UNIVERSITY OF ALASKA FAIRBANKS SELECTS VSM FOR ARCHIVING

UoA Fairbanks chose VSM to archive their data, replacing Oracle HSM / SAM-QFS.

SOLUTION FOCUS

- Archiving
- Acadmeic sector
- OHSM/SAM-QFS replacement

CHALLENGE

- Customer friendly
- Tracking usage among departments
- Quotas

SOLUTION

- Versity Storage Manager

KEY BENEFITS

- No data migration from OHSM / SAM-QFS
- Switch from Solaris to Linux
- Low TCO archiving
- Excellent customer support
- Subscription business model

The University of Alaska Fairbanks (UAF) is a flagship campus of the University of Alaska system: a land, sea, and space grant university with locations throughout Alaska. With 9 academic schools and colleges, 35,000 alumni, and over $100 million in annual research funding, UAF produces vast amounts of data that must be efficiently stored for the long term.

The UAF team was previously running Oracle HSM (OHSM) / SAM-QFS to archive their data. They wanted to move away from Solaris, and to a lower TCO, higher performing solution with better customer service and a more compelling technology roadmap.

As the principal research center for the statewide university system emphasizing high-tech, high-latitude research, with projects including lifesciences, permafrost, warf runs, atmospheric, and oceanic research, there are several different internal customers with very different storage needs and budget constraints. The UAF team needed a good way to charge departments and projects based upon the storage they consumed, while also enforcing quotas to enforce storage budgets. Quota functionality was a critical missing piece in their previous solution, making it
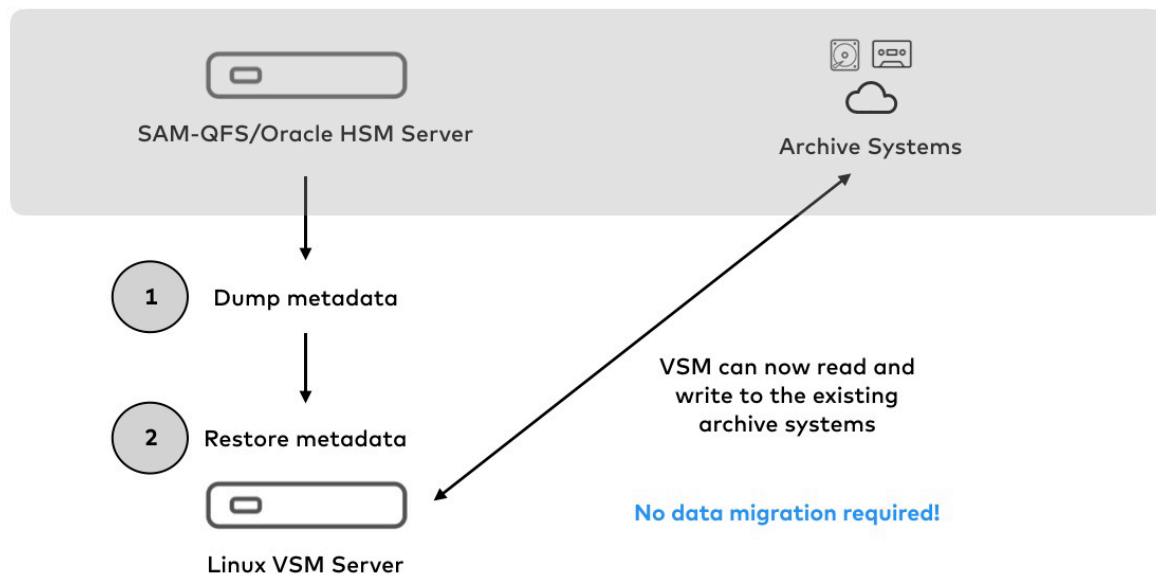
> "Support has been stellar! The team has been knowledgeable, responsive, and helpful."
>
> **BOB TORGERSON** / HPC Analyst, UAF Supercomputer Center

extremely difficult for administrators to ensure that there was fair usage and enough storage for their stakeholders.

The UAF team selected VSM to meet their archiving needs. They were grateful VSM could take over their existing system with no data migration. They simply dumped metadata from an existing solaris server, then restored it onto a new Linux server, and were up and running. With no painful data migration, there were able to transition to VSM within a few hours and continue normal operations. The team was very pleased they didn't lose any functionality from their existing solution and in fact gained the quota and chargeback features they were seeking.

HOW UAF SWITCHED

SAM-QFS/Oracle HSM Server

Archive Systems

1. Dump metadata

2. Restore metadata

Linux VSM Server

VSM can now read and write to the existing archive systems

No data migration required!

The team has been extremely impressed with Versity's direct engineering support model. "Support has been stellar", said Bob Torgerson, an HPC Analyst at the UAF Supercomputer Center. "The team has been knowledgeable, responsive and helpful, answering even the smallest questions and enabling quick responses when we needed assistance".

The team has also been impressed to find that the software is "snappier" than their previous solution and that the quota functionality is working as expected. They are now able to ensure users save data up to their allocated amount, and using the rich logging in VSM they are able to assess charges based on space used for each project appropriately.

"Switching was easy. We were up and running in hours."

BOB TORGERSON / HPC Analyst, UAF Supercomputer Center

"The ability to take over data on tape and integrate into our filesystem was really important. Versity enabled us to move without time lost on migrating data, and has in fact saved us money on the total solution."

BOB TORGERSON / HPC Analyst, UAF Supercomputer Center

ABOUT VERSITY

Versity Software is the leading independent large archive software company. Redefined business practices set us apart from the legacy big company archive vendors. Discover what it's like to love your archive solution!

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