

RE: Suggestions for freeing up mailbox store space plan?

Source:

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- *From:* TE <TE@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* Tue, 8 Aug 2006 10:16:01 -0700
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Our current servers don't have enough space to mount another store in the RSG if i need to restore. I also dont want to use an ext HD to get the extra space. When we redesign our email then I can see us using RGS. For now, I need an easy way to restore and BLB gives me that. We havent had any serious talks about our mail redesign yet so i dont have any ideas to post yet. When I do start on redesign i put it up and have everyone tear it apart, lol. Just in case ur wondering, our current overall email setup consists of 5 srvs.

1 mailsrver (Merak) that handles all inbound and is used to send out to domains that require Rdns. 1 email filter srv that get's it's email only from the merak mail server then sends filtered emails to our 2 exchange srvs. The exchange srvs do send emails out, but only to domains that dont need Rdns. For the domains that need Rdns, the exchange srvs forward emails to the merak srv. We also have 1 server that runs OWA. Our current in/out email load is at about 5 – 6 million emails per month. I havent gotten exact numbers yet. I figure about 65% of it is spam. We are a small company about 100 users but alot of the emails are large files mainly pdfs. So thats our mail setup. This was all prexisting before I started working here a few months ago.

"SilverICE" wrote:

Hmmm, I guess I'm missing some improtant detail. A BLB is a BLB no matter how you slice it or what mailstore your mailboxes are in. I'd remove any unneeded mailboxes and public folders, stop doing BLBs (see recovery storage group), and be done with it. If you're concerned about the size of your mailstores just create new ones on the same servers and move your mailboxes to them. That way you don't have to build another server, etc.

Maybe you could shed some light on what you are doing as far as your redesign.

"TE" wrote:

Sry, I forgot to post reason. My backups are taking longer and longer to run. I run brick level backups on all the mailboxes. Each exchg server takes about 17hrs to finish. The backups are totaling around 240gbs per server. I

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understand that brick level bkups will be larger than what the stores report. my bkups have grown around 70gbs in past 6 months. I have about 30gbs free space on the srvs. Ultimately we are going to redeseing our whole mail setup. I'm doing this to help hold me over until then. I inherited the exchange srvs from our former "exchange" admin.

"SilverICE" wrote:

Can you please explain why you would want to go through all of this trouble?

Are you running out of free disk space?

"TE" wrote:

Hi all,

I need to clean up mailbox stores on two exchange 2k3 ent servers . Here is our current exchange setup and 1st draft on plan:

Setup---

Exchange 2k3 Ent (native mode/ No exchange SP)

Server1 -- Win2k3 Ent w/SP1

Server2 -- Win2k3 Stnd w/SP1

Each server has four storage groups. Server 1 Storage groups come out to 160gbs and server 2 Storage groups come out to 145gbs. Each server has 4 mailbox stores and 1 pub folder store. The largest mailbox store on each server is 50gb. The other mailbox store sizes range from 8gbs to 20gbs. The pub folder store on each server is 70gbs. I can give exact break down on sizes if needed. Each of the servers have a good 30gbs of free space for stores.

Plan --

1 --Delete any mailboxes that belong to former workers that have been gone 60days min. Let online defrag run at night. (I know this wont get me space, I want to get rid of old mailboxes before I do next step)

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2 --Make sure I have a good brick level backup from BE and do a full backup with NTbackup on each Exchange srv.

3 --Setup a temp exchange srv or create another store on existing srvs, then schedule mailbox moves to happen off hours.

4 --Once all the mailboxes are in the temp srv or store, I'll delete the old mailbox stores and create one new mailbox store on each server (i'll have to do something with the pub folder store first).

5 --Schedule the mailboxes to move from temp location to new mailbox stores during off hours.

6 --Done?

Sorry for long post and thanks for any help/suggestions.