

# **Archiving Challenge Summary**

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# Presentation Highlights

- Challenges with current archive client:
  - Lack of cross-platform compatibility
  - Inability to rebind archived data to a different management class
- Define what kind of archival approach is needed to meet your requirements
- TSM as the universal media manager for backup/archive including support for technology migration

# Is TSM a suitable tool for archiving data?

- Yes, as long as we continue to migrate to new media technologies.
- Remember TSM is a tool, but not the solution. Select the appropriate components: TSM B/A, TSM API with archival application, TSM/HSM.

# Is the client node an appropriate archiving platform?

- Most of the group did not think so.
- The client and/or essential applications may not be available when retrieval is needed.

# Will the data come back in 5, 10, 20 years?

- Yes, certainly in 5 to 10 years; probably will in 20 years.
- Pessimistic about very long retention since many migrations of data will be necessary in that time frame and applications may change significantly or no longer be supported.
- Reluctance to trust proprietary formats.

# What are we doing now?

- There are many interim solutions:
  - Conventional TSM archiving and hoping for the best
  - Writing custom APIs to fill gaps in functionality
  - ‘Freezing’ fully configured machines for future use
- We know we should test archival data for accessibility and readability on a regular schedule. This is not routinely done.

# What is our preferred direction?

- Platform and O/S independence
- Self describing data and data formats
- New TSM archive client using application-oriented retention methodology
- Compliant formats that will be readable in NN(N) years.





# Technology/Methodology Issues

- Media rotation is required at least every 3 to 5 years.
- Technology migration strategies should be considered during planning phase.
- We need tracking/notification systems to detect when key applications or other aspects of our environments have substantially changed. At some point we may no longer be able to support legacy data retrieved from the archive.

# Conclusions

- Standards are going to be essential
- Need to define an Information Lifecycle Management (ILM) model for information, data and storage