

# Re: Exchange log files growing

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*Source:*

<http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/Windows/microsoft.public.windows.server.sbs/2006-10/msg01547.html>

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- *From:* Jim Behning <[jimbehning@xx](mailto:jimbehning@xx)>
  - *Date:* Fri, 06 Oct 2006 00:18:16 GMT
- 

Personally i would delete all the logs from 3/10 and 4/10.

I also dig out other old logs when I touch a server. I look at old logs in System32/log files which seems to have plenty of logs that most will never look at.

On Thu, 5 Oct 2006 09:02:02 -0700, colin <[colin@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:colin@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx)> wrote:

I like the DLT tape solution as well but it would cost the customer huge bucks, plus at least 6 new tapes. I will look into that option and at least give my customer the costs. But I need to resolve this problem first as it's getting worse according to this mornings failed backup. Looking at the MDBDATA folder there are 247 log files dated 3/10/06, 116 log files from 4/10/06 and 6 from today. priv1.edb is dated 3/10/06. I haven't tried rebooting the server yet and I'm going in there this morning to install 3 new workstations so maybe I can kick everyone off for a reboot.

What do you think about the B/U Exec for SBS? Is it inferior to SBS Backup? It would use up less tape capacity so solving my full tape problem, at least for a year or so. The rate this customer is growing the DLT solution is probably a good idea but if I can tell them it's a year away they would be happier.

Thanks for your help....

Colin

"Jim Behning" wrote:

Bigger tape drive is a better solution. I have fought tape size at a few accounts. A DLT drive makes that go away. If the Exchange lost track of those logs meaning it is not using those logs any more then the backup will never delete those old logs. You can move them but you need to know what you are moving. I would stop the information store and restart it. I would then move the really old logs and see if

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things work. Note that I said I would. I am not really recommending you yank all the logs out because some may actual be in use.

You should take note of logs that are a day or two old. Run the backup of the information store to see which ones disappear. It will probably flush away the ones that are around since the last backup but not the ones dated today or the ones that are really old. You should be able to move the really old logs. Don't delete logs just in case you grabbed some good ones. Note that you really need to pay attention. If you mess with the wrong logs you have to suffer some repairs that sometimes do not work.

On Wed, 4 Oct 2006 23:51:22 -0500, "Les Connor [SBS Community Member - SBS MVP]" <les.connor@xxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote:

There could be two or even three problems.

Something is wrong with backup if the logfiles aren't being committed and flushed. Or, they are being flushed, but are building up at a very fast rate. What are the dates/times of the logfiles? Are they older than the most recent backup, or newer. You might try an NTbackup of exchange only to see what's going on.

If you could post an SBSbackup logfile, that might shed some light as well.

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Les Connor [SBS Community Member - SBS MVP]

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SBS Rocks !

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"Tell me and I'll forget. Show me and I'll remember. Involve me and I'll understand." - Confucius

"colin" <colin@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote in message

[news:1ACC4ACC-E4F9-435B-B03F-6D0A6F76D38F@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:news:1ACC4ACC-E4F9-435B-B03F-6D0A6F76D38F@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx)

Thanks Les, yes I was aware of the reason Exchange is backed up twice. The problem is the tape drive is a DAT72 and I have excluded everything I can

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using the SBS Wizard but Windows and Exchange alone are almost exceeding the capacity of the tape. I have another DAT72 drive on the Terminal Server backing up the data. That is what's happening now, the backup failed because the Exchange log files are growing (over 300 log files in the MDBData folder), NTBackup isn't clearing them out and so the tape pops out when it's full. Is B/u Exec for SBS not a better idea? I've not used it on a SBS before but it looks good on Symantec's web site (of course), the disaster recovery is one big feature.

Let me know what you think....

Colin

"Les Connor [SBS Community Member – SBS M]" wrote:

Hi Colin,

Be aware that there's a reason why Exchange is backed up twice using SBS Backup. The backups aren't exactly the same – one is an exchange aware backup which commits and flushes the logfiles, the other is a flat file backup. The reason the second (flat file) backup is performed is for ease of recovery. i.e. if you follow the SBS backup and restore documentation (which is a complete and proven method), you'll need SBS Backup.

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BE might be fine for the backup half of the equation, but they're not very helpful when it comes to the restore, which is the reason you back up in the first place ;-).

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Les Connor [SBS  
Community Member – SBS  
MVP]

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SBS Rocks !

---

"Tell me and I'll forget.  
Show me and I'll remember.  
Involve me and I'll  
understand." – Confucius

"colin"

<colin@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>

wrote in message

[news:684656BB-A6A3-4C72-92EF-27686C880E87@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:news:684656BB-A6A3-4C72-92EF-27686C880E87@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx)

Thanks for  
the reply  
Kevin,

I did backup  
the  
Microsoft  
Information  
Store as I  
mentioned  
but it  
didn't  
remove the  
log files.  
NTBackup  
(using the  
SBS  
Backup  
Wizard) is  
scheduled  
to  
run nightly

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and has  
been  
removing  
them OK up  
to now.  
That's why I  
ran  
it  
again  
manually  
but the files  
remain.

Funny you  
mentioned  
Backup  
Exec in  
your reply.  
I'm actually  
going to  
install  
the trial  
B/U Exec  
for SBS  
soon and  
convince  
the  
customer to  
switch.  
One  
problem  
with the  
SBS  
Backup  
wizard is it  
backs up the  
IS twice  
using up  
the  
tape space.  
I'm hoping  
that B/U  
Exec only  
does a  
single  
backup of  
the  
IS.

Should I  
just install

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the trial  
B/U Exec  
and  
abandon  
SBS  
Backup?

Regards,

Colin

"Kevin  
Weilbacher"  
wrote:

you  
need  
to  
rerun  
your  
NTBackup,  
and  
drill  
down  
on  
the  
left  
pane  
Microsoft  
Exchange  
Server  
>  
YourServerName  
>  
Microsoft  
Information  
Store  
--  
and  
back  
that  
up.  
That  
will  
remove  
the  
.log  
files.

As

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far  
as  
Backup  
Exec  
not  
working,  
generally  
when  
you  
install  
BE,  
it  
loads  
its  
own  
Veritas  
tape  
drivers,  
which  
then  
makes  
NTBackup  
not  
function.  
The  
fact  
that  
NTBackup  
"seems"  
to  
work,  
may  
indictae  
something  
is  
broke  
or  
disabled  
in  
BE.

Essentially,  
you  
either  
use  
BE  
or  
you  
use  
NTBackup.

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Kevin  
Weilbacher  
[SBS-MVP]  
"The  
days  
pass  
by  
so  
quickly  
now,  
the  
nights  
are  
seldom  
long"

"colin"  
<colin@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>

wrote  
in  
message  
[news:416351EC-0217-4778-AFC9-7CF362DF4BE0@xxx](mailto:news:416351EC-0217-4778-AFC9-7CF362DF4BE0@xxx)

I  
have  
a  
server  
running  
SBS  
2003  
with  
Exchange  
SP2.  
I've  
noticed  
that  
there  
are  
over  
300  
log  
files  
in  
the  
MDBDATA  
folder  
and  
running

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the  
nightly  
backup  
doesn't  
clear  
them.  
So  
I  
ran  
NTBackup  
and  
selected  
only  
the  
IS  
but  
they  
are  
still  
there.  
I  
haven't  
made  
any  
changes  
or  
modified  
Exchange  
to  
increase  
it's  
maximum  
Store  
size  
from  
the  
default  
of  
16GB.  
priv1.edb  
is  
6.8GB,  
priv1.stm  
4.5GB,  
pub1.edb  
5.8GB.  
Do  
I  
need  
to  
make

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the  
registry  
change  
to  
increase  
the  
Store  
limit?  
Do  
I  
have  
to  
reboot  
the  
Server?

Anyone  
have  
an  
idea  
why  
these  
log  
files  
are  
still  
there?

Colin