



### **e-Space is a Lifesaver for Users and System Management**

#### **ABOUT HEWITT ASSOCIATES, LLC**

Hewitt Associates, LLC is a global management consulting firm specializing in human resource solutions. With 1996 revenues of \$568 million, Hewitt made its debut on Forbes magazine's list of "Top 500 Private Companies" in 1996 at number 357, and ranked as the benefit consulting industry's 1996 growth leader, as reported by Business Insurance magazine. Headquartered in Lincolnshire, Illinois, Hewitt services more than 2800 clients from 65 offices in 28 countries and has over 6000 employees.

#### **THE STORAGE ISSUE**

Today's e-Commerce, network globalization, large email installations, document imaging and other forms of data are pushing storage technologies to the limit. Corporations of all sizes are reevaluating their storage budgets in an effort to keep pace with overwhelming amounts of data and, with SAN (Storage Area Network) interoperability still in question, there has been little relief in sight.

While the price per megabyte of disk space continues to drop, applications tend to use more data, and companies are keeping data around longer. Adding more disk space becomes a temporary solution for a permanent problem. Disk space needs continue to grow, consume hardware budgets and force IT departments to manage larger quantities of data.

#### **HEWITT ASSOCIATES' CHALLENGE**

Hewitt's business is growing, and with it the need for disk space to house critical data related to its customers' HR, benefits, compensation, and actuarial strategies. Government audit reporting requirements and Year 2000 testing have further increased Hewitt's disk space demands, due to the need to duplicate programs and data.

Before e-Space's online archiving capability, Hewitt would archive data to a high-capacity tape device attached to a remote system. Archiving data from this device could take awhile, since the process required operator intervention and the device could be servicing other users, so there would be a wait to get to the data. According to Art Payne, an HP 3000 System Manager at Hewitt, "e-Space's online archiving of infrequently used data has been a big lifesaver for both users and system management."

## THE e-SPACE SOLUTION

e-Space is the only software that automatically compresses data files and archives them online, based on assigned policy. Benefits to the enterprise include increased online storage capacity, less downtime, and savings in storage management time and cost. Time is saved in performing faster network transfers, restores, and disaster recovery.

In the past, common solutions for increasing online storage space have included archiving files offline or near line, to tape or to HSM. These methods were time-consuming and made the data less accessible for quick online use. Manual compression software products have been inefficient for general archiving because they change the file names or attributes and make it hard for users to find and use their files. e-Space compresses files, without changing the names or attributes, so that the files remain online for easy user access 24x7-for e-business, regulatory compliance, customer service, and historical analysis.

Disk space savings by e-Space vary based upon the compression policies set for e-Space. Hewitt defined e-Space's set-and-forget configuration to compress test files that had not been accessed for two weeks and other files that had not been accessed for a month. This regularly saves 50 GB of disk space.

During the months of October through January, demand for disk space increases. During this peak period, Hewitt uses e-Space's on-demand compression to compress additional files to recover more disk space. Not only has Hewitt's use of e-Space reclaimed more than 20 percent of its HP3000's disk space, e-Space has also made system backups quicker. In fact, the speed of some backups has more than doubled, while dramatically reducing the number of tapes. Compressed data means less data to transfer to the tape drive and less data to store.

Hewitt HP 3000 System Manager, Art Payne said, "e-Space is truly a 'set and forget' product, which is perfect for a busy System Manager like me. e-Space has decreased our backup window, saved us thousands of dollars in hardware purchases, and freed up our operators from juggling disk space. In addition, it has greatly reduced our need to service user requests because users can always find the data they need online."