

Re: Exchange log files growing

Source:

<http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/Windows/microsoft.public.windows.server.sbs/2006-10/msg01567.html>

- *From:* "Les Connor [SBS Community Member – SBS MVP]" <les.connor@xxxxxxxxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* Thu, 5 Oct 2006 21:34:37 –0500
-

I didn't want to mention the capacity issue until the exchange log issue was cleared up. Good work, (but If you use SBSbackup this kind of thing doesn't happen). But what you're doing by excluding data to make up for undersized backup capacity isn't right ;-). Better even to switch to a pair of USB drives, than start excluding data. Look at it this way – in the event the backups are required to recover from a disaster, the cost of using the backup with the excluded data may exceed the cost of biting the bullet now.

--
Les Connor [SBS Community Member – SBS MVP]

SBS Rocks !

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

"colin" <colin@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote in message
news:F568765B-2E45-491D-914E-DE256FFDDD82@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

Thanks for your help but I figured it out.. Turns out that when I performed a manual NTBackup of the Information Store I had the Backup Type set to Copy instead of Normal (dumb mistake on my part). With it set that way it won't clean out the log files. I ran NTBackup set to Normal and everything looks good now.

Now I can install the B/U Exec for SBS Trial and see if it solves my tape capacity problem.

Regards,

Colin

"Jim Behning" wrote:

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

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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@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx> 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

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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 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

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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.

--

Les Connor [SBS
Community Member – SBS
MVP]

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:1ACC4ACC-E4F9-435B-B03F-6D0A6F76D38F@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

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
using the
SBS Wizard
but
Windows
and

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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

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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

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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
;-).

--
Les
Connor
[SBS
Community
Member

—
SBS
MVP]

SBS
Rocks
!

"Tell
me

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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@xxx

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

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Backup
Wizard)
is
scheduled
to
run
nightly
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

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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
the
trial
B/U
Exec
and
abandon
SBS
Backup?

Regards,

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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
far
as
Backup
Exec
not
working,
generally
when
you

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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.

--
Kevin
Weilbacher
[SBS-MVP]
"The
days
pass
by
so

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quickly
now,
the
nights
are
seldom
long"

"colin"
<colin@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>
wrote
in
message
news:416351EC-0217-4778-AFC9-7CF36

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
the
nightly
backup
doesn't
clear
them.
So
I
ran

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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
the
registry
change
to
increase
the
Store
limit?
Do

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I
have
to
reboot
the
Server?

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

Colin