

Data Profiler Assessment



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The explosion of the Internet and the widespread use of electronic communications have transformed the modern workplace. The sheer volume of data that traverses the corporate network, and the heavy demands placed by compliance and regulation, mean that modern businesses face unique challenges in assessing and managing their storage and data environments.

Looking at industry as a whole, several strong trends are prevalent across all market segments: exploding volumes of data, new types of data, together with a strong focus around compliance, creating a rapidly growing requirement for storage and backup capacity. Unstructured data represents up to 80% of data volumes, and that this, along with email, is the fastest growing form of data in almost all organisations. Businesses find unstructured data the most difficult to manage.

Data is an organisation's single biggest business asset. But not all data is equal!

We have developed a consulting service that's specifically designed to help clients better understand their complex backup, storage and archiving environments, and provide guidance for business-critical decisions on how to optimise and manage them.

This is Dimension Data's Data Profiler Assessment.

What is the Data Profiler Assessment?

Dimension Data's Data Profiler Assessment is a non-intrusive assessment service that classifies existing data and will enable you to proactively manage your storage environment through best practice recommendations. Added visibility will put you in control of how you utilise your storage capabilities, and give you clarity on what measures you can take to maximise your technology investments today and into the future. You will see real results and a get clear roadmap of where to take your business' data storage facilities.

Data Profiler allows organisations to take a strategic approach to their storage, archiving and backup environments and to redefine processes and data priorities according to business requirements.

Whether your objective is to create a complete Information Lifecycle Management (ILM) strategy, to reduce costs or justify investments in additional capacity, Data Profiler is the place to start.

How does it work?

When you commission Dimension Data to conduct a Data Profiler Assessment, this is what you can expect from our dedicated engineering, design and consultancy teams:

Discovery

- We provide a lightweight script to load and run on a workstation with access to the file server/NAS to be assessed.
- Meta-data is collected by scripts (file size, age, etc.).

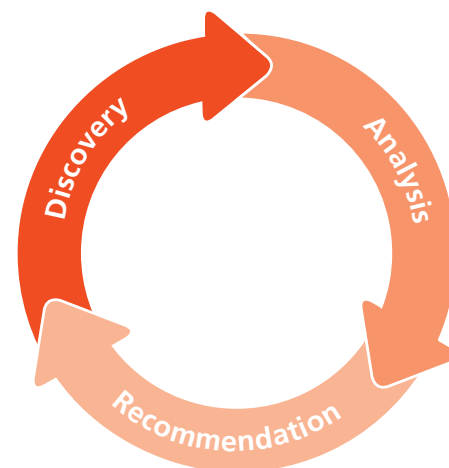
The service is non-intrusive. No agents are required on servers. No client data is accessed or removed from client site, only file metadata.

Analysis

- Meta-data is assessed by Dimension Data experts.
- Evaluation of storage use against Dimension Data and industry best practices.

Recommendations

- Align the value of the business data to the cost of storage space.
- Opportunities to consolidate, optimise, replace, and extend infrastructure, policies and procedures presentation to key personnel summarising report findings.
- Results drive recommendations on how to best optimise your storage and data management environments.



Data Profiler will enable you to find the answers to these questions:

1. How effectively is my current storage hardware being utilised?
2. Am I meeting my compliance obligations by protecting my critical data?
3. Where does my organisation's most valuable data reside?
4. Do I really need additional storage hardware?
5. Which type of storage hardware is best for my environment?
6. What file types are on the system, and who owns them?
7. Which data can be archived to another location, and is this the most cost-effective approach?
8. Are duplicate files causing me inefficiency and higher costs?
9. Am I having trouble meeting my backup window?

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What can you expect?	
Increased visibility and control	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understanding of current data situation: size and age of files, non-optimised file storage layout, reduction of backup and restore requirements, reduced impact of non-business data, improved backup efficiency by giving less emphasis to non-critical files in backup policies.
Cost savings through proactive management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify true storage demands through improved utilisation of existing resources and target files for removal in future projects. • Capacity planning: regular data profiling will enable a reduction in capital expenditure on storage hardware by adopting a 'just-in-time' purchasing regime.
Guidance towards regulatory compliance and improved data availability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete view of storage infrastructure, policies and procedures, roles and responsibilities. • Understanding of location of critical data. • Recommendations around information lifecycle management (ILM) strategies and protection and availability requirements. • Ensure business continuity by making sure critical files are backed up.
Business case justification	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clear basis for assessing the need for additional storage. • Use in the business case for the approval of budget for future storage projects.

Dimension Data's Data Profiler Assessment will help you **gain insight** into the unstructured data that resides in your storage environment and provide recommendations on how to **optimise** your storage environment in line with business objectives.

Why the Data Profiler Assessment?

Dimension Data's Data Profiler Assessment will help you gain insight into the unstructured data that resides in your storage environment and provide recommendations on how to optimise your storage environment in line with business objectives.

The findings report provides a comprehensive view of your existing data and provides recommendations that will help you plan to optimise your data and storage environment today and for the future.

Why Dimension Data?

Dimension Data is a **specialist IT solution** and **service provider** with domain expertise in networking, converged communications, security, data centre and storage, Microsoft and contact centre technologies and core capabilities in consulting, integration, and managed services.

Clients benefit from our over 10 years' experience in delivering data centre solutions across virtualisation, storage, network and facilities to clients worldwide. Our storage and data management solutions are designed to **optimise** the storage, retrieval, backup and recovery of data to ensure **business continuity, compliance** and the rapid delivery of information to your business.

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