

56% Infrastructure Optimization, 43% Decrease in Storage Costs and Risk Mitigation with AI/ML-Powered Data Analytics

For a Fortune 200 European corporation and the world's second-largest sportswear manufacturer



Business Need

- **Classify** the 200 TB Isilon dataset to **maximize data utilization** and streamline data storage efficiency.
- **Streamline storage operations**, reduce costs, and execute a seamless migration from Isilon to the advanced NetApp infrastructure.
- **Elevate data speed, accessibility**, and overall workflow efficiency through a meticulous data migration to the high-performance storage infrastructure provided by NetApp.
- Implement a robust strategy to **identify and manage dark data**, addressing security threats, ensuring compliance, safeguarding privacy, optimizing operational processes, reducing storage expenses, preserving reputation, and enhancing data quality—all while gaining valuable business insights.

Challenges Faced

- **Data Knowledge Deficiency:** Inadequate understanding of Isilon data types contributes to security vulnerabilities, compliance risks, suboptimal storage utilization, and an elevated overall risk profile.
- **Dark Data Accumulation:** The accumulation of inactive data spanning over two years burdens storage systems, amplifying security risks.
- **Escalating Storage Costs:** Inefficiencies in data storage lead to rising expenses.
- **Inefficient Storage Infrastructure:** The high maintenance costs associated with Isilon strain the organization's financial resources due to an inefficient storage infrastructure.

Solution Offered

- In collaboration with a leading IT infrastructure services provider, Data Dynamics employed StorageX, which featured:
- AI/ML-driven metadata analysis for the classification of a substantial 187 TB dataset and intelligent identification of cold and hot data, optimizing storage efficiently.
- Utilized data assessment criteria, analyzing file size and activity, to identify dormant files over a two-year period, orphan files older than two years, media files untouched in two years, and .PST files untouched for a year.
- Provided storage optimization recommendations post-metadata analysis, including archiving cold data to Azure Cool Blob or purging after thorough verification

Business Impact

- Successful data classification resulted in the identification of 98.59 TB of data untouched for two years, leading to a recommendation for archiving and substantial storage savings.
- The discovery of 3.17 TB of inactive media files spanning two years prompted a suggestion for tiering to object storage. Additionally, 10.89 TB of orphaned data untouched for two years was identified, with a recommendation for archival or purging after verification. Moreover, 130 GB of PST files, untouched for a year, were suggested for archival or deletion.
- Approximately 60.31% of the dataset was eligible for archiving, effectively optimizing storage and significantly reducing storage costs.
- The efficient archiving of this dormant data played a crucial role in mitigating dark data risks.
- The implementation of effective data classification and optimization recommendations holds the potential to reduce storage costs by 43%.

