Information Storage Consolidation

Integrate information resources for savings and performance

As your information assets have grown in volume, your storage infrastructure has also grown in size. A sprawl of storage devices consumes valuable floor space in the data center, leading to inconsistent information management policies, consumption of too many resources, and an increasing business continuity challenge. You know that you need to consolidate your storage infrastructure—and most likely other areas of your infrastructure, too. But, where do you start?

EMC’s Information Storage Consolidation service can help. We’ll explain ways to combine and integrate resources—from network-attached storage to traditional direct-attached storage. And we’ll provide you with a consolidation roadmap to help you get from here to there with minimal disruption to your daily operations.

Reduce overall complexity to drive business continuity

An explosion of storage devices drives ever-increasing administrative expenses, makes effective management challenging, and often leads to poor utilization and performance of storage resources. Moreover, it becomes difficult to build a storage infrastructure that can be both flexible and resilient. Through the EMC consolidation process, your information and management policies are consolidated and enhanced, leading to a more streamlined information architecture and business continuity process.

Take the first step in server and data center consolidation efforts

Overall IT consolidation—whether at the application, database, or server level—is quickly becoming an IT imperative. However, information storage consolidation is truly the foundation required for successful enterprise-wide efforts. At EMC, we work with you to create a consolidated and flexible information architecture that can easily integrate into your larger initiatives.

Lower your storage TCO and improve performance

Fewer devices and reduced support personnel requirements translate into immediate cost savings and lower total cost of ownership (TCO). In fact, Gartner reports that, “Consolidation efforts in the storage area have produced a 5% decrease in the number of employees devoted to disk storage and a 22% decrease in unit costs, with a 14% improvement in process maturity.” Through consolidation, EMC can help you achieve both tangible cost savings and significant performance improvements throughout your storage infrastructure.

A strategic consolidation effort is about much more than reducing storage devices. EMC also helps you achieve tangible cost savings. And by creating a more sound information architecture, you’ll have the right foundation for enterprise IT consolidation and information-centric corporate initiatives. We provide you with these benefits through our unique Global Delivery Model.

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Take advantage of a proven methodology

In delivering our Information Storage Consolidation service, we utilize the EMC Global Delivery Model methodology, which combines our Information Solutions Consulting (ISC) group’s exclusive financial modeling tools with consultative thought leadership. Developed by the leading business and information management minds in the industry, this methodology addresses the complete delivery life cycle and helps to ensure that you derive maximum value from our services.

**EMC GLOBAL DELIVERY MODEL**

- Discovery & Analysis
- Design & Implementation Planning
- Operations & Support Policies
- Implementation
- Business Case Review & Client Transfer
- Review Storage Infrastructure

The EMC Global Delivery Model is a proven six-step methodology that focuses not only on storage technology, but also the people, processes, and policies that support an information infrastructure.

**Assess your current environment**

Before you invest in a major information management initiative, you need to understand how you stack up to best practices. To see how you compare, we assess three key areas:

- Storage information management
- Current application and data integration
- Existing information processes, policies, and procedures

After benchmarking your current approach against industry best practices, we deliver an infrastructure gap analysis that becomes the foundation for creation of an optimized infrastructure.

To complement the analysis, our experts perform a high-level financial assessment. We compare the return on investment and TCO for your current approach versus the proposed consolidated environment. We also provide a business benefit analysis that outlines productivity improvements and other gains that could be realized.

In support of the proposed strategy, we develop a conceptual design that shows the upgraded storage infrastructure. Finally, we analyze other risks and exposure points in your technology infrastructure in such areas as business continuity planning and storage infrastructure strategy.

The final deliverable is a comprehensive report that documents all our findings, outlines our recommendations, and identifies next steps. And with a realistic picture of the costs and benefits involved, you can make the best choice for your enterprise.

**Plan your design and implementation**

Your initiative is more likely to have long-term success if you work from a solid plan. That’s why our consultants develop a detailed architecture design for your proposed infrastructure. Depending on your needs, we deliver technical plans for migration, implementation, and testing. Additionally, we define metrics for Key Performance Indicators (KPI), so measurable benefits and financial gain after implementation can be quantified and monitored. Some KPIs that we recommend include:

- Amount of storage managed by each full-time employee
- Length of backup window
- Total cost of storage and cost of utilized storage
- Amount of planned and unplanned downtime
- Time-to-market for applications

The final deliverables are a detailed architecture design, financial analysis, and best-practices business case based on the initial financial model. In short, we deliver an action plan that tells you how to get from where you are to where you need to be.
Develop your operations and support policies

Even the best-designed information architecture needs support from the right people, processes, and policies. In the operations and support policies phase, we look at the life cycle of data assets, including data flow, retention, and retirement. Our information experts help you define and develop the ideal IT organization for your business climate, in addition to the best-practice policies to support it. The review includes a close examination of:

- Updated storage management policies
- Revised change management policies
- Updated backup and restore procedures

All definitions, structures, and policies are documented in a final report. Using the information and tools we give you, you’ll be armed with the operational policies and procedures to bring your complete storage management infrastructure up to speed.

Implement your solution

In our consulting practice, we don’t just propose solutions—we make them happen. ISC professionals create or support every aspect of your implementation, including:

- Installation/upgrade of technology and physical infrastructure components
- Implementation of process and policy changes
- Activation of a benefits tracking system that monitors the performance of the optimization plan developed in the discovery phase
- Analysis of information from the tracking system to be used throughout the subsequent review stages

Above all, we stick by you to make sure the implementation and transition are smooth and successful. Our seasoned experts will become your most trusted resource. And to deliver on that promise, we continually track the progress of the benefits identified in the planning stages.

Review your business case and complete the transfer

“Don’t tell me, show me” is our mantra. Once your solution is implemented, we demonstrate how to measure actual performance gains against the original business case—to be sure that you are realizing the full benefit of our recommendations.

After a complete knowledge transfer takes place, you can independently manage the optimized information architecture, including the new policies, procedures, and operational guidelines. And because we understand that your business is always changing, we also show you how to continually monitor your own gains. So you’ll always see that we’ve delivered the results you anticipated.

Review your storage infrastructure

The last phase is not the end of our support for you. Through routine reviews, our experts work with you to identify opportunities for further improvement of your information environment. With a firm understanding of your strategy, vision, and goals—and the realization that your business is always changing—we can help you continuously leverage investments, create efficiencies, and maximize availability of your storage infrastructure.
The EMC Advantage

EMC offers unparalleled expertise and experience in information—storing it, managing it, and making it available no matter what. Our Information Storage Consolidation service—offered through ISC—helps you:

- Minimize the volume of storage devices and schemes in the IT infrastructure
- Maximize current storage investments and minimize resource requirements
- Achieve greater efficiency and performance with less equipment and resources
- Create the foundation for enterprise IT consolidation

EMC is the world’s leader in storage and information management solutions. Information Solutions Consulting, part of the EMC Global Services division, provides world-class knowledge, skills, experience, and tools to help your organization accelerate, innovate, and transform the way you manage information. For more information, contact your local EMC sales representative. Or visit EMC on the Web at www.emc.com.