



NearPoint Solved the Case for Law Firm Kirton & McConkie



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— Joel Woodall
Network Administrator

CUSTOMER PROFILE:

Kirton and McConkie, Utah’s largest law firm, was having trouble managing their growing Exchange database and providing service to their 170 users so they went shopping for an email management solution. They found what they were looking for with Mimosa NearPoint.

Solution

Using Mimosa NearPoint, Kirton & McConkie has shrunk their Exchange Database from 120 GB to an efficient 20 GB. They are also able to search the email archive for legal discovery in minutes—a task that used to take days.

Benefits

- Saved 100 GB of total Exchange storage by deploying NearPoint’s Mailbox Extension feature
- Reduced time and costs of searching email records for legal discovery
- Restored an entire mailbox in minutes saving hours compared to tape based recovery
- Fully protects email data without impacting the Exchange server

Overview

As one of Utah’s largest law firms, Kirton & McConkie provides its clients with a full range of legal services both in the United States and internationally. The firm takes pride in providing quality legal work at a reasonable price to all of its clients, whether they are individuals, small businesses, large corporations, or multinational institutions. Kirton & McConkie has received the highest rating for professional and ethical standards by Martindale-Hubbell, and is listed in the prestigious Bar Register in its list of “preeminent law firms” in the United States.

The Situation

The Salt Lake City law firm has 70 lawyers and additional support staff who use email as a primary method to communicate with each other, clients, investigators and others essential to their cases. For Kirton & McConkie, email has become the most important record of business communication. They had used a backup product to perform a full Exchange database backup on the weekends and incremental backups during the week but the tape backup software did not support the ability to search for information contained in an email or attachment. Additionally, increased activity and large attachments, sometimes as big as 2 or 3 gigabytes, had grown the Exchange database to an unmanageable 120 GB. The risk of losing pertinent information was daunting, and managing email data and maintaining seamless access to archived information became a mission-critical task.

Search for Email Archiving Solution Ended with Mimosa NearPoint

Joel Woodall, Kirton & McConkie’s Network Administrator was immediately impressed with Mimosa System’s NearPoint, a unified solution that provides email archiving, recovery and storage management. NearPoint promised to relieve the storage pressure caused by Kirton & McConkie’s “save everything” policy and to create “super-sized” mailboxes for the partners and staff. NearPoint also promised to provide easy access to the indexed email archive for partners and staff to perform quick legal discovery using the NearPoint eDiscovery Option, an add-on to Mimosa NearPoint.

Restoring messages and attachments was equally important. “We were relying on disk-to-disk and tape backup, but restoring data from backup tapes could take up to three days. Fortunately, we have never experienced a catastrophic loss requiring full restoration of data, but we did have the need to restore individual messages or string of messages. Although this was virtually impossible to do using the traditional tape backup solution, NearPoint could accomplish that in just minutes,” says Woodall.

NearPoint Benefits for Data Protection

With NearPoint deployed, now all of Kirton & McConkie’s Exchange data is protected using the NearPoint Application Shadowing which is a continuous data protection method. Using NearPoint, there is no long “backup window”



because everything is captured in near real-time using the Exchange transaction log files. Adds Woodall, “Before NearPoint we were at risk of losing up to a week’s worth of data but now if the server should go down or become corrupt, the potential for data loss is minimal. This gives everyone peace of mind.” Now all of Kirton & McConkie’s email data is protected without impacting the firm’s productivity.

NearPoint Benefits for Reducing Exchange Storage

Using NearPoint, Woodall has eliminated mailbox quotas for end users, providing them with “super-size” mailboxes. With NearPoint Mailbox Extension, Woodall defined policies that allowed mailboxes on the Exchange Servers to be extended to the NearPoint server. Messages were then migrated using parameters such as message size and age and mailbox size watermarks. Using these policies, NearPoint extracted the appropriate messages and attachments and replaced them with stub files that point to the copy of the message residing on the NearPoint server.

Woodall instituted policies that extracted messages older than 30 days and larger than 500 KB. This allowed him to “shrink” the Exchange database by 100 GB. Today the Exchange database is an efficient 20 GB.

NearPoint Benefits for Legal Discovery

At Kirton & McConkie, the IT staff often receives requests from partners or staff asking to find email communication for a case or client. In the past, this was a difficult and time-consuming procedure. With NearPoint’s eDiscovery Option deployed, partners and staff can quickly perform large and sophisticated search and discovery across all Exchange items including emails, calendar entries, contacts, etc. A wide range of search features allow messages to be easily discovered and culled, including multi-level searches, identifying BCCs, and tracing conversation threads. What used to take almost a day’s work to accomplish now takes minutes.

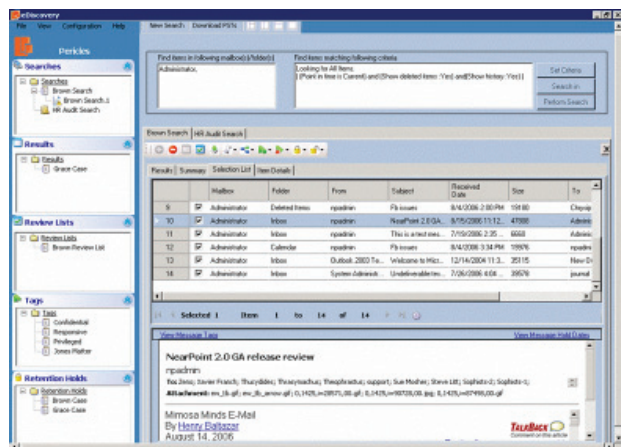


Figure 1: NearPoint eDiscovery Option provides powerful collaborative search capabilities.

“Last year, we had a legal case that required full search and discovery of all email communication for a particular client. Without NearPoint, we had to mount and search old backup tapes, a process that took days and weeks and countless man hours. Using NearPoint, we can quickly search our entire email archive in minutes,” declares Woodall.

Benefits Delivered Across the Organization

With 175 users now using NearPoint, Kirton & McConkie is realizing benefits across the organization, from reducing storage on Exchange, to allowing fast search and discovery of all the archived data, all while improving overall Exchange Server performance.

NearPoint: Unified Information Management for Exchange

Mimosa NearPoint delivers a unified information management solution for archiving, eDiscovery, recovery, data protection and storage management. Contact Mimosa today to see how NearPoint can solve your critical Exchange challenges.

Microsoft
GOLD CERTIFIED
Partner

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About Mimosa Systems

Mimosa Systems, Inc. delivers next-generation information management solutions with Mimosa NearPoint™, providing a live content archive for Microsoft® Exchange Server. NearPoint unifies archiving, eDiscovery, recovery and storage management in a single solution, assuring email continuity and regulatory.



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