The objective of this assessment is to provide recommendations for effective storage management associated with a virtualized server environment. Storage best practice is addressed alongside business requirements for effective backup to ensure that performance requirements are met.

**TARGET AUDIENCE**

Customers who are considering or planning to virtualize servers and want to understand the impact on storage infrastructure.

**STORAGE CHALLENGES**

- With virtualization, storage consolidation is necessary.
- Reallocation of storage per application.
- Ensure that performance meets business needs.
- Need to modify backup and adjust processes according to the virtual server environment.

**POTENTIAL KEY BENEFITS**

- The implementation of an appropriate storage and backup environment for a virtual server infrastructure.
- Identify backup and recovery improvements.
- Effective storage management.
- Improved application performance.

**SCOPE**

Data collection typically runs over a 30-day period to help ensure month-end performance data collection. This allows the gathering of data to forecast and show data growth trends.

**KEY SERVICE STEPS**

- Pre-assessment Preparation.
- Onsite Project Kickoff.
- Data Collection and Validation.
- Customer Interviews.
- Analysis and Recommendations.
- Final Report Presentation.

**DELIVERABLES**

- Recommendations for the ideal storage infrastructure relative to a virtual server environment.
- Determination of potential storage infrastructure improvements and additional hardware requirements to achieve maximum efficiency in your environment.
- Determination of a storage infrastructure that addresses current needs and is capable of scaling to meet foreseeable sizing requirements.
- Assessment readiness report as well as onsite presentation of findings.
SERVICE HIGHLIGHT

ROLES & RESPONSIBILITIES

Dell Consultant
- The Dell Solution Architect will conduct the assessment, analyze data and deliver the final presentation with recommendations.
- A Technical Consultant to implement IT Tools.

Customer IT Management
- Ensure that technical staff are available to provide technical information during interviews and assist with the implementation of tools if required.
- IT Management to provide business objectives during interviews and sign off the final engagement.
- Conduct a complete and current backup of any existing data on affected storage systems.
- Provide an accurate inventory of servers and storage in electronic form prior to kickoff.

CUSTOMER RESPONSIBILITIES
- Complete a pre-assessment survey to accurately scope the assessment.
- Provide a workstation or server connected to a network.
- Provide a server with Microsoft Windows 2000/2003, Solaris, Linux or desktop/laptop running Windows XP with 2 GB.
- Provide appropriate security privileges to run the assessment tools.

DELL RESPONSIBILITIES
- Install and run discovery tools that will be used to gather profile information.
- Meet with key business and IT stakeholders to help ensure that the latest and accurate environment information is available.
- Collect and evaluate information regarding stored data and use, distribution and value to the organization.
- Provide an analysis of physical and logical layout of the environment, server, storage and connectivity.
- Produce a report with recommendations for improvement.

Not Included with this Service
- Training.
- Any activities other than those specifically noted in this service description.
- A complete backup of all existing data and programs on applicable systems prior to Dell arriving at the location to deliver this service.