigation requests
- Storage administration costs are expected to be reduced by 50% by an improved FTE/TB ratio
- Compliance and security policies anticipate a 95% reduction in risk mitigation for non-compliance due to fewer full-time employees needed to execute retention and security policies
- High availability access improves employee productivity and reduces the cost of unplanned data outages by 99% compared to an approximate 4800 staff hours per year during downtimes.

Among its less quantifiable benefits, though arguably more important, are the improved quality of service and patient outcomes. Through ensuring that the right data is available to the right person at the right time, there is a reduced risk of misdiagnosis and improved flow of information through the organization to enhance the ability to make critical decisions based on all the available data, thanks to the added performance and availability of the Tarmin/IBM solution.

Conclusion

Through provision of a joint IBM/Tarmin Data Defined Storage solution, this cost conscious healthcare organization has benefited from reduced storage TCO, strong ROI and enhanced patient outcomes.

About Tarmin

Tarmin Inc., the leading provider of Data Defined Storage solutions, unlocks the value of data as a strategic business enabler, delivering a massively scalable, transparent and unified approach for consistent data management, storage, retention, security and search across cloud and traditional storage infrastructure.

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