



# Transparently controlling storage costs in a demanding environment

## OVERVIEW

Managing storage growth and reducing IT budgets are top priorities at most companies. This leading semiconductor manufacturer needed to reduce their storage spending by 40% and to break even on the project within twelve months. Evaluating Hierarchical Storage Management (HSM) was the first step.

SmApper's initial assessment of the 200 TB and roughly 600 million files showed that by moving some of their infrequently used files off primary storage the desired savings could be achieved.

The challenge was to migrate these files while ensuring that all applications continued to run uninterrupted and that the migration would not affect users' daily activities.

SmApper is committed to handling even the most demanding technical aspects underlying these requirements: Transparency for users and continuous, simultaneous access to files needed by Linux®, UNIX® and Windows® based programs (CIFS and NFS). This includes applications such as Computer Aided Design, version control programs such as ClearCase®, utilities such as snapshots and the thousands of server scripts.

### Challenge

- ▶ Reduce storage costs by 40%
- ▶ Break even within 12 months
- ▶ No disruptions to: users, applications, utilities, processes, procedures or server scripts.
- ▶ Maintain simultaneous access to CIFS, NFS files

### Solution

- ▶ SmApper Enterprise Edition, 2 systems
- ▶ Migrated 60% of data to secondary storage tier using built-in policy engine
- ▶ Designed for 200 TB and 1 billion files

### Results

- ▶ Met technical and financial goals
- ▶ Achieved a 3 year ROI of 1.5M €
- ▶ Ready to implement more services for additional control and savings



SmApper's HSM solution intelligence comes from its built-in policy engine, real time architecture and Enterprise Class data mover. Once the policies for the migration were set up, SmApper automatically implemented the desired actions using one of the industry's only Enterprise Class data movers. The data mover ensured that the process worked seamlessly, even for this very large and complex data environment. Using the pre-determined rules, the policy engine scanned for files matching the migration rules and then used the data mover to migrate these files in real time to lower cost storage.

Post migration, the policy engine continues to run in the background, moving all files that meet the migration rules. This customized intelligence controls future storage growth and cost without any manual intervention.

By using real time statistics and trend reports, it will be easy to find additional savings opportunities. For example, the original rule for file migration was to move all files that were older than 12 months. This rule could be modified to move files 6 or 9 months old or to introduce additional migration rules. Also, the file system reporting granularity is by day so IT can spot who or which applications are generating the most growth over a period of time.



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**“We accomplished our storage cost savings and ROI. We are now in the fortunate position of having several attractive choices for Phase II with SmApper.”**

**IT MANAGER, LEADING SEMICONDUCTOR CORPORATION**

IT is considering using the policy engine and open APIs to address other storage management challenges. Replacing the thousands of server scripts with a set of governing rules that could be monitored and maintained within a single, structured framework is one potential project. A second is to extend the data management capability for their customized SharePoint® portal into the terabyte range.

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■ Founded in 2005 with headquarters in Kufstein (Austria), SmApper Technologies provides an evolutionary storage architecture for managing unstructured data. Delivering on a whole product strategy, SmApper provides distributed, file-level intelligence and file management services enabling real-time, scalable control and optimization across the enterprise.

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