

FINANCIAL INSTITUTION SAVES TWO YEARS AND MILLIONS OF DOLLARS WITH NUIX INTELLIGENT MIGRATION

A global financial institution used Nuix Intelligent Migration technology to index and migrate more than 330 terabytes of data within eight months—after the company’s incumbent technology supplier estimated this project would take almost three years and was running behind schedule. The powerful Nuix Engine indexed 3.1 billion emails in just six weeks, paving the way for the company to:

- Complete the migration nearly two years ahead of schedule.
- Save millions of dollars in storage costs by leaving behind data that had no business value—approximately 75% of the total.
- Conduct complex eDiscovery searches across all 3.1 billion email messages.

MIGRATION BY THE NUMBERS

- 3.1 billion email messages and attachments
- 330 TB of data indexed in 45 days
- 75% of messages left behind in legacy archive

“I haven’t worked with any technologies that can handle something on such a massive scale, but also such a fine scale—it’s like a chisel and a chainsaw.”

Dan Regard, CEO and Managing Director
Intelligent Discovery Solutions

CHALLENGE

A large United States–based financial institution had more than 330 terabytes of email messages and attachments stored in EMC EmailXtender and Symantec Enterprise Vault archives on EMC Centera storage.

The company originally invested in these archives to comply with data retention regulations and provide a centralized repository of email messages it could search for eDiscovery. Over many years, the archives had bloated well beyond their designed capacity and many of their indexes had become corrupt. As a result, eDiscovery searches were extremely slow and in many cases unreliable. Responding to eDiscovery requests could take weeks or months.

When the company decided to migrate its archives to the most recent version of Symantec Enterprise Vault, it believed this would solve the problem of slow and unreliable eDiscovery searches. However, the migration process created a series of new problems:

- The company’s incumbent technology supplier used a migration technology that worked through the archives’ application programming interfaces (APIs), which would take up to three years to move all the data. More than a year into the project, the technology supplier had only migrated a small fraction of data.
- Until the migration was completed, the company would be stuck with the shortcomings of the legacy archives’ search capabilities.
- Because the migration relied on the archives’ APIs, the company would need to continue renewing its archive software and maintenance licenses until it extracted all the data.

SOLUTION

Working with a team of advisors, including law firm Mayer Brown and consultant Intelligent Discovery Solutions, the financial institution elected to abandon the API-based migration technology and switch to Nuix’s Intelligent Migration solution.

Our client’s IT organization quickly recognized the value of Nuix’s ability to read natively from EMC EmailXtender and Symantec Enterprise Vault archives, bypassing the legacy archives’ APIs and using multiple direct connections to the binary data.

Nuix began by indexing 2.6 billion emails in 37 days. Nuix’s work brought to light an additional 500 million email messages, which extended the total indexing time to 45 days.

With the index complete, the company’s legal team could now conduct comprehensive eDiscovery searches. A batch of 400 keyword searches against 3.1 billion emails took less than three hours.

The client, Nuix and the advisors then began searching and remediating the data before beginning the process of migrating to the new archive. A variety of search and analytical techniques identified 1.1 billion potentially responsive email messages based on a list of 9,800 custodians. The analysis made it possible to eliminate more than 400 million duplicates from those 1.1 billion messages, or 41% of the total.

RESULTS

Using Nuix's Intelligent Migration technology, the company gained the ability to address data directly within the archive storage. This made data indexing and extraction many times faster than traditional migration technologies, which rely on the archives' existing indexes and built-in APIs.

"Customers keep hearing 'it can't be done' until they talk to us," said Stephen Stewart, Chief Technology Officer at Nuix. "Nuix offers a fast, powerful and scalable way to illuminate the largest volumes of dark data."

Nuix made it possible to search the entire archive contents within six weeks and to complete the migration nearly two years ahead of schedule. As a result, the company could:

- Eliminate three-quarters of the archived data
- Save millions of dollars in storage and software costs
- Quickly provide powerful eDiscovery searching across all archive contents.

Eliminated three-quarters of archived data

A complete index of the legacy archives' contents enabled our client to make informed decisions about which messages had high value for litigation, compliance and business needs. It also identified low-value and duplicated messages that had no business value.

Altogether, the company left behind more than three-quarters of the data stored in its legacy archives and only transferred relevant data to its new archive platform.

Saved millions of dollars

By minimizing the volume of data it needed to retain in the new archive platform, the company saved millions of dollars in storage and staff costs. The company could also cancel its legacy archive maintenance contracts and decommission the old systems several years earlier than expected.

Placing most employees' email on a six-month retention regime instead of holding on to it indefinitely will significantly arrest the growth of the new archive. These savings combined will rapidly pay for the company's investments in Nuix technology.

Powerful, rapid search for eDiscovery

Within six weeks of the project starting, the company's legal team gained the ability to conduct rapid and sophisticated searches across all relevant archived data and provide timely responses to eDiscovery requests. The legal team also recognized the value of eliminating irrelevant data, because it improved search performance and relevance.

"I haven't worked with any technologies that can handle something on such a massive scale, but also such a fine scale," said Dan Regard, CEO and Managing Director of Intelligent Discovery Solutions. "It's like a chisel and a chainsaw."

NUIX INTELLIGENT MIGRATION

Nuix is the fastest, most scalable and most cost-effective technology on the market for migrating email from legacy archives, email databases and individual files. In weeks, you can complete tasks that would take months or years using other tools. With Nuix, you can:

- Skip the API, avoiding issues with corrupt databases and indexes
- Migrate terabytes of data per day
- Analyze and categorize messages before migration and only migrate what you need
- Preserve the folder structure of the source data
- Automatically convert journal archives to mailbox archives and email files or databases from one format to another (such as from Lotus Notes to Microsoft Exchange) in a single step.

BUSINESS OUTCOMES

- Saved millions of dollars in storage and software costs
- Completed migration nearly two years ahead of schedule
- Enabled eDiscovery searches across all archived email within six weeks

“Nuix offers a fast, powerful and scalable way to illuminate and take action on the largest volumes of dark data trapped in legacy archives.”

Stephen Stewart, Chief Technology Officer, Nuix

ABOUT NUIX

Nuix enables people to make fact-based decisions from unstructured data. The patented Nuix Engine makes small work of large and complex human-generated data sets. Organizations around the world turn to Nuix software when they need fast, accurate answers for digital investigation, cybersecurity, eDiscovery, information governance, email migration, privacy and more.

ABOUT MAYER BROWN

Mayer Brown is a leading global law firm with offices in key business centers across the Americas, Asia and Europe. The firm is noted for its commitment to client service and its ability to solve the most complex and demanding legal and business challenges worldwide. The firm serves many of the world's largest companies and financial services organizations, including a significant proportion of the Fortune 100, FTSE 100, DAX and Hang Seng Index companies and most of the major investment banks.

ABOUT INTELLIGENT DISCOVERY SOLUTIONS

Intelligent Discovery Solutions provides e-Discovery and enterprise security consulting services to law firms and corporations located throughout the world. iDS is staffed with professionals who are highly skilled and passionate about the fields of technology, security and law. Consultants work alongside legal teams and IT departments to provide expertise in computer forensics, database analysis, document hosting, enterprise security, and incident response, as well as the services of expert testimonies, affidavits, and depositions.

