✦ SKYSYNC®

Enterprise Content Integration

Seamless Automation of Your
Storage Migrations & Synchronizations

One thing that has remained constant in the ever-changing world of file storage and collaboration is the inability of many enterprises to consolidate to a single platform. As businesses adopt newer, more efficient Enterprise File Sync & Share (EFSS) solutions, they often continue to support their existing legacy storage systems – creating silos and clouding visibility into where documents are stored and, perhaps more importantly, identifying who has access.

According to AIIM, 52% of organizations have 3+ Enterprise Content Management (ECM) systems in place, while 22% have 5 or more – 38% of the largest organizations surveyed reported having more than 5 ECM systems in operation. Unsurprisingly, this means potential storage chaos for many IT departments… however, it can get better.

In recent years, there has been a shift in the content management paradigm. Organizations are now discovering that there is a way to integrate their disparate platforms, bridging siloes and enabling collaboration while ensuring that file governance policies are met.

Why
Pursue Integration?

Mobile Enablement

The rise of cloud-based file sharing has liberated the modern workforce, enabling employees to access their content anywhere, from any device. Integrating these new systems with existing legacy platforms enables organizations to leverage the benefits of Cloud storage while maintaining the security and stability of their proven on-premises system.

Internal & External Collaboration

Many industries require collaboration both inside and outside of the organization. Businesses often need to collaborate across global sites, and more specialized organizations often need to securely share mission-critical documents with contractors, legal teams, and other third parties. Storage integration enhances this collaboration by enabling the syncing and sharing of content that has historically been stored on local servers.

Improved File Governance

Through platform integration, organizations often find increased visibility into where content is stored and can therefore establish and enforce better file governance policies. Users are better equipped to follow these procedures when outdated document management systems do not hinder their productivity.

Consolidation for Streamlined Business Processes

Integration may also be used as a means to an end. Many organizations prefer not to keep their 5+ ECM systems fully operational and need to consolidate to as few platforms as possible to eliminate silos, streamline their business processes and potentially save millions of dollars in hardware and software licensing fees. Temporarily integrating storage systems can enable a seamless migration out of a platform slated for retirement.

The
Historical Challenges
with Integration

Historically, migration and synchronization of content across different storage platforms have been painful processes for most organizations – hence why so many have maintained multiple legacy systems. There are many reasons why large-scale migrations have posed such a challenge.

Platform Complexities

Storage platforms are complex, with different rules for managing file conventions including name and length requirements, extended metadata, user permissions, document versions and other important file artifacts. Despite these critical details being integral to an organization's file governance strategy, they are often lost during traditional migration efforts when uploaded to a new system manually. It can take an IT administrator thousands of hours to recover this lost data, delaying implementation of the new system and leaving the business at risk of corruption, data loss or security breaches.

Human Complexities

In addition to the technical challenges associated with file migration and synchronization, people have also set up their fair share of roadblocks. User adoption continues to be one of the largest obstacles to deploying a new system. Additionally, it can be a challenge for IT managers to convince executives to abandon their previous investments in legacy systems for newer technologies. Reluctance by executives and end users to embrace new platforms can lead to failed migration projects and significant wasted time and resources.

Introducing
Enterprise Content Integration

Enterprise Content Integration delivers unprecedented agility to businesses that need to integrate and transfer content across storage silos. With the right tools, organizations can use Enterprise Content Integration to painlessly build their storage infrastructure to fit their individualized business requirements.

Hybrid Storage Integration

Hybrid Storage Integration refers to the coexistence of on-premises and cloud-based storage platforms in an organization, often through bi-directional synchronization. For many organizations, a full migration from one platform to another is simply impossible – so maintaining both new and existing systems is ideal.

Maintain Compliance – In a hybrid environment, businesses required to keep sensitive data stored locally in accordance with compliance mandates (including the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act [HIPAA], the Sarbanes-Oxley Act [SOX], the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission [SEC] and others) can keep their content secured on-premises, while still extending the benefits of cloud-based file sync and share to their user base.

Mitigate Risk & User Adoption Challenges– When new and existing platforms are synchronized, content is automatically populated in the new system – users can adopt at their own pace, and business can continue as usual while the new system is fully integrated into an existing IT infrastructure. Synchronization also enables enterprises to avoid vendor lock-in, which can be critical in the ever-changing landscape of EFSS services. Through this type of integration, companies can slow-walk their deployment of a new platform to optimize user adoption rates while mitigating risk.

Preserving Existing Investments – Large enterprises have often made significant capital investments into their legacy storage platforms, as well as customized integrations with their critical line-of-business systems. Rather than abandoning these systems altogether, synchronization enables organizations to extend the benefits of EFSS services to their existing platforms – preserving past investments and keeping their IT infrastructure intact.

Enterprise Content Integration

Large-Scale, Automated Migrations

Tools that are capable of integrating all of an enterprise's on-premises and EFSS platforms now serve as a bridge, enabling organizations to automate a large-scale migration of their content without worrying about the challenges and drawbacks that come along with other solutions: drawn-out migration timelines, potential security risks and loss of critical file data.

Migrate More Than Just Files – By using Enterprise Content Integration, organizations can move more than just files – they can preserve valuable file artifacts across systems. With a robust tool that can map extended metadata, document versions, timestamps, and other relevant information as well as preserve folder hierarchies across diverse platforms, the need to manually restructure content is eliminated, saving thousands of IT hours in the migration process.

Keep Security In-Tact – Deep integration enables enterprises to maintain their existing security infrastructure while the migration is underway. Mission-critical files pass directly between endpoints, never leaving the organization's control. Additionally, user and group permissions can be mapped across systems, ensuring users are unable to open and share documents for which they do not have access rights.

Seamless Transitions – If the existing and new platforms are tightly integrated during the migration, organizations can set up a temporary synchronization to ensure there is no disruption to business operations while in transition. This practice mitigates hard user-adoption deadlines and enables IT to make sure that the new system is fully integrated into existing line-of-business systems while content is being migrated.

Enterprise Content Integration

SkySync is a powerful Enterprise Content Integration middleware that seamlessly integrates diverse enterprise storage platforms, bridging on-premises systems with virtually any cloud storage service. The software transparently syncs, migrates or copies files across systems automatically, while leaving organizations in complete control of their content. The platform provides unprecedented agility compared to traditional migration methods, with its ability to bi-directionally sync and transfer files, users, permissions and all associated data across dozens of platforms, supporting a wide range of use cases.

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