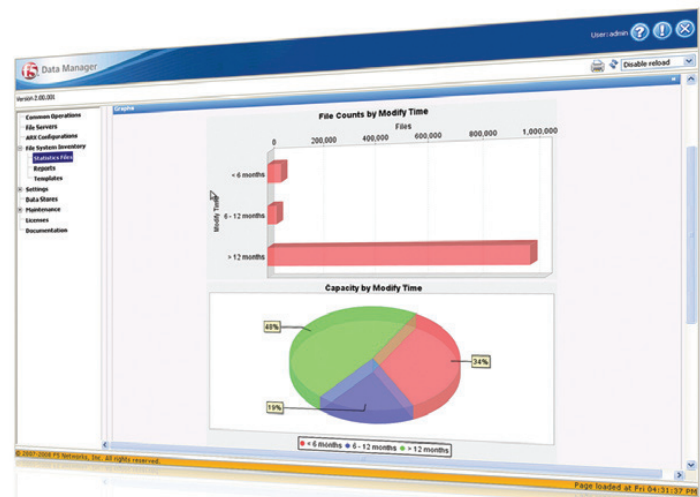


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Improve Visibility into Your File Storage Environment

Relentless data growth and longer retention periods are making it increasingly difficult to keep track of different types of files and their value to the business. Environmental complexity increases with every new file system and storage device, further obstructing IT's ability to understand its true file storage requirements.

F5 Data Manager improves visibility into the file storage environment. It provides monitoring and reporting of file data, including file types, ages, owners, and trends over time. You can see high-level statistics to better forecast capacity requirements as well as perform in-depth analysis. Data Manager can help you understand your organization's true storage requirements and more efficiently manage your file storage environment.

Key benefits

Gain greater visibility into your file data

Understand your file data to better determine your organization's true storage requirements.

Accurately forecast capacity needs

Identify trends in your file data, including where, why, and how quickly your data is growing.

Manage storage proactively

Easily identify and analyze areas of concern in your environment before they become serious issues.

Reduce capital and operational costs

Determine the business value of your data to identify areas of cost savings and operate your environment more efficiently.

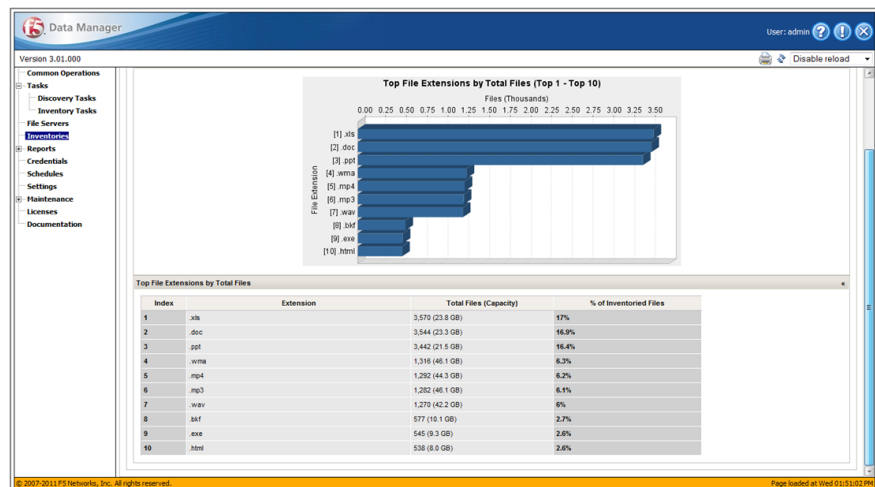
Quickly understand what types of file data you have in your environment.

File System Analysis and Reporting

With the optional File System Inventory module, Data Manager monitors networked file systems in both CIFS and NFS environments and continually inventories their file contents.

Storage usage reporting

Data Manager helps organizations better understand the dynamic characteristics of file data that is constantly growing and changing. Administrators can create detailed reports at any time to see what types of data organizations have in their environments, including how old their files are, what types they have, how big they are, and who created them.



File system accounting

Data Manager provides detailed reports to better account for storage usage at the file system level, with information on directory structure, directory activity, and utilization of available storage capacity.

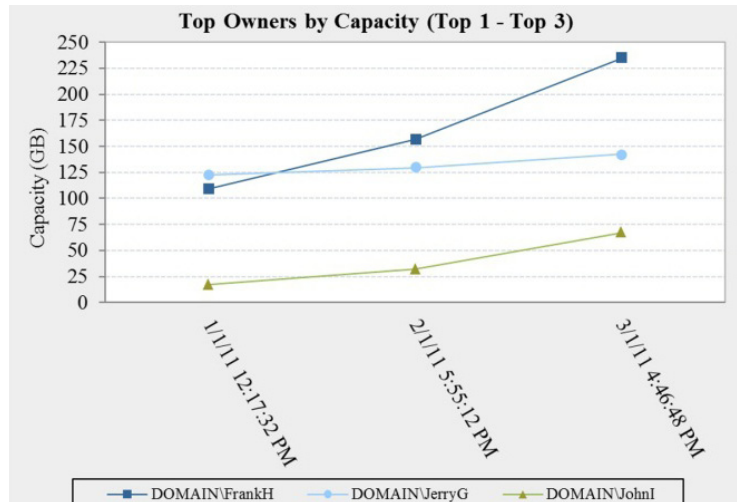
Duplicate file identification

While new content generation is a major contributor to rapid data growth, the problem is exacerbated when organizations retain multiple copies of many existing files. Data Manager can help administrators identify suspected duplicate files in the environment as well as how much capacity they consume.

Customizable advanced reporting capabilities

Data Manager provides highly customizable reporting capabilities that help administrators perform in-depth investigation and analysis into specific areas in their file storage environment. Administrators can create custom file sets for reporting in order to analyze file storage usage according to different combinations of file attributes, including age, type, location, or user.

Observe trends in data creation to identify areas of growth and better forecast future capacity needs.



Trend reporting

In addition to reporting on the current environment, Data Manager can also show how file data changes over time. From overall statistics to specific file details, Data Manager helps organizations better understand how, where, and why their data is growing, beyond just a top-level percentage value. Organizations can observe trends in their data creation to identify areas of growth on a more granular level and better forecast future capacity needs.

Heterogeneous Storage Resources Accounting

Data Manager provides discovery and reporting capabilities for both virtual and non-virtual file storage environments, including heterogeneous environments comprised of different storage devices, platforms, and vendors.

File server discovery

Most storage environments are comprised of a collection of different file storage devices that are often configured differently. They might be running different software versions, supporting different file sharing protocols, and presenting different file systems. Data Manager discovers various configuration details for known storage devices, including device types, supported protocols, file system summaries, and lists of CIFS shares and NFS exports. It then normalizes this information across all supported storage devices and presents it in a common format to simplify comparison and configuration tracking.

ARX Deployment Simplification

Data Manager makes it easy to deploy ARX solutions across heterogeneous environments, even at sites with limited IT resources.

ARX configuration

Data Manager discovers file storage devices to be virtualized and generates a workflow to streamline the configuration of ARX devices. With Data Manager, you can accelerate the deployment of ARX solutions, minimize deployment errors, and then optimize data management policies to maximize the benefits of file virtualization.

Data Manager System Requirements

Data Manager is a software solution that is installed on a server running Microsoft Windows and will operate on any system that meets the minimum requirements. However, recommended requirements are provided to ensure adequate performance.

Host System Requirements

Operating System:	Windows XP Windows Vista Windows Server 2003, Service Pack 1 Windows Server 2003 R2 Windows 2008 Windows 2008 R2
CPU:	Pentium 4 or equivalent Dual-core server is generally recommended and required when using advanced reporting features
Memory:	2 GB available RAM (minimum) 4 GB available RAM (recommended)
Available Disk Space:	1 GB for the application, configuration data, and logging Additional space may be required for file system inventories and reports, as determined by your inventory frequency and retention policy
Web Browser:	Internet Explorer 8 Firefox 3.0 or later

F5 Services

F5 Services offers world-class support, training, and consulting to help you get the most from your F5 investment. Whether it's providing fast answers to questions, training internal teams, or handling entire implementations from design to deployment, F5 Services can help you achieve IT agility. For more information about F5 Services, contact consulting@f5.com or visit f5.com/services.

More Information

For more information about ARX and Data Manager solutions, use the search function on f5.com to find these resources.

Product overviews

[ARX Series](#)

[Data Manager](#)

Datasheet

[ARX Series](#)

Sample report

[F5 Data Manager Sample Report and Analysis](#)

Trial software

[Data Manager free trial](#)

White papers

[Create a Smarter Storage Strategy](#)

[Introducing Data Manager](#)

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