

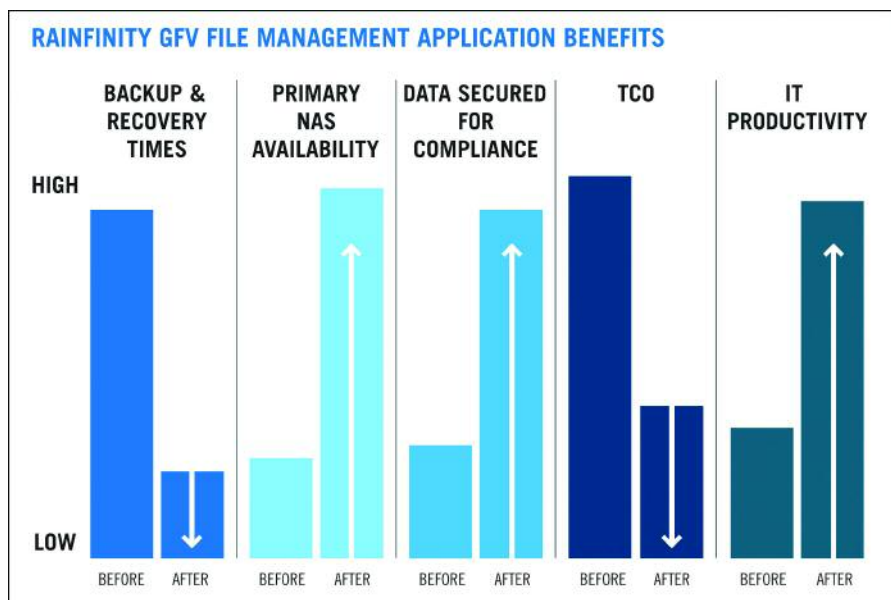


EMC Rainfinity Global File Virtualization

File Management Application Module

EMC[®] Rainfinity[®] Global File Virtualization[™] (GFV) is the only virtualization solution that can manage active and inactive files and scale to meet the needs of large organizations. The File Management Application is one of seven applications included with Rainfinity GFV. The File Management Application provides automated policy management to archive content across storage tiers and drive the following benefits:

- Optimize primary network-attached storage (NAS) utilization
- Lower TCO of NAS infrastructure
- Reduce NAS backup and recovery time against rising data volumes
- Improve IT productivity
- Satisfy compliance and regulatory requirements
- Extend virtualization across NAS and CAS



The explosive growth of unstructured data is driving the need to simplify NAS management. Rainfinity's File Management Application optimizes primary NAS storage by automatically moving inactive files based on policies to less-expensive secondary storage. Files that are moved appear as they are on primary storage to users and applications. Rainfinity automatically retrieves the files from secondary storage when they are accessed. Rainfinity extends file virtualization to include support for content-addressed storage (CAS) as the archive storage tier. EMC Centera™ CAS provides the single-instance and data retention capabilities that greatly enhance the effectiveness of file archiving in reducing the overall storage requirements

File archiving dramatically improves data protection and recovery time and supports additional business requirements such as compliance and retention. Active archiving limits regular backup activities to recently accessed files, and promotes the efficient use of online storage. Deploying a tiered storage infrastructure and automating file management is quickly becoming a best practice in managing the data explosion.

Enterprise-class, scalable architecture

EMC Rainfinity's file virtualization architecture is safe, scalable, easy to deploy, and open standards-based. Alternative approaches, such as filtering all file I/O on the network, using symbolic links, and emulating API calls have scalability, data protection, and performance drawbacks.

The File Management Application module operates out-of-band and does not require a persistent database. The 4 KB stub files created by Rainfinity contain all the necessary information required for call back. There is no persistent metadata file system that controls the location of files eliminating the need for file access filtering and unnecessary metadata indexing and lookup. The stub files are protected by existing snapshot and backup procedures, but Rainfinity also provides the capability to recover stub files, identify and address orphan files, and track versions. Unlike other approaches, the Rainfinity architecture is able to easily scale to support large NAS and CAS environments.

Key features

- Policy-based file management supports flexible rules for inclusion and exclusion (e.g., location, age, size, name, etc.)
 - Preview mode to review the impact of file placement policies
 - Automated file movement and retrieval across storage tiers
 - Supports multiple sources and destinations and integrates with Network Appliance, EMC Celerra®, and EMC Centera APIs
 - Restores accidentally dropped stub files and identifies and addresses orphan files
 - Interoperates with snapshots, backup/recovery, anti-virus, and Rainfinity's NAS virtualization functionality
 - Portable stub file support
 - Automatically resolves name conflicts
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Advantages

- A single file virtualization solution for NAS active archiving and capacity management of dynamic online storage
- Stateless and scalable architecture for migration and recall
- Supports multi-vendor NAS and CAS environments
- Policy-based file management controls placement of files across storage tiers

Increased infrastructure flexibility

File archiving is an important storage management function. However, administrators need to be careful that the file archiving solution they choose doesn't unintentionally lock the data in place and increase the complexity and rigidity of their information infrastructure. Rainfinity provides full portability of active and archived data. Rainfinity moves stub files without triggering file recalls. The relocated stub files are completely intact and point to the original file contents. With Rainfinity, you can archive files and perform a non-disruptive storage consolidation.

Rainfinity Global File Virtualization can also manage the non-disruptive movement of active data across storage tiers. While Rainfinity is collecting information on individual files, it is also summarizing statistics at the directory, tree, and volume level for use with capacity and performance balancing. These statistics are also used with Rainfinity's tiered storage management application that relocates active content to lower-cost secondary tiers. Rainfinity's series of integrated applications reduce costs, increase service levels, and save time. More importantly, Rainfinity increases the flexibility of IP storage infrastructures.

Customer success

Virtualization has rapidly become a critical enabling technology for NAS and CAS. EMC is addressing this market demand by delivering NAS virtualization solutions that are being deployed in all major industries including automotive, biotech, education, healthcare, manufacturing, technology, and financial institutions, including four of the top five U.S. financial institutions.

Take the Next Step

EMC Rainfinity Global File Virtualization helps businesses lower capital expenditures and reduce the total cost of ownership of networked storage by increasing storage efficiency. To find out how it can do the same for you, contact your EMC sales representative or visit our website at www.EMC.com.



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