

1.1 MessageSolution, Inc.

www.MessageSolution.com

Product: *Enterprise File Archive Suite*

MessageSolution's file archiving product, Enterprise File Archive Suite (EFA) was initially released late in 2007, most of customers who have selected the MessageSolution e-mail archiving product and have decided to add file archiving as well. The product is available for Windows, NetWare, Solaris, Linux and Mac OS, however the company's customers are all Windows today.

EFA is targeted at organizations that are looking to reduce storage costs associated with file data, and who would like to include file content as part of their e-discovery activity and readiness. Policies for archiving are defined using file system metadata, and data is migrated to secondary storage targets that can include EMC Centera, NetApp SnapLock, and disk (SAN, NAS, DAS). Files are stored in a flat file archive and are compressed, single instanced and full-text indexed. Optionally, files can also be encrypted. Stub files are created on primary storage and provide transparent access to the original data in the archive. A desktop plug-in is required to view stubbed data, which can be installed interactively or via a silent installer. Stubs can be deleted and when deleted, users with the right access permissions can access archived data via a web browser or via the MessageSolution file archiving client. MessageSolution also positions the archive as a tool for file restore.

Since the files themselves are indexed, search of the archive based on keyword and other file content is supported. Legal hold is supported for individual files from within EFA. MessageSolution does offer an e-discovery product called Enterprise Email Archive E-Discovery, however the focus of this product is on e-mail rather than file content. The company plans to enhance support for files and other content types in the near future.

Pricing is based on a base software system cost plus capacity (file data volume to be archived). MessageSolution offers remote installation and charges a deployment fee for this. Enterprise File Archive Suite is also offered as a hosted service.

1.1.1 Strengths

- Deployment can be done remotely via the web, by MessageSolution implementation technicians
- No requirement for additional database licenses (i.e. SQL Server licenses) for the archive
- MessageSolutions offers both on-premises software and a hosted (i.e. SaaS) solution for file archiving
- Administrative interface is available in Chinese (Simplified and Traditional) and Japanese, supporting MessageSolution's focus on growing business in Asia

1.1.2 Challenges

- While product is available for non-Windows platforms, lack of deployments in these environments means few references are available today
- Client plug-ins required to access archived data