

# **Email Archiving: Do More With Less**

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*Cut Costs and Improve Productivity*



## **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

Each day, organizations face numerous and increasing challenges in areas dealing with continuity in business knowledge, wrestling with operations for employee turnover and downsizing, as well as adhering to data retention policies.

**FACT:** An organization of 1,000 email users, each of whom generates 35 business records... will generate nearly 120 million archived emails during a seven-year retention period.<sup>1</sup>

**FACT:** Only 37% of companies currently use an email archive.<sup>2</sup>

Meanwhile, IT organizations are being asked to contain, reduce, slice, and dice costs, while maintaining IT service levels for core applications such as email messaging.

All of these painful challenges bring significant costs to the organization, placing even more demand on email administrators' limited time and their ability to service end users' needs.

Email archiving can help organizations address and solve these challenges and when properly applied, will:

- Support IT controls for data retention, aging, and records access,
- Improve onsite and remote user productivity, and
- Reduce total cost of ownership for email messaging infrastructure.

**If one can't produce certain email records quickly with 100% confidence... if end users are harassing your IT staff because they can't be productive with their electronic communications... if your IT department is getting called day and night to restore email servers... email archiving is not only a must-have, it's a must-do-now.**

## **CHALLENGES**

As email traffic continues to grow across your organization annually, it creates a multitude of challenges and problems related to email archiving.

First, you need the technology to systematically archive messages and rapidly retrieve any message upon request.

Second, you need to maintain or improve IT services and service levels with an ever-shrinking budget.

Third, you must negotiate the multiple business issues of managing rising email server costs, helping users increase productivity, mining email for crucial business information, fulfilling data retention policies, and avoiding the potential disruption from a costly audit.

### **Minimizing Costly Audits**

Responding to audits is costly, and demonstrating “due care and diligence” is often subjective. In today’s economy, whether you are IT staff in an enterprise trying to demonstrate that email retention policies are implemented effectively or a service professional such as a physician in a medical practice concerned about showing compliance with HIPAA requirements to store three years of email, your goal is to decrease the time and money spent on internal or external audits while increasing confidence in the results.

Today’s pain stems from the significant time spent by expensive resources (IT administrators or physicians) responding to audits with very laborious manual procedures, e.g. restoring email servers from backup tapes, or browsing and reading through emails in an email client like Microsoft Outlook. With external regulatory audits, this also does not include any legal or staff costs associated with court appearances to obtain/access public records, and the accompanying exposure to local, state or federal authorities.

### **Managing Email Server Costs**

Email server management is expensive. Disks, including SANs, fill up ever quicker, and email quotas on the server can help, but at the cost of end-user productivity. Expanding SAN storage and its cascading costs such as longer backups and maintenance can put today’s limited IT budgets quickly into the red.

Beyond storage costs, email servers are faced with ever-greater processing loads that come from higher email volumes, increasing quantities of junk mail, and default email searches that bog down both the email client and server (imagine searching for last year’s email across all your folders in Outlook and Exchange).

### **Addressing Decreased User Productivity**

Every day, end-users spend up to 15% of their day filing email and managing their email inboxes. They’re faced with email quotas, deletion policies, and a need to organize an explosion of information that is their Inbox.

Every week, email administrators can spend hours restoring email servers in order to retrieve that accidentally deleted, but “critical” email for one user. The consequences are severe: an expensive email administrator’s time is taken searching multiple backup tapes, additional non-production hardware is required for the restore, and the end-user faces downtime waiting for the “critical” email.

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Some organizations using Microsoft Exchange allow users to archive email to local Outlook .PST files, leading to a nightmare of data that is not backed up, not managed, and difficult to access and search in case of a records request or legal inquiry.

### **Mining Crucial Business Information**

Business mining, also known as knowledge or email mining, involves the extraction of crucial information from a company's rapidly expanding email stores. With the ongoing explosion of email, companies often have crucial business information that is financially or legally binding stored in email. This may include supplier quotes and promotions for retailers, customer service inquiries and responses for airlines, reservations for restaurants, trading confirmations for financial institutions, or the latest version of a legal agreement or business contract.

It is vital to be able to store this business information efficiently, then quickly search and retrieve it in order to manage the top and bottom lines of the business. However, yesterday's approaches are no longer acceptable because they may:

- Ignore or miss crucial business information because it gets lost in the email inbox,
- Spend significant time and money in buying/implementing/building/using software applications with support staff to translate or enter business information from email to an application, database, or alternate system.

### **Managing a Changing Landscape: Technology and Business**

The email infrastructure used today will be different tomorrow. IT organizations must be nimble to support today's business needs as well as tomorrow's changes in business direction. You may need to migrate among Lotus Domino, Microsoft Exchange, Google Gmail, and other hosted email (Software-as-a-Service) options, or change the underlying infrastructure such as operating systems (from Windows to Linux). How can this be managed at low-cost and high reliability and at a quick pace to support the current business goals?

## ADDRESSING THE CHALLENGES

The numerous challenges for email archiving can appear both overwhelming and daunting:

- **To address high costs** of audits and other records requests, one must be able to find, analyze, and act upon relevant information instantly. And in order to mitigate legal and liability risks, one needs to have high confidence in the results, whether it is information or the absence of.
- **To address email server management**, one needs efficient long-term storage that works both for small deployments as well as the largest million-user email deployments. Any solution should manage and minimize the impact on both the email server and email client (user)—in this case, potentially intensive operations such as long-running searches should not be run on the email server or client, as that can adversely affect performance. Additionally, technical approaches that are known to impact the email server (Exchange stubbing) should be avoided. Third, approaches that invite an overload of data such as Exchange log transport should be taken with care. And to add to all of this, clear policies and data access must be configurable on this information to minimize legal risk.
- **To address user productivity**, users must have a self-serve model for rapidly finding their own emails that they have accidentally deleted without draining valuable email administrators' time. The users need to act upon those emails (forward, file, respond) in an intuitive manner regardless of which email client or interface they use (Outlook, Notes, Groupwise, Web client). Users also need flexibility in how they organize their information: whether it is a file/folder/manage paradigm with a strict organizational hierarchy or a tag/comment/rapid search paradigm on a limitless inbox. Furthermore, Exchange environments should not require local Outlook .PST files – the information should be archived centrally, easily searchable, managed and backed up.
- **To address business critical information** contained in email, it would be much more efficient to be able to leverage the original form of the information (email) to both store and access any crucial business information—thereby saving significant costs and time to run the business. An enabling technology is needed to not only provide efficient, long-term storage, but also for highly optimized indexing and searching unstructured data.
- **To address constantly changing technologies**, to support business agility, to prevent proprietary vendor lock-in, one needs open standards and protocols, ability to import/export all data from a solution, to avoid reliance on a particular vendor's design/implementation, and to avoid multiple point solutions that require integration work to ultimately solve related problems (e.g. email server management, business information mining, compliance, and e-discovery require many of the same core data retention and searching functionality).

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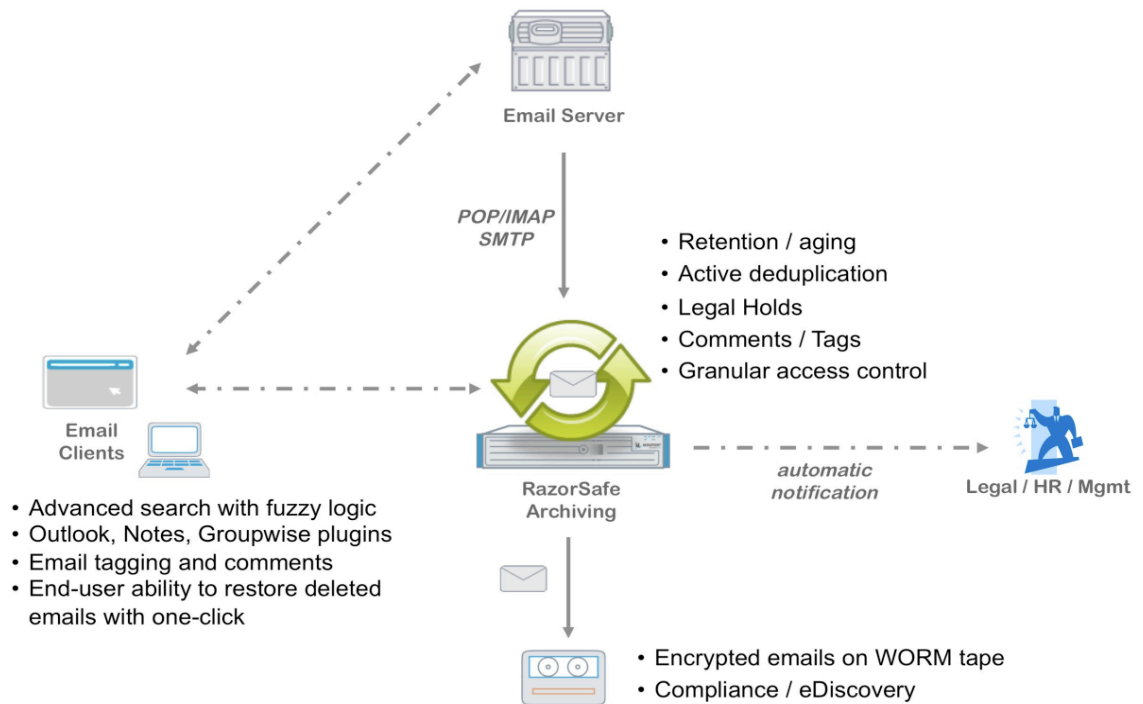
### SOLUTION

Mirapoint's RazorSafe™ email archiving appliance addresses email server management, end-user productivity, business mining, e-discovery, and audit challenges in an all-in-one solution. It aids organizations which must:

- Reduce email management costs without cutting service or features
- Deal with employee turnover and business continuity challenges
- Face audit requests for email

### Architecture

Mirapoint's architecture encompasses an open, standards-based approach with an emphasis on simplicity, reliability, and low Total Cost of Ownership:



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### **Addressing the Pain**

- **Decreasing Costs.** By providing advanced search and workflow features, RazorSafe can significantly decrease administrator time in managing user emails and mailboxes, reduce storage costs, minimize audit costs, and drastically lower legal discovery costs. Additionally, RazorSafe leads the industry with a low Total Cost of Ownership and high reliability. With lower capital expenditures and operating expenses than server-based and hosted offerings, RazorSafe eliminates the need for continuous security patching of the operating system, saving time and increasing reliability.
- **Managing and Optimizing Email Servers.** RazorSafe reduces data stored on the email server by archiving older, rarely accessed information onto more cost-effective storage. By applying active deduplication of all emails and attachments, a space reduction of up to 80% is achieved. With the exponential growth of email and spam each year and email signatures with shared image logos, this can save significant storage costs. As an additional optimization, Mirapoint RazorGate can provide integrated anti-virus and anti-spam filtering of email, ensuring only clean email is archived.

RazorSafe's centralized archiving model (versus local archive files such as Outlook .PSTs) provides enterprise-manageability and fits into standard, centralized IT backup processes, ensuring data safety and manageability.

When used with Exchange, RazorSafe does not leave stubs on the server since large folders with stubs can adversely affect Exchange server performance.<sup>3</sup> By cleanly and completely pulling archived email off the email server and by running searches wholly on a purpose-built appliance, load on the email server is reduced. At the same time, intuitive email client access is preserved with seamless, native client plug-ins for Outlook, Notes, and Groupwise.

- **Improving User Productivity.** With RazorSafe, administrators can allow users to manage their own inboxes more effectively, as well as to access and search their own historical archives, without calling upon the email administrator to restore accidentally deleted emails.

Powerful search capabilities include fuzzy logic (word proximity and weighting) and cover attachment contents. RazorSafe provides the best of worlds: traditional folder organization and powerful search on a large archive with email tagging. As users are ready, they can take advantage of a new productivity model of tag and rapid search on all their emails, rather than filing, folder management, and inbox quota contention.

Users have user interface choices ranging from ubiquitous browser access or seamless native client plug-ins for Outlook, Notes, and Groupwise, providing an optimized user experience when finding emails.

Email server crawlers and PST migration tools exist for all major email clients and servers, including Outlook PST import utilities and Exchange/Domino/Groupwise server crawlers.

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- **Mining Business Information Effectively.** Razorsafe supports Outlook, Notes and Groupwise plug-ins, as well as advanced search capabilities. Users can easily search their email archive via these native user interfaces to find relevant business information quickly. When coupled with the ability to import legacy information contained on email servers or local .PST archives, Razorsafe's powerful search capabilities support continuity in business knowledge, such as when employees switch roles or take over someone else's responsibilities.
- **Managing Technology Change.** Razorsafe's all-in-one appliance architecture was designed based on open standards and open access in order to provide maximum flexibility and future-proofing:
  - Supports all major email servers: Microsoft Exchange™, Lotus Notes Domino™, Novell Groupwise™ and Mirapoint Message Server™.
  - Supports all major email clients with native plug-ins: Microsoft Outlook, Lotus Notes, and Novell Groupwise
  - Supports open standards (POP/SMTP/IMAP) for retrieving email, not proprietary methods tied to a particular email server.
  - Minimizes impact on email server by avoiding Exchange stubbing and by offloading searches to the Razorsafe custom-purpose appliance.
  - Exports search results in open .eml, allowing for extraction and sharing of email information

Additionally, since the Razorsafe solution contains copies of all email, it ensures high-availability to email, even if the email server goes down or during a migration of email server technologies or infrastructure. All of this provides future proofing against technology change.

## CONCLUSION

The deployment of an adequate email archiving system can provide numerous important benefits for any size enterprise, educational institution or government entity, including support for ever-expanding storage requirements; high costs of supporting end-user management of email, and knowledge management obligations. Mirapoint's RazorSafe email archiving solution offers:

- **An all-in-one appliance** with the industry's lowest TCO with minimal administration resources, saving an enterprise hundreds per user per year
- **Plug-and-play simplicity** with ease of installment and deployment in minutes
- **Open, standards-based** architecture with broad support across all major email servers and clients
- **99.999% reliability** from the market leader in appliance-based email archiving
- **Proven technology** with 120+ million mailboxes served and secured worldwide over more than 1,800 customers from the industry's first email security appliance company.

## REFERENCES

<sup>1</sup> 2008 Osterman Research, Inc.

<sup>2</sup> Information Week Analytics E-Mail Archiving survey of 865 business technology professionals.

<sup>3</sup> Microsoft: Whitepaper: Planning for Large Mailboxes with Exchange 2007, January 22, 2009.

Microsoft: KB Article 905803: Outlook users experience poor performance when they work with a folder that contains many items on a server that is running Exchange Server, December 1, 2007.

### **About Mirapoint Software, Inc.**

Founded in 1997 and based in California's Silicon Valley with offices worldwide, Mirapoint is a global leader in the mail server appliance market with over 120 million mailboxes secured worldwide, and the leader in appliance-based email archiving. By combining email security application expertise with extensive messaging appliance experience, Mirapoint offers the industry's first and only integrated email security, archiving and mailbox appliances with a dramatically lower total cost of ownership (TCO), as well as security, control, simplicity and peace of mind.

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