eFIRST™ Archive

eFIRST Archive provides a secure, long-term archive for all types of information, intelligently using the most appropriate storage medium to ensure superior retrieval rates. eFIRST Archive is based on many years of experience as a leading provider of high-volume, long-term archive solutions. eFIRST Archive offers an enterprise platform for building archive management solutions that can effectively manage and track any file or document, including images, data records, video and mixed media content.

eFIRST Archive is an industry standard, component based archive system for easy implementation of flexible and scalable archive solutions. It employs a standard framework where new implementations can be developed to incorporate legacy archives and support new technologies. This approach ensures robustness, scalability and resilience—all critical when storing valuable business information.

Transparent storage
eFIRST Archive transparently stores your data and enables rapid access to it from any application. The highly scalable system allows data to be stored in separate file systems which can be managed online, near line or offline automatically. This allows the system to use the most economical storage device, such as magnetic tape, optical disk, CD or DVD, without the user being aware of where each file is stored. Multiple copies of files can be archived to different storage media types in a standard format, minimizing the need for additional back up and providing fast recovery should a disaster occur.

Business Benefits

- Store data on the most appropriate storage medium to provide cost effective, fast access to business information

- Eliminate lost or misfiled documents and reduce operating costs by removing paper-based searches

- Rapid deployment is provided via a web browser and extensible architecture allows staged deployment to meet changing business requirements

- Dramatically enhance customer service levels as information is made available within existing business applications

Flexible deployment
eFIRST Archive can easily be configured to adopt new rules, business processes or usage patterns without being taken off-line for reconfiguration. In addition, different storage devices can be employed and upgraded on-the-fly by means of plug-in adapters at the storage access level. eFIRST Archive can interface to existing business systems and applications allowing you to access all your business data from a single common point. It provides standard mechanisms for importing data and provides an API which can be used by developers to quickly construct new functionality and integrate to other applications. A variety of platforms and programming languages can be used to develop client applications where necessary.

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Access and Security

eFIRST Archive can be easily configured to adopt the existing security policies of your organization to ensure secure long-term storage of information. It provides a log-in that submits the username and password to a local or external certification process and restricts user access via control lists where required.

Designed for 24 x 7 uptime, it allows multiple copies of files to be held on offline storage media, providing extra resilience by creating master and back-up copies automatically. If any storage device fails, the information is retrieved and replicated by a separate device without a user being involved.

eFIRST Archive ensures your data's integrity and allows quick and efficient access to your information. Simple deployment, flexible expansion options and robust security features means eFIRST Archive provides the most effective storage solution for medium to high-volume requirements. In addition, the easy-to-use interface allows users to concentrate on their jobs, rather than the task of locating information.

Product Benefits

• Multi-tier architecture provides a robust framework enabling you to quickly add different layers of storage devices to rapidly develop applications

• Reusable components allow eFIRST Archive to easily integrate with existing applications

• A Java-based web interface provides a common platform offering secure access to your information

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Flexible Options:
Today there are a number of storage options available within eFIRST Archive:

• The File System Repository provides very fast and efficient storage of object data held on any operating system or supported file system

• The Optical Repository uses the Plexus Storage Manager as the underlying software for storing objects onto optical platters

• The Tape Management System supports StorageTek and other tape devices. It uses the eFIRST Archive volume repository manager to store the objects in large files, in order to make efficient use of the tape technology

• EMC[2] Centera Repository Manager provides storage management for disk-class devices using the EMC Centera solution

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