

**AXS-One White Paper**

## **AXS-ONE DYNAMIC DATA MIGRATOR™**

Migrating E-mail from Lotus Notes to Microsoft Exchange



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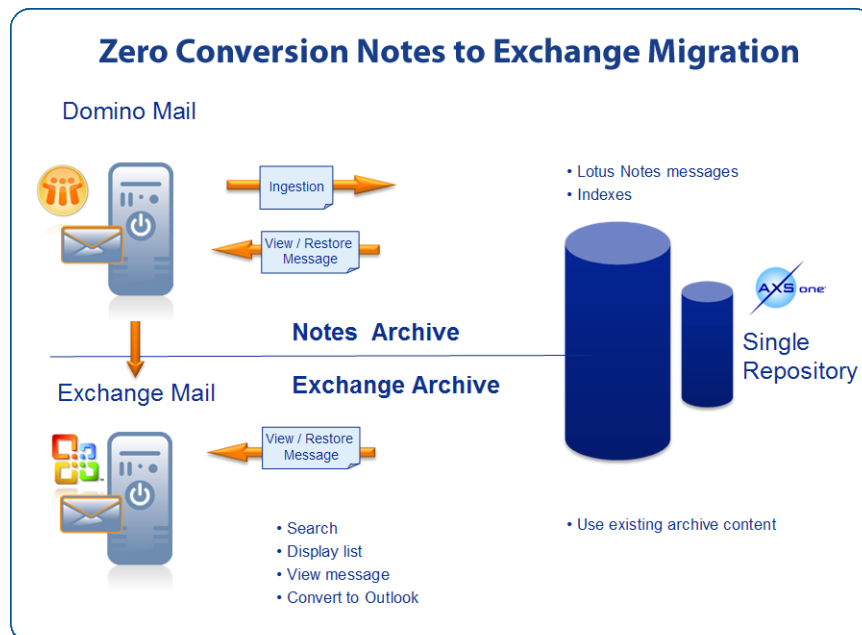
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## BACKGROUND

Lotus Notes/Domino (Notes) to Microsoft Exchange (Exchange) migrations are generally painful and costly processes. In particular, the migration of mail stores raises a number of issues:

- What are the costs associated with migrating messages (sometimes terabytes) from the Notes mail server to the new Exchange environment?
- Can you successfully complete migration of the messaging platform without converting all messages from Notes to Exchange?
- For how long do both systems have to co-exist?
- What is the impact on infrastructure requirements for your new Exchange environment?
- How do you minimize the impact on end users and ensure they continue to have access to their Notes e-mail once they have migrated to Exchange?
- How can you ensure that messages converted from Notes to Exchange retain their fidelity and evidentiary weight when migrating from one platform to another?
- How can you ensure that messages and any attachments and links have been accurately migrated?

This document outlines the process for providing continuous access to e-mail originating on a Domino server after the customer has migrated to a Microsoft Exchange environment. Dynamic Data Migrator, AXS-One's patent-pending technology, has been developed to provide access to original Notes messages without the costs and risks associated with converting them to Exchange.



## BEFORE MIGRATION

Prior to migration, messages are archived from Notes using AXS-Link for Lotus Notes™, AXS-One's Notes archiving software. Flexible archival rules (such as age of message, soft quotas, message size and content) will dictate which messages are archived. AXS-Link for Lotus Notes "crawls" users' mailboxes, removing original e-mails from the mailbox (and the message server). Messages can be stubbed, shortcut or removed entirely from the mailbox. Users have access to archived e-mail either directly from their mailbox (when messages are shortcut or stubbed) and/or via a web-based search portal. The process is transparent to end-users and requires no training.

Full offline/laptop support is provided to ensure that mobile users continue to have access to archived data while disconnected from the network.

The product is highly configurable, allowing users with appropriate access rights to view the archived messages of other users. This allows the archived messages of specific users or all users to be searched and retrieved in the event of an audit, legal discovery and litigation or other search requirements.

## AT MIGRATION

Customers determine how much "active" e-mail – messages in users' mailboxes - must be migrated from the Notes to the Exchange environment. For instance, only messages less than 30 days old will remain in users' mailboxes and be migrated. All other messages will be archived, using AXS-Link for Lotus Notes, and archived messages removed from the mailbox and mail server. The archived messages will continue to be available to users via the web-based search portal.

## AFTER MIGRATION

When users' e-mail environments are migrated from Notes to Exchange, they will continue to have access to their "legacy" Notes mail through the web-based search portal. Access to the portal can be directly from a web page or via a "My Archive" folder in Outlook which will automatically take them to the web portal, without requiring additional authentication (using Windows integrated authentication).

Users will continue to be able to search for and view their archived/legacy Notes mail, which will remain unchanged, in its original format. This will allow users to have continuous access to their original Notes message including:

- Attachments
- Electronic signatures
- Encryption
- Links to Notes applications

→ Web links

If and when users want to view messages from Outlook and work with them in the same way as an original Exchange message (reply, reply all, forward), the AXS-One Dynamic Data Migrator will dynamically translate messages from the Notes message format into the Exchange message format. The original, unchanged message will continue to exist in the AXS-One archive.

Authorized users will continue to be able to search for and retrieve the archived messages of specific users or all users in the event of an audit, legal discovery and litigation or other search requirements.

## **E-MAIL MIGRATION AND DOMINO APPLICATIONS**

One of the challenges to migration is in the area of Notes applications. Organizations that use Lotus Domino as an application development environment must consider the impact of their application environment when planning to migrate to Microsoft Exchange. For example, Notes e-mail messages may contain links to live Domino applications. Migration projects are delayed or constantly postponed while decisions regarding if, when and how to migrate Domino applications are reviewed.

The timelines and budgets associated with migrating messaging platform mean that organizations may have to compromise their business processes and be locked into one of the following options as part of their e-mail conversion project plan:

- Preserve the Domino application links in the converted messages.
- Convert the Domino applications links to web enabled Domino applications. Since not all applications will be converted at the time of e-mail conversion, some of these links will not work.
- Convert the Domino applications links to SharePoint applications. Since most of the applications will not be converted at the time of e-mail conversion, most of these links will not work.

Traditional migration projects require this decision to be made up front which may not be the right longer term choice of the organization.

## **ALTERNATIVE APPROACH**

The Dynamic Data Migrator provides an alternative approach, where Notes messages are archived and continuous access is given to end users. Messages can be viewed directly from the archive or dynamically converted to Microsoft Exchange format and presented to the end user.

The conversion process will be performed based on the current business and technical environment, allowing for a planned, incremental and dynamic conversion process:

- Initially, preserve the Notes application links in the converted messages
- As a particular application is enabled with web access, convert those links to the web enabled version
- As a particular application is converted to SharePoint, convert those links to the SharePoint version

## **GOING FORWARD**

Once a customer has completed their Notes to Exchange migration, they can continue to enjoy the benefits of archiving in their Exchange environment. AXS-Link for Microsoft Exchange™ is written specifically for the Microsoft Exchange environment and provides all the archiving benefits (operational efficiency, compliance, retention management, e-discovery) of AXS-Link for Lotus Notes. Additionally, messages archived from the Exchange environment are stored and managed in the same archive repository as messages archived from the Notes environment. Users can therefore search and retrieve their archived Notes and Exchange messages together (federated search) from the same user interface.

## **BENEFITS**

AXS-One Dynamic Data Migrator has been designed to provide customers with access to messages generated in their Lotus Notes environment without having to convert and re-ingest them into their new Microsoft Exchange environment. This eliminates the costly process of converting legacy data and moving it to the new environment. Original records remain unchanged, and can continue to be accessed and utilized by end users.

### **Reduce project timelines and costs**

- Zero data conversion
- Reduce project costs by approximately 30%
- Faster mailbox migration
- Reduces requirement for systems to co-exist

### **Ensure full fidelity of data**

- Original e-mail maintained with full fidelity
- Integrated data retention, disposition and preservation
- User access to original Notes messages without the costs and risks associated with bulk conversion
- Immediate, secure access via Outlook client
- Messages securely retained in AXS-One archive
- Dynamic message conversion from Notes to Exchange, as required
  - Message, attachment, e-signatures, encryption, links

### **Minimize infrastructure for new environment**

- Minimize volume of legacy data in new environment
  - Reduce storage and server requirements
- Opportunity to establish retention policies on day one
- Single data repository for historical Exchange and Notes e-mail
- E-mail storage overhead reduced by up to 80%
  - Single instance storage, compression