

UC Solution Brief:

Archiving Microsoft BPOS with ComArchive

About the Solution Featured in this Brief



ComArchive reinvents email archiving on the philosophy that robust, feature-rich software, when intelligently designed and then built with pride, can be easy to install and intuitive to use. You can install it in an hour and learn it in a minute.

ComArchive protects and preserves the vital information contained in your mail servers, and it converts that information into a usable business asset.

ComArchive supports archiving of email from Microsoft Business Productivity Online Suite (BPOS) and other hosted email services using the Exchange Web Services (EWS) protocol.

Introduction

Your organization will realize many benefits from moving your mail to the cloud. Microsoft Business Productivity Online Suite (BPOS) is highly available, secure, and simple to manage. And you will always have access to the latest technologies without the cost of upgrading or maintaining the infrastructure.

But your email records are a vital and valuable business asset; so if you are considering migrating your on-premise email to BPOS, you need to answer a number of technical and financial questions:

- Does BPOS' Hosted Archive service meet your requirements for compliance, e-discovery, and mailbox management?
- How will you extract your data (and how much will you be charged) in the event you decide to leave BPOS?
- How much of a 'penalty' will you pay if you need to move more than 200 MBs per user into BPOS?
- What is the process (and the cost) to move data directly into the BPOS Hosted Archive?

ComArchive gives you the option to offload the burden of managing Exchange but still retain control and ownership of your data with an exceptionally easy-to-manage archiving solution that keeps your data safe behind your firewall.

This solution brief describes the benefits of using ComArchive for Microsoft BPOS and provides a high-level summary of how the two work together.

A Ferris Research Summary of ComArchive

ComArchive is a very simple and attractive approach to archiving.

Functionality:

- Works with Exchange/Outlook 2003/7/10.
- Archive maintained on-premises or in the cloud.
- Has Outlook plug-in—to access the archive, users click on Archive button.
- Browser access also available.
- Everything is archived and users can't delete material from the archive. So when users delete messages from their live Exchange store, they can still retrieve the deleted material from the archive. Hence no retention policies apply; users can delete material from their main mailbox whenever they want.
- Search works across messages and attachments in the normal fashion.
- Administrators can search across multiple mailboxes.
- Storage can be split across different types of cost/speed repositories.
- Administrators can determine one very basic retention policy: Delete all material over X years.
- No legal holds necessary, because everything is kept. Searches aren't tracked or auditable.
- Very simple to install; very simple for users.

- David Ferris, Ferris Research
24 March 2010



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Key Considerations in Migrating to Microsoft BPOS

You need to answer three key questions before you migrate to BPOS:

- How do you mitigate the risk of data loss?
- How will you meet your regulatory compliance and/or e-discovery requirements?
- What can you do to reduce the cost of your migration to BPOS?

Issue: Data Integrity

Your migration to BPOS will typically be executed by a third-party tool using PSTs. PSTs, of course, are notoriously prone to corruption. And what assurance do you have that every item is extracted from your Exchange servers?

Solution: Archive First

You can't lose your valuable data mid-migration if it is safely archived to ComArchive before you switch over to BPOS.

Issue: Regulatory Compliance and E-Discovery Requirements

Lost data—or even an inability to account for every piece of mail—exposes your organization and your senior executives to penalties and legal sanctions.

Solution: Archive First, and Archive Inside Your Firewall

Eliminate the risk of lost data during your migration to BPOS by archiving it to ComArchive before you migrate; ComArchive will then continue to archive every single item to give you the security and peace of mind that you stand ready to meet every compliance audit and discovery request.

Issue: The Cost to Migrate to BPOS

A standard migration to BPOS allows you to move 200 MBs per mailbox. To move more data is a potentially expensive custom engagement. And you will incur additional costs if you wish to move data directly into BPOS' Hosted Archive.

Solution: Move Your Users, Not Your Data

You can reduce the costs of your migration to BPOS by adhering to Microsoft's standard policies. Archive everything to ComArchive prior to migrating so you only need to move mailboxes. Your users go to BPOS but your data stays safely behind inside ComArchive, completely accessible through Outlook or a browser.

Additional Resources

ComArchive Product Page:

<http://www.uc-software.com/ComArchive.html>

(Includes a recorded product presentation and links to product datasheets)

Microsoft BPOS Product Page:

<http://www.microsoft.com/online/business-productivity.mspx>

A Customer's Perspective

"In the process of migrating to BPOS, we used ComArchive to simultaneously archive from our on-premise Exchange servers and BPOS. This enabled us to maintain compliance during the migration and to ensure that our end users retained seamless, high-speed access to all their mail. The 'archive first' process also dramatically reduced the amount of data that we had to migrate to BPOS, thereby minimizing both the time spent on migrating and the costs of our cloud computing environment." – *Peter Madsen, IT-Director, Avis Scandinavia.*

Take Action

Contact UC-Software to request a free, zero-risk trial copy of ComArchive (it installs and uninstalls cleanly, with no impact on your Exchange server).

Or contact us to request a no-obligation web demo of ComArchive in action—we promise no high-pressure sales tactics.

Our contact details are listed in the box below.



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An 'Archive First' Approach to Migrating to Microsoft BPOS

ComArchive supports archiving of email from Microsoft BPOS and other hosted email services using the Exchange Web Services (EWS) protocol.

Exchange Web Services (EWS) differs from the traditional Microsoft Exchange protocol (MAPI) in that it can be used over any network topology, including the open Internet. This is especially important when using BPOS as it is only available via the Internet. Exchange Web Services (EWS) is the Microsoft-preferred way to access Microsoft Exchange Server 2007 and 2010, and uses Hypertext Transfer Protocol (HTTP) and Extensible Markup Language (XML)—both well-known and open industry standard protocols.

ComArchive's use of Exchange Web Services (EWS) allows for a variety of innovative and flexible scenarios for email archiving:

- **Cloud archiving of an on-premises Microsoft Exchange Server:** ComArchive supports cloud archiving (for example, to a server hosted in Amazon Web Services or similar such hosting provider) to provide off-site disaster recovery and software-as-a-service licensing.
- **Local archiving of Microsoft BPOS or similar cloud-based Microsoft Exchange service:** In this scenario, ComArchive allows you to retain control of your important email information inside the security of your local network while retaining the benefits of the cloud for day-to-day email use. This scenario will reduce the cost of your migration and minimize your ongoing cloud storage costs for email.
- **Archiving of remote sites using existing Internet infrastructure:** ComArchive's use of Exchange Web Services allows you to archive remote offices to a central instance of ComArchive over the Internet rather than expensive dedicated WAN links.

'Archive First': A Simple Six-step Process

1. Install ComArchive (it takes about an hour)
2. Archive your legacy data
3. Run ComArchive's PST Importer to bring all your unmanaged PST data under central control
4. Reduce the size of your Exchange mail stores by deleting e-mails in accordance to rules you set (eg, size of emails, age of data, or a combination of both) and checking whether the e-mail is in the archive before ComArchive deletes it
5. Migrate your mailboxes to BPOS
6. Decommission your on-premise Exchange servers

ComArchive enables your organization to realize all the benefits of email in the cloud while still giving you total control and ownership of your data.