

## New Disk storage – Change drive letters

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**From:** mark (*mark\_at\_discussions.microsoft.com*)

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Hi,

I'm planning on adding a new SAN to our Exchange system (Active/Passive 2 node cluster) and this has been connected to the Exchange cluster nodes and is accessible as shared disk storage.

But that isn't the question I've got, basically the mail stores are currently located on a Powervault (Drive S:) and I need to present a plan for moving this data (14 databases) onto the SAN storage, I can see two options  
Option1) Use the ESM to migrate databases to new drive letter

1. Use exmerge to export all email to PST files (and ensure backup)
2. use the ESM utility to change the database & storage group paths onto the SAN storage

Option 2) Manually copy the files onto the new disk storage

- 1) use exmerge to export all email (and ensure backup)
- 2) Take all Exchange services offline
- 3) File Copy all Exchange files from the S: drive onto the new SAN disk
- 4) Change disk drive letter storage for the previous disk and the new SAN attached (i.e, SAN attached becomes S:)
- 5) Bring Exchange back on-line, it should now look to the new S: drive for data storage.

I believe that Option (1) offers a more reliable solution with less downtime (only when migrating user's storage group/database\_ however the rollback option would be more difficult.

Option (2) would require more downtime, I believe it carries more risk but may offer a better rollback solution.

Has anyone out there tried a similar practice and what method/pointers do they have

Thanks for any help

Mark