Business Case for Attachment Management

Many organizations using Exchange 2010 or 2013 are noticing that their email servers are using up more and more storage because of the lack of Single-Instance Storage (SIS) of attachments and the multiplication of copies of messages through the Database Availability Group (DAG) feature. Storage needs are often 3-4 times greater than originally anticipated when either deploying or migrating to Exchange 2010 or 2013. The cost of the additional storage is fast becoming a major pain point, as is the need to actively manage the infrastructure. Relying on users to remove attachments from messages is neither a practical nor realistic solution.

With Netmail Detach, however, it’s possible to off-load data from your email system using Netmail Archive’s Attachment Management feature and keep only a single instance of any attachment found in Exchange by stripping the attachments and replacing the files with links that point to the original copies stored in Netmail Store. Exchange performance can therefore be optimized, and storage growth, even with DAG, can be kept to a minimum for the entire life of the email system. If users need to send messages with stripped attachments to external email addresses, Netmail Secure can be configured to fetch the attachments from Netmail Store and re-attach them to their respective messages as they leave the organization. Recipients can therefore always view their attachments, regardless of whether they’re internal or external to the email system.

How Netmail Detach Works

Netmail Archive’s Attachment Management feature removes email attachments stored in Exchange and stores them in Netmail Store, helping reduce storage bloat on the Exchange Server. The stripped attachments are replaced with an HTTP link that links back to the original attachment in Netmail Store. Messages are stripped of their attachments according to the overall message size. Only those messages that reach or exceed the message size limit that you set in your attachment management policy will have their attachments stripped. The frequency of the attachment stripping process can be easily configured in Netmail Archive by setting up jobs. As these jobs run, mailboxes are automatically scanned and email message attachments are stripped. Stripping of attachments can occur at any time and as often as needed.

Reduce Storage Costs with Deduplication

Netmail Detach allows you to manage mailbox sizes by removing storage-intensive attachments from Exchange and storing a single copy of each attachment in Netmail Store. With Netmail Archive’s Attachment Management feature, you can reduce the amount of email storage required within Exchange by off-loading it to Netmail Store, where attachments are stored only once and data redundancy is eliminated. Users have continued access to their email messages and attachments from Outlook, OWA and any other device within their folder structure. Users also benefit from virtually unlimited email mailboxes because the automated process helps them stay within their mailbox quotas. With email attachments accounting for up to 80% of the data stored on the Exchange Server, attachment management means less email storage data within Exchange for a faster, more reliable email messaging system - without end-user compromises.

Effect of an attachment on Exchange Server storage needs:

- 1MB PDF sent to one recipient, no replicas:
  1MB x 2 users = 2MB + overhead

- 1MB PDF sent to 9 recipients, 2 replicas:
  1MB x 10 users x 3 copies = 30MB + overhead
Re-attach Attachments to Outbound Mail
As part of Netmail Detach, Netmail Secure is responsible for managing attachments at the gateway. Through the use of policies, Netmail Secure can easily be configured to automatically strip and store inbound message attachments before they ever have the chance of entering the Exchange system, thus drastically reducing potential bloat of the Exchange server. For outbound mail, Netmail Secure’s attachment reassembly feature can retrieve previously stripped attachments from Netmail Store and re-attach them to their original messages before sending them out. This makes it possible for external users or recipients to view attachments, as only users internal to the network have access to stripped attachments in Netmail Store through the HTTP links. By combining Netmail Secure with Netmail Archive and Netmail Store, administrators can securely and intelligently reduce bloat of their new Exchange server while maintaining a virtually seamless email environment for their users.

Attachment Management and eDiscovery
Netmail Detach provides you with an easy way of preventing storage-intensive attachments from bloating your Exchange Server. In addition, you can also take advantage of Netmail Search, our advanced eDiscovery tool that allows authorized reviewers to search, review, and export archived data for legal purposes. If you choose to strip before you archive, the archived messages will contain HTTP links that point to the attachments in Netmail Store. If you choose to archive before you strip, the archived messages will appear unchanged, but their attachments will be fetched from Netmail Store. In either case, both the messages and their attachments will remain fully searchable in Netmail Search for eDiscovery purposes. A lighter version of Netmail Search is also available for end users to access their own personal email archives.

Simplified Migrations to Exchange 2010, 2013 or Office 365
With Netmail, you can now migrate to Exchange 2010, 2013 or Office 365 (Exchange Online) without migrating email attachments. Prevent the loss of valuable information during your migration to Exchange or Office 365 by removing message attachments from messages and replacing the attachment with an HTTP link to the attachment. Netmail Store stores a single copy of the attachment, minimizing increased storage requirements in Exchange or Office 365.

Netmail Archive: Policy-Based Email Archiving
Netmail Archive provides a policy-driven and centralized administration that integrates with any Exchange deployment, offering policy-based archiving and retention for regulatory compliance and email storage management. With Netmail Archive, organizations can archive all email messages, attachments, calendar items, tasks, and notes from Exchange. The flexible and intuitive Administrative Console facilitates the granular application of unique policies to selected users or groups of users in your email system. Netmail Archive gives you flexible control over the organization’s email policies; you can always amend existing policies or create new ones as your business needs change.

Netmail Store: Secure Storage for Email
Netmail Store delivers the most complete set of features to address the growing requirements for compliance. It supports a WORM storage environment ensuring data integrity, authenticity, and protection to meet information lifecycle requirements. Netmail Store can also manage content lifecycle information automatically and allows you to specify that a file cannot be changed throughout its defined life and cannot be deleted until the retention period has expired. This addresses regulatory mandates such as SEC17a-4, which is the most stringent regulatory requirement defined for data storage.

Netmail Secure: Policy-Based Email Security and Data Leak Prevention
Netmail Secure is a policy-based email security solution that integrates leading anti-spam, anti-malware, content filtering, data leak prevention, encryption, reputation protection, and message tracking. Deployed on a virtual appliance, compatible with any mail server, and built on an Integrated Email Management Platform, Netmail Secure provides any size organization with total protection to stop inbound and outbound email threats from impacting the organization and compromising security.

To learn more visit: www.netmail.com/detach