

IBM Client Storage Assessment

Highlights

- Reports storage configuration, capacity, utilization and efficiency
 - Recommends changes for improved service, better utilization, and efficiency
 - Delivers a financial case for implementing the recommended configuration
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For many enterprises, hardware costs, optimization of data placements, rapid data growth, and running out of physical space are among the most common storage challenges.¹ While these are familiar challenges, the starting point for addressing them is a proper understanding of the current storage environment to guide building a plan for improvement. Creating this understanding is often limited by inadequate tooling and the additional complexities introduced by multi-vendor environments.

IBM Client Storage Assessment (CSA) is a no-charge offering that helps to create this understanding. CSA provides in-depth insights into your current multi-vendor storage environment and builds a differential business case that compares the cost of continuing as today with aligning to a proposed alternative solution over a three year operating period.

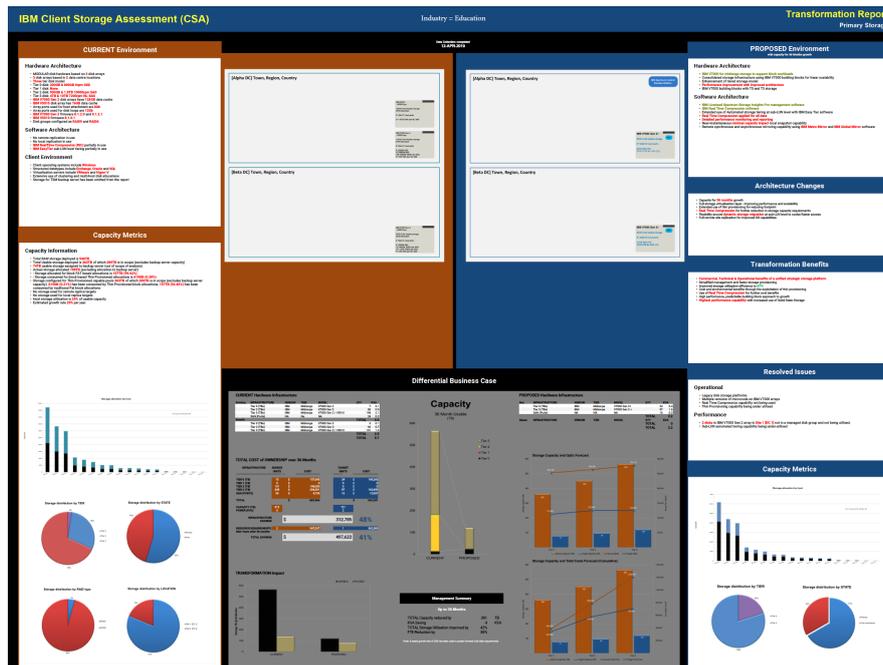
CSA Deliverables

A comprehensive, easy to read, single page report, enabling you to visualize and understand:

Reality: A true reflection of your current storage environment: issues, configuration, capacity, consumption, utilization, and efficiency metrics.

A better option: An optimized strategic configuration designed to deliver improved levels of service coupled with enhanced levels of capacity utilization and efficiency.

Business case: A financial business case substantiating the savings that can be realized by aligning to a proposed strategic solution instead of continuing as-is today.



Sample CSA report

All assessments are completed using a light-touch metadata-only approach to data collection that has been tried and tested globally with thousands of customers in multi-vendor environments. Produced within 3–5 days of data collection and combined with a follow-up workshop, this is an ideal way to visualize how your storage and backup capabilities could better align with the demands of your business.

CSA Benefits

IBM has conducted over 2,500 CSA assessments worldwide. Typical benefits seen by our clients include:

Insights: Gain new insights into your storage environment covering where data resides and how efficiently your assets are being consumed.

TCO savings: Understand the potential to deliver significant cost-of-ownership savings. Projected benefits in these assessments are typically in the region of 30 to 50 percent over a three-year period.

Data Collection

To create an IBM Client Storage Assessment report, clients access an IBM CSA self-service portal to download and execute a Unified Data Collector (UDC), which gathers storage-related metadata from the client storage environment. Clients send the collected storage metadata to IBM through the same portal. The UDC is agentless, runs on Microsoft Windows, and connects using SSH to storage management and backup servers, as well as traditional storage controllers and appliances.

The data collector gathers information only about the storage environment and associated consumption. It does not access application servers or customer data.

IBM takes the task of securing client data very seriously and applies measures to ensure mobile data risk is minimized by providing a secure transfer access point, ensuring that static data resides in a secure location, and that the analytics database and associated applications are locked down through individual user (not group-wide) access credentials. Additional details about data security are available.

1. "ESG Master Survey Results: 2019 Data Storage Trends," November 2019.
<https://www.esg-global.com/research/esg-master-survey-results-2019-data-storage-trends>

Supported Environments

Storage systems	Block and file storage systems from IBM, Dell-EMC, HDS, HP, NetApp, and Pure Storage
Backup environments	IBM Spectrum Protect, arcserve, Commvault, Dell-EMC Avamar, Dell-EMC NetWorker, Micro Focus Data Protector, Microsoft DPM, Veeam, Veritas NetBackup, Veritas BackupExec

Why IBM?

As a trusted supplier of storage software for more than 20 years, IBM has helped thousands of organizations improve data access and availability, and get costs under control. IBM gives you confidence your data will be available when you need it, and recoverable anytime. IBM research innovations and best practices developed from hands-on field experience combine to provide a solid foundation for building successful business outcomes.

For more information

To learn more about IBM Client Storage Assessment, please contact your IBM representative or IBM Business Partner.

IBM Maintenance and Technical Support solutions can help you get the most out of your IT investment by reducing support costs, increasing availability and simplifying management with integrated support for your multiproduct, multivendor hardware and software environment. For more information on hardware maintenance, software support, solution support and managed support, visit:

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