

Solution Overview

Organizations see their most important asset, information, continuously increase in value and volume. At the same time, there is a need to find ways to reduce the cost associated with storing and managing information. Inflexible, inefficient or inappropriate storage designs can cause low utilization of resources and, even worse, can introduce performance and availability problems that lead to service downtime. Keeping information protected, compliant and available according to businesses demands requires ongoing storage capacity planning, utilization management and cost containment. This means you need to understand your storage environment in great detail.

Mainland has the skills and experience to perform a comprehensive storage assessment that will help you proactively plan and manage your storage environment going forward, as well as identify and address storage challenges before they become business problems. With help from Mainland, you can rest assured that your storage infrastructure is efficient, flexible and robust. A Mainland storage assessment provides a long-term storage architecture blueprint and presents the potential next steps in this evolution.

Benefits

Some of the many reasons you should partner with Mainland for a storage health check include:

- We work closely with storage vendors to provide customer-focused solutions that are tailored to your business needs
- We perform our storage health checks not only according to industry best practices, but according to the specific needs of your organization. We take a methodical, proven and consistent approach. This ensures that all relevant information is collected and interpreted
- We have dedicated technical storage consultants, with over 40 years of combined, hands-on field experience with storage technologies. Our team is vigilant in the pursuit of knowledge and understands the latest technology trends.
- Team members hold current certifications with all of the storage products we support
- We recruit the best people in the industry. Our storage consultants come from diverse backgrounds in the IT industry, which allows for a deep understanding of the challenges faced by organizations today

Deliverables

A storage assessment performed by Mainland typically includes:

- **Project Coordination** – Mainland provides a single point of contact for resource scheduling, escalation and quality control. A Project manager ensures the storage implementation proceeds according to client expectations
- **Client Discussions** – Conversations with client IT stakeholders that addresses requirements and concerns, such as: Assessment objectives; Storage lifecycle strategy and concerns; Storage administration processes; Future short/medium/long-term storage requirements; and Technology adoption readiness
- **Data Collection** – Information about the storage environment is gathered from storage arrays, storage networks and hosts. The data collection phase will be scheduled to minimize impact on your production storage environment
- **Current State Assessment** – The collected data is reviewed and interpreted with a focus on: Health and Interoperability; Availability and Performance; Utilization and Capacity Management; Vendor and Industry Best Practices Violations; and Optimal Use of Licensed Features
- **Assessment Report** – The results of the assessment are provided in a report that addresses the current state and client concerns. This report includes a gap analysis and identifies required remediation activities and other recommendations. Client requirements, vendor best practices and industry knowledge will be applied to qualify any improvements to the current environment
- **Presentation** – The assessment results will be presented to an audience of the client's choosing. Mainland has the skills and experience to address any identified storage concerns, and scoping of such activities can be performed with the client at this time

Why Mainland

Mainland has established itself in the minds of Customers and Business Partners as the premier “go-to” organization for storage products, services and solutions in this marketplace. Our highly trained and certified storage experts all have operational backgrounds in storage, and can provide unique value to your business on every engagement.