



CommVault & Group Logic Provide Simplified File Archiving for Mac Environments

Improve Space Management and Cost Savings for Windows and Mac Environments

Key Benefits

- ▶ Reclaim capacity in primary storage with tiered storage architecture, providing cost and resource benefits
- ▶ Archive to any number of storage tiers and hardware using a single console while maintaining transparent access to the data
- ▶ Reduce backup and recovery windows by decreasing the size of primary data volumes
- ▶ Improve user productivity through fast, familiar and simple, self-service access to archived offline files
- ▶ Reduce administrative burdens associated with the unintended mass recall of offline files, caused by the Mac Finder's file previewing feature
- ▶ Archive stale or inactive Mac data

The Challenge

The demand for cost-effective storage continues to grow, especially in multi-media settings where Macs are heavily used and file sizes are rapidly increasing. Mac users on creative and editing teams often generate and require access to an organization's largest digital files. These content-rich media files require a huge amount of disk storage, often consuming expensive disk storage although inactive.

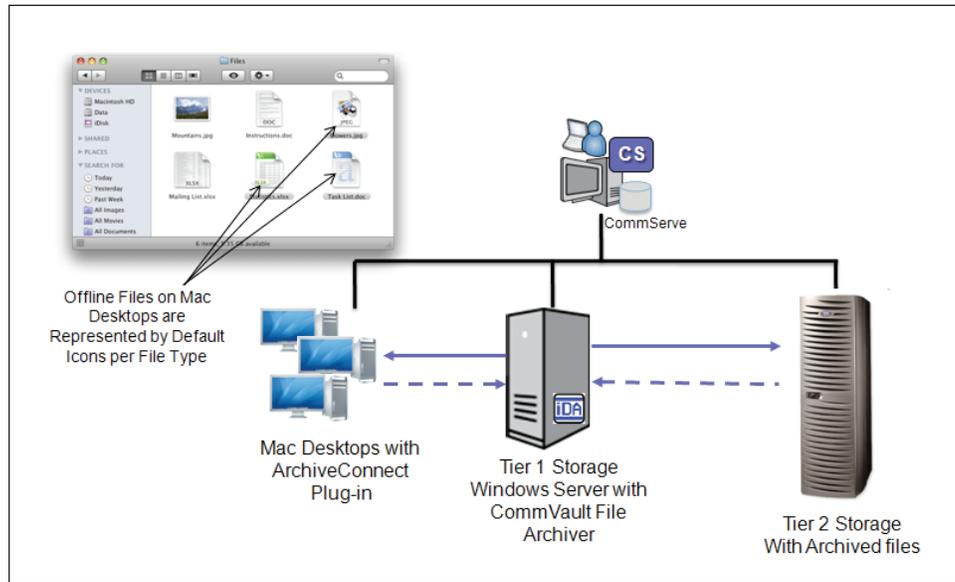
At the same time, archiving in order to achieve more efficient space management in mixed Mac and Windows environments has been notoriously problematic. First, Macs do not differentiate between online and archived files. Making matters worse, the advanced user features of a Mac, including file previewing (Finder), Quick Look and Cover Flow, trigger requests to restore archived files automatically. This can generate hundreds, if not thousands, of simultaneous requests to restore archived files, placing tremendous strain on the server and the file archiving software and dramatically reducing performance for all employees. It also negates the benefits of file archiving by bringing many files back online, potentially consuming all available disk storage space and making it impossible to create new files on the file server.

These issues mean that companies with a mixture of Macs and Windows PCs cannot deploy a file archiving solution without placing tremendous restrictions on Mac users.

The Solution

Fortunately, there is a solution. Together, CommVault® Simpana® software and Group Logic ArchiveConnect application provide a comprehensive file archiving solution not seen with other collaborations today. CommVault software and Group Logic streamline archiving processes for mixed Mac and Windows environments, allowing you to reclaim primary tiers of storage, reduce backup windows and save on media costs. Group Logic's ArchiveConnect enhances CommVault software's already robust file archiving capabilities to provide full support for Mac users in these mixed environments. ArchiveConnect is a small client application that runs on each Mac to ensure the Mac Finder differentiates between an online and archived file and treats archived files as offline files, eliminating unwanted recalls.

ArchiveConnect™



Using CommVault® Simpana® software, with Group Logic ArchiveConnect installed, the Mac Finder browses File Servers containing both online and archived files. Mac Finder previews online files and can recall archived files as needed.

How it Works

Group Logic ArchiveConnect application works intuitively with CommVault® Simpana® software to provide seamless integration of Mac systems into the Simpana file-based archiving solution. With ArchiveConnect installed, the Mac Finder browses file servers that contain both online and archived files. The Mac Finder previews only online files and can recall archived files as needed.

ArchiveConnect provides a great end-user experience while protecting archived files from inadvertent requests to restore them. ArchiveConnect blocks the Mac system from previewing any archived file while continuing to allow previewing of online files. Users can still open archived files by double-clicking. Additionally, administrators can require that users confirm that they want to open (recall) an archived file.

Optionally, Group Logic also offers ExtremeZ-IP—a Windows-based AFP file server that allows Macs to seamlessly access Windows file servers with fast file access, integrated single-sign-on via Active Directory, and full support for Microsoft's Distributed File System (DFS). ExtremeZ-IP complements ArchiveConnect by color coding all archived files when viewed in the Finder so that end-users can easily differentiate between online and archived files. It also allows administrators to require users to recall archived files explicitly.

Together, ArchiveConnect and ExtremeZ-IP ensure that Macs can access file servers with the same ease as Windows computers.

When combined with Group Logic ArchiveConnect's support for Mac users, CommVault Simpana software simplifies space management by reclaiming primary storage while maintaining transparent end-user access to the data. Significant IT costs reductions and efficiencies can be achieved by eliminating media costs through reduction of data on primary storage. Furthermore, Group Logic helps give CommVault software the industry's most comprehensive file archiving support.

SIMPANA
software

CommVault® Simpana® Backup & Recovery, Archive, Replication, Resource Management and Search software is designed to work together seamlessly from the ground up, sharing a single code and common function set. This exclusive single-platform architecture enables unparalleled software efficiency, performance and reliability for unprecedented control over data growth, costs and risk.

Feature

Benefit

Seamless support for archived files

Simplified archiving in mixed environment (Windows and Macs). Browsing a file server with both online and offline files will not cause files to be inadvertently restored. Offline files can be brought online by double clicking the file.

Macintosh advanced user experience features will not cause files to be inadvertently brought online

Eliminate unwanted recalls. Features such as Quick Look, Cover Flow and file previewing will not cause archived files to be brought online to generate "previews."

Desktop applications are able to access archived files and bring them online

Enable controlled recalls. Desktop applications, such as Adobe Photoshop and iPhoto, can access archived files and bring them online through their open dialog as they usually do.

End-users simply right-click on a file and access a menu to bring an archived file back online

Achieve easy access to archived files. Right-clicking (or Control-Clicking) on one or more files or folders will cause a contextual menu to appear. One of the options in this menu is a "Bring Online" option where users can request that files be brought online. If the Bring Online option is selected, then a confirmation dialog will appear before the selected files are restored.

Support for selecting multiple files or folders

Selective recalls for multiple items. If a user selects multiple files or folders (with or without sub-folders) and then right-clicks and selects "Bring Online," the system will calculate the number of files that will be restored and ask the user for confirmation that these files should be restored. Following confirmation all selected files and folders will be restored in the background without tying up the user.

Supported protocols

Support for industry standard protocols. ArchiveConnect works with the SMB/CIFS or AFP file sharing protocols. ExtremeZ-IP is the only server-based AFP solution supported by ArchiveConnect.

ExtremeZ-IP support

Enable easy identification of archived files. When ArchiveConnect is used while connected to an ExtremeZ-IP AFP file server, offline files are color-coded so that users can easily see which files are archived.

ArchiveConnect includes its own installer

Leverage easy installation. ArchiveConnect can be either installed manually or distributed to many Mac systems by third party software distribution tools to make deployment and adoption as easy as possible.

Conclusion

CommVault Simpana software and Group Logic ArchiveConnect provide an unprecedented level of support for Mac environments. With this capability, organizations achieve seamless access to archived files, enabling increased user productivity and operational efficiencies.

For organizations desiring to reduce the cost and risk associated with file archiving for mixed Mac and Windows environments, CommVault and Group Logic offer a comprehensive, combined solution that delivers immediate and significant return on investment.

For more information on CommVault Products:

www.commvault.com

For more information on Group Logic Products:

www.grouplogic.com

ArchiveConnect™

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