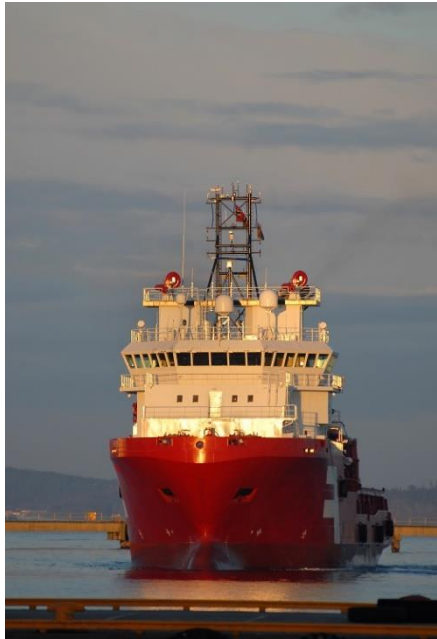# NTP SOFTWARE
C A S E   S T U D Y

International Oil Company
Information Technology

L E A R N   W H Y …

The team at an international oil company leverages NTP Software to gain control of costs and predict security concerns.

About the Customer

Worldwide energy player that serves over four million customers each day in service stations. This is accomplished through sustainable operations in 130 countries and backed by 100,000 employees ready to build a cleaner and safer future. Each aspect of the energy mix – oil, natural gas, solar, biomass – is considered and analyzed regularly.

While scaling to have a worldwide impact on producing reliable sources, the company has remained focused on a broader horizon. This includes the goals of reducing greenhouse emissions, shirking environmental footprints, boosting energy efficiency, and developing local social progress. For example, $1.35 billion was invested in research last year alone.

For many decades, the company has been actively investing in their country and its growth, which has resulted in the opening of over 500 retail outlets and service stations. Other energy priorities include liquefied petroleum gas, solar power for stations, and a project that helps provide access to cleaner energy for everyone.

With over 5,000 users creating new files every day, this customer needed a comprehensive solution to control rapidly expanding costs in their storage environment. They also required solutions that engaged end users to keep only active and valuable files, as well as administrators to be able to predict future requirements for space.

In the following study, we learn more about these specific challenges and how the solutions were provided by NTP Software.

Customer Environment

Data Centers:	**4**
Terabytes:	**440**
Users:	**5,000**

Challenges

The customer has a storage infrastructure that is built on NetApp FAS. With high-performance components that regularly meet critical end-user file data needs, they needed software that integrates fluidly with their NetApp systems without causing service disruptions or a drop in operating performance.

The branch offices host data from over 5,000 users. In this scenario, there were files being created that were relevant to business purposes. The company needed ways to control storage growth and manage files, along with end-user activity. This had to be accomplished without disrupting operations and end-user work flow.
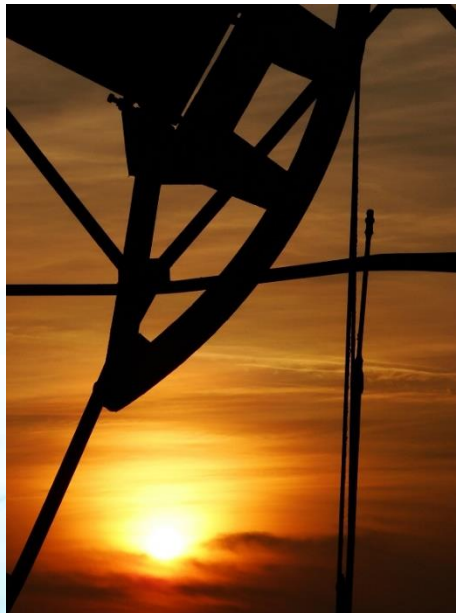
Before adoption of NTP solutions, this company experienced data growth at a significant rate annually. The growth translated to roughly 40 percent of annual capital expenditure being used for storage expansion to meet the growing demands.

One final challenge that needed to be addressed was the lack of a system for auditing user operations on file systems. Administrators needed instant dashboards on records such as file modification, file deletion and mass movement of files and directories. With so many users, they required straightforward reporting tools to help them understand changes in users and environments more systematically.

Alternatives

The organization reviewed multiple software packages during the discovery process to find a solution tailored to their existing hardware setup and software needs.

One that was considered was the Varonis DATADVANTAGE, along with some other custom-built solutions developed internally. This was part of an extensive process that included in-depth vendor research.

"When they came to us, our future customer needed to revamp their storage management strategy in an effort to curb their storage growth and reduce their rapidly growing capital expenditures. Since they were seeing cost increases as high as 40 percent, it became immediately clear that they needed QFS to set and enforce hard quota limits on their users. This would alleviate the mounting pressure in their storage environment.

Darrin Stivala
Vice President of Operations
NTP Software

Solutions

This international oil company chose NTP Software as their partner to provide file data solutions. In order to overcome the existing challenges, NTP Software implemented their products QFS™ and File Auditor™.

While choosing a partner, one factor that weighed heavily was the official recommendation by NetApp. They spoke of NTP Software's impressive history on quota control and auditing projects.

The team members working on this project found the solution easy to integrate into their existing infrastructure with little or no service disruptions.

In comparison to other solutions offered, NTP Software's options offered a relatively cost-effective solution to the problems being addressed.

Extra Benefits

- The NTP Software team displayed a high level of professionalism throughout the pilot and deployment phases of the project.

- The customer care and support team always responded to customer questions with little or no delays.

- For any large infrastructure company, support from OEMs is a very important decision factor when choosing solution paths and the customer was happy to choose NTP Software for their environment.

Results

- Storage demand and utilization growth has been tied to budget allocation based on utilizing Quotas to peg volume growth.

- Security teams now have more visibility into user operations and administrator decisions on all file activity and settings.

- Incidents are better managed and resolved in shorter timeframes because of increased environment insights and control.

Interesting Storage Facts

- **One terabyte of storage holds an average of 1.2 million files**

- **Files over one megabyte consume 93% of storage**

- **80% of files are stale and can be archived**

"They needed insight into who was accessing their most critical data. They also needed to be notified when permissions changed or when sensitive files were being accessed by the wrong people. File Auditor presented the ability to keep a watchful eye on their sensitive data at all times, enabling them to lock down private, business-critical information, and meet ever-strengthening compliance regulations. Since File Auditor notifies in real-time if there are any anomalies in file data usage patterns, they can stop malicious behavior before any real damage is done."

Darrin Stivala
Vice President of Operations
NTP Software

About NTP Software

NTP Software puts users in charge of their file data and is the only company providing file data management solutions that delivers all of the enterprise-class features needed to understand, manage, monitor, and secure file data completely.

NTP Software is a global leader and has been chosen by the majority of Fortune 1000 companies and thousands of customers in private and public sectors for providing leadership through superior solutions, professional services, experience, and trusted advice.

NTP Software delivers a single solution across the entire data storage environment, from individual files and users to an entire global enterprise across thousands of systems and sites. NTP Software reduces the cost and complexity associated with the exponential growth of file data. Please visit our website for more information at www.ntpsoftware.com

NTP Software QFS™

NTP Software QFS controls costs with automatic policy enforcement and growth management for both CIFS and NFS shares.

QFS enables organizations to create and enforce storage quotas and block unwanted files while improving the end-user experience by automatically communicating storage policies and providing tools to help them manage their own data and storage resources.

System administration is simplified with automated, user or department-specific file data management policies to control hundreds to thousands of users across all popular platforms.

NTP Software File Auditor™

NTP Software File Auditor monitors environment activity and provides alerts to unwarranted or abnormal data access by a particular user.

By understanding user patterns to detect sudden shifts in user behavior, this product notifies you when damaging behavior is present.

You maintain audit trails of data use for further investigation or legal holds, and simplify compliance with audits and regulations.

By providing policy-based, scalable auditing in a cross-platform solution in real time, File Auditor gives you an immediate view of who is accessing what documents across your entire business.

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