

## Otium Storage Audits



### Otium Full Storage Audit

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Otium Software write and publish Utilistor™ a powerful yet simple set of storage management software products for IT professionals designed to automate repetitive and time consuming storage management tasks.

Otium Software have devised a repeatable format for storage audit services using Utilistor™ software to provide a cost effective and valuable storage audit assessment.

This document describes a copyrighted format and methodology for conducting an Otium approved storage audit. Otium have authorised a select group of Consulting Partners that have been trained to deliver an Otium Storage Audit.

The details in this document describe the Otium “Full Storage Audit”. Otium have also devised a smaller audit called the Otium Storage Snapshot, for details of this service visit [www.otium.co.uk](http://www.otium.co.uk)

## Otium Storage Audit Services

**Otium** has selected the Utilistor™ Storage Management Solution from Otium Software to deliver Storage Audit Capabilities.

**Otium** has two types of storage audit it can offer to customers:

- 1) Storage Snapshot Assessment - a micro audit that provides a point in time analysis of a subset of your company's data.
- 2) Full Data Storage Audit – a longer 30 day assessment that provides a snapshot view of storage along with trend and predictive analysis.

This document describes the Full Data Storage Audit. For details of the Storage Snapshot Assessment please contact your account manager.

### The Issue

Data growth can be the cause of numerous problems for I.T. Departments. If data growth is uncontrolled or unpredictable, the problems created can manifest themselves in many ways. These include:

- 🔧 Drops in application performance
- 🔧 Backup Jobs over running
- 🔧 Backup costs increasing
- 🔧 Servers running out of disk space and crashing
- 🔧 Administrators wasting time and productivity managing disks that are at near to full capacity.
- 🔧 Ad-hoc non-budgeted storage hardware purchases.
- 🔧 Unplanned maintenance and downtime.
- 🔧 User productivity affected due to personal “data housekeeping requests” from IT departments.

### The Cause

The amount of information that companies hold continually increases. Electronic systems, e-mail, multimedia, and communications technology all contribute to the rate at which data is growing. The profile of data stored on corporate systems has never been more varied or large. As a result it has become increasingly difficult to efficiently manage **what** data is being stored on **which** corporate assets, and that profile is likely to change over time.

### Options for Accommodating Data Growth

I.T. Departments need to consider the options available for dealing with expanding volumes of data. In order to cater for increasing amounts of electronic information I.T. Departments have to consider a number of options including:

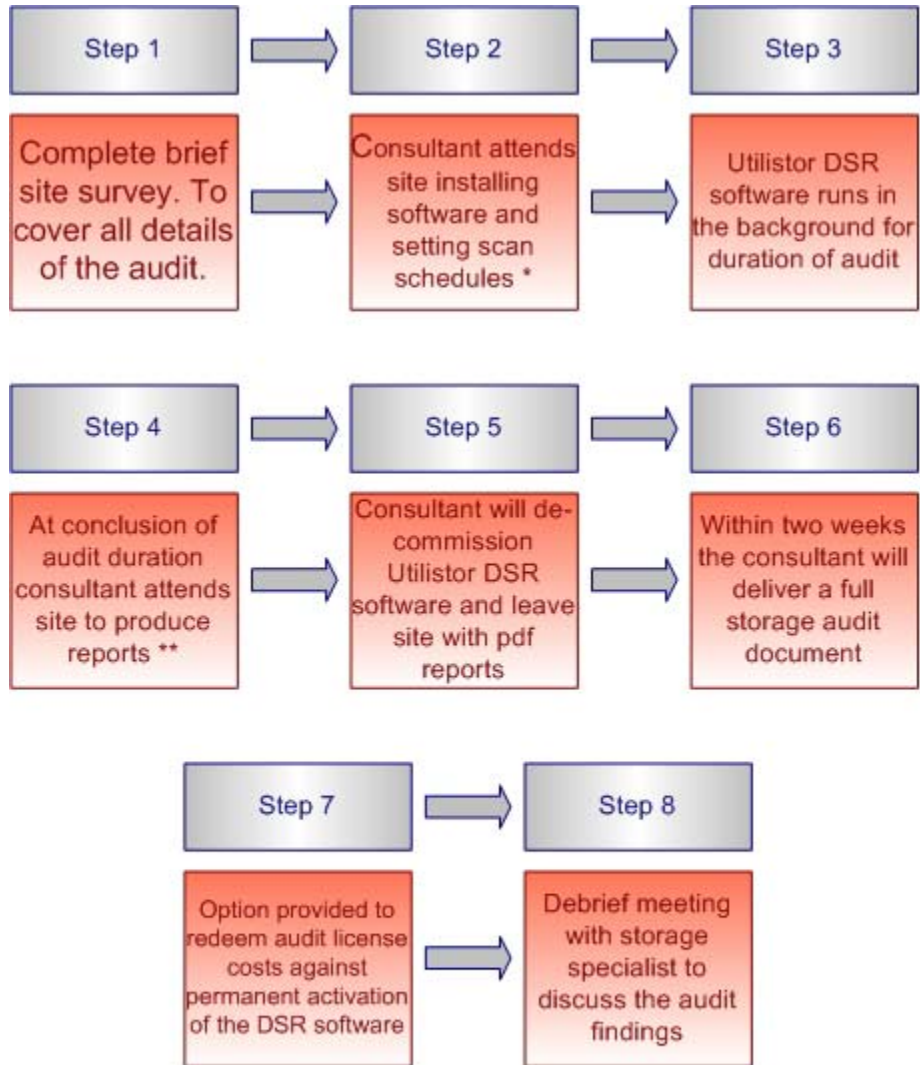
- 🔧 Server consolidation
- 🔧 New backup infrastructure
- 🔧 NAS
- 🔧 New disk purchases
- 🔧 SAN
- 🔧 Secondary Storage
- 🔧 Off line Storage
- 🔧 High availability solutions

I.T. Managers should never make purchasing decisions around the technologies identified above without first knowing **what** data they are storing in the first place. However it is not uncommon for this to happen. Before, making any storage based purchasing decision; IT managers should be able to answer questions such as the ones below:

- 🔧 What data is business critical?
- 🔧 What data can I delete or archive?
- 🔧 What rate is my data growing at?
- 🔧 When are disks and servers going to run out of capacity?
- 🔧 What is the profile of my data over time?
- 🔧 What data can I put on secondary storage?
- 🔧 How much wasted space is their across my servers?
- 🔧 How much capacity could I reclaim if I consolidated to NAS or SAN?

**Otium's Storage Snapshot Assessment is a fast and effective service that provides answers to the questions above and to many more.**

## The Service



\* amount of time required dependent on the number of servers in the audit sample

\*\* amount of days required dependent on number of servers in the audit sample

## The deliverables

Summary Reports
High level reports which give a general indication as to the state of your storage environment. The reports generated are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Storage Summary</li><li>All Volumes</li><li>All Directories</li></ul>
Snapshot Reports
Macro level reports providing point in time analysis of your data across your enterprise. The reports generated are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Multimedia Files</li><li>Aged Files (Accessed)</li><li>Aged Files (Modified)</li><li>Temporary Files</li><li>New files</li><li>Duplicate Files</li><li>Large Files</li><li>Files not backed up</li><li>Usage by file type</li><li>Space usage by User</li></ul>
Trend Reports
Historical reports that allow you to see the rate of data growth across your storage environment. The reports generated are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>FileType Growth</li><li>Server Growth</li><li>Volume Growth</li><li>Old file Usage (Modified)</li><li>Old File Usage (Accessed)</li><li>User Growth</li></ul>
Predictive Reports
Top level reports that provide predictive data to analyse how long your existing systems will remain capable of coping. The reports generated are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Volume prediction</li><li>Server prediction</li><li>File type prediction</li><li>User prediction</li></ul>
Detailed Analysis
Once our consultant has analysed the high level and macro reports, they will then proceed to produce a range of "Drill down reports" (these are reports that produce lists of individual files according to search criteria). They will use their professional judgement to decide what drill down reports they generate.  Usually they will produce drill downs in areas where the top level reports indicate that further investigation is warranted. By using their judgement in this way, the eventual audit report will provide relevant information that will provide accurate and targeted information to make informed storage decisions going forward.

**Otium** will deliver these reports in a larger document which will include detailed analysis and recommendation. Our consultants will deliver guidance including:

- Interpreting the data in the reports.
- Using information in the reports to your best advantage.
- Setting the context of the assessment into a wider IT relevance.
- Considering the storage infrastructure technologies that would best suit your data profile.
- Suggestions for Information management strategies
- Where efficiencies and savings could be made with immediate effect
- Strategies for High availability and data protection

**Otium** will provide a quotation to implement a permanent version of the Storage Management Software they have used to conduct the storage audit.

## Pricing

We use Utilistor Disk Space Reporter software as our auditing tool.

Otium audit license pricing is as follows:

RRP	Part Number	per server
30 day audit License	UT-OAUD-0001-0010	£40

Cost per day for a storage consultant is £900

Approximate consultant days required for a full storage audit as follows.

Qty of servers	Number of days
1-10	2
10-30	4
30-50	5
50-75	7
75-100	9
100+	Subject to site survey

To calculate the cost of an audit add the cost of the man days to the number of audit licenses you will require.

Once Utilistor™ is installed in your environment repeat audits can be carried out more quickly. This will involve reactivating installed but dormant software with a further 30 day license key (e.g. a quarterly audit is considered good practice) or by making the licenses permanent. You can redeem the cost of the last 30 day audit license against the cost of a permanent license, contact your account manager for a quote.

On this basis repeat audit consultant man days are as follows:

Qty of servers	Number of days
1-10	1.5
10-30	2
30-50	3
50-75	5
75-100	6.5
100+	Subject to site survey