

Northern Storage Suite version 8

Northern Storage Suite V8 includes over 1000 innovations and changes – it offers improved user-experience, increased administrative efficiencies and decreased storage costs.

Three changes stand out as major new reasons to deploy Northern Storage Suite:

1. **THE DASHBOARD**

An interface and emailed analysis that intelligently highlights current and future problem areas as well as providing tactical advice as to how predicted issues can be resolved and how dangerous usage trends can be reversed.

Dashboard means no more manual digging for storage information, no more missed issues. It means faster storage policy design and better policy control.

2. **ADVANCED QUOTA OPTIONS FOR DAS AND NETAPP NAS**

Storage quotas, whether reporting/monitoring quotas or locking/system-protection quotas, can now be tuned to fit very specific needs.

Multiple new Direct Attached Storage options include the possibility to not count specific sub-paths or file types towards a storage quota; create soft quotas for users but don't count PST files towards the quota. You can set global policies but lift restrictions for specific users or groups. Set quotas on specific file types; allow some JPG files, but only a fixed amount. Set a policy that only allows Microsoft Office files to be saved in a project folder.

For NetApp administrators Northern Storage Suite V8 introduces Hybrid quotas; a unique combination of monitoring and locking/unlocking technologies that makes NSS the most scalable NetApp quota solution available. NetApp customers also now get the possibility to set quotas on user accounts, exclude sub-paths from quota calculations and exclude users from global policies.

3. **HIGH PERFORMANCE NAS QUOTAS**

An advanced piece of software engineering that dramatically accelerates quota response times in NAS [all CIFS compliant] environments. It cuts network traffic and Disk I/O impact to levels unrivalled among other quota solutions today.

Northern Storage Suite V8 maintains a fast access list of the 400,000 most active files in each managed volume – a list that is automatically populated and updated as files are used. When a change occurs within one of these files, instead of rescanning the quota path, V8 simply adds the new size to the known size and immediately updates the quota; sending notifications, locking/unlocking, etc.

EVOLUTIONARY CHANGES

In addition to revolutionary advances, Northern Storage Suite V8 introduces evolutionary changes that make day-to-day storage administration more straightforward and less time-consuming.

4. **Start Page**

A single entry point displaying the latest Dashboard results offers an intuitive place to begin and direct access to the most relevant tools within the suite.

- Starting with a comprehensive overview makes administration more focussed

5. **Quota Wizard**

Northern Storage Suite V8 introduces a new method of designing and deploying quotas that is linear and more goal-driven.

- A linear wizard eases usage by hiding irrelevant options and concepts

6. **Smart Quota Columns**

Storage Administrators can now populate their quota interface with information collected from Active Directory. Show group, department, email address, directory owner, etc. for each quota/user.

- Enhanced mass-management is offered by the possibility to display, sort and filter according to properties of target accounts and directory owner accounts

7. **Graphical Report Output**

Now administrators can view the results of scheduled reports as pie, column and line charts – a more interesting and distributable way of communicating data.

- A rich, graphical output communicates information faster and more accurately

8. **Grouped Report Output**

Northern Storage Suite V8 introduces the possibility to group report output – offering the possibility to draw more conclusions from each report result.

- Group the result of a media files report to identify users who are saving mp4, mov and wmv files and how much space each user absorbs with these files

9. **Folder Level Reporting**

Viewing usage, usage by user and file type by user at each individual level within a file structure speeds the identification of bottle-necks and reclaimable capacity.

- Reveal usage at each individual level within a file structure – immediately identify the few directories responsible for the overall size of the structure

10. **Exchange Report**

V8 strengthens Northern Storage Suite's Exchange features by including the possibility to report on mailbox size.

- Control file system and email storage through a single application and with a unified policy

11. **Quota Report**

Northern Storage Suite V8 introduces the possibility to report on the size and usage of its storage quotas in the form of a scheduled report – joining quota status with quota content.

- Make storage quotas a part of your management policy and monitor their use alongside reports on file types, growth trends etc.

UPGRADING

Upgrade paths are available for customers who are members of the Northern Customer Support Program. Contact your local Northern representative for information on what is available to you.

CROSS-GRADING

Cross-grade paths are available for platform changes. Customers using Northern Storage Suite towards Windows devices who wish to begin managing NetApp NAS devices can take advantage of a platform cross-grade policy. Contact your local Northern representative for information on what is available to you.