

AutoVirt File Virtualization Software

AutoVirt software eliminates the single biggest obstacle to any data management project: user disruption

The AutoVirt software platform combines file virtualization technology with a policy engine for automating common data management workflows. With AutoVirt, you can migrate, consolidate, replicate, or tier data without affecting end-user access to networked files.

File virtualization creates a layer of abstraction between physical storage devices and the clients that access them. With file virtualization technology in place in your network, you can manage your data without disrupting end-user access or breaking shortcuts or embedded links. AutoVirt file virtualization further facilitates your management activities by presenting all of your networked storage devices in a single web-based interface.

Benefits of AutoVirt file virtualization

- Provide uninterrupted end-user data access during storage management tasks
- View and manage heterogeneous storage devices from a single console
- Automate typical data management workflows without manually managing end-user redirection
- Dynamically tier data to use existing storage levels more effectively
- Improve data access by creating reorganized views of shares without manipulating underlying storage

AutoVirt Features

More effective project planning

Quickly count files, determine size, and measure free space on your networked storage using AutoVirt's discovery functionality

Minimal downtime during device upgrades and other data migration projects

AutoVirt facilitates share-by-share migration, which means that there is no need to take an entire device offline during migration. As soon as a share is migrated, clients automatically access that share in its new location. Individual files are unavailable only while their parent shares are being migrated. Share-by-share migration drastically reduces downtime, and automatic namespace referrals eliminate post-project shortcut remapping

Consistent access to networked files

Quickly restore client access following data migration, and provide automated failover in the event that a storage device becomes unresponsive

Perpetual support for existing UNC names

When you install AutoVirt, you can create dependent namespaces to represent your physical file servers. When you migrate data from these physical servers, the namespaces ensure that pre-migration shortcuts and embedded links continue to work. End-users can also browse the namespace, in the same way they browsed the original file server

Faster data movement

Multi-threading architecture expedites all data movement activities, including copying, migration, and replication

Minimal network impact

AutoVirt throttles to respond to network conditions

AutoVirt Features

Single console; web-based UI

View a share-level inventory of all your file servers, manage file virtualization in your network, and schedule data management tasks from a single, web-based console

Highly-available global namespace

A software-only global namespace provides referrals from clients to networked storage. The AutoVirt global namespace is hosted by two designated servers to ensure high availability and redundancy

Automated global namespace creation

During installation, you must select which file servers you want to manage using AutoVirt. The folder structure on these file servers is automatically replicated and presented as a namespace in the AutoVirt GUI. To activate the namespace so that it begins to receive and resolve client-file requests, you must rename each physical file server. This process - called "cutover" - is the only point during AutoVirt installation that requires a maintenance window

AutoVirt Policies: customizable data management workflows

Policies are closely integrated with the AutoVirt global namespace. When a policy affects data location or client access parameters, the namespace is automatically updated so that clients are referred appropriately

Measure

Predict the appropriate target size for a copy, migration, or replication policy. AutoVirt measure policies determine the size of and counts the number of files on a target. Upon installation, AutoVirt creates a complete map of the file server environment. A measure policy can target any share, volume, or file server on the file server map.

Copy

Choose to copy, merge, or sync data from source to destination. AutoVirt copy policies are schedulable and can be configured to log and skip exceptions. To target specific files with a copy policy, you can filter by create/modified date, file size, or file type.

Migrate

Schedule and automate data migration projects. When you configure an AutoVirt migrate policy, you can select as little as a single share or as much as an entire file server for migration. To maintain data integrity, a share is held read-only while its component files are being migrated. Upon the completion of each share migration, clients are automatically redirected to the new location of the share. While a migration job is running, unmigrated shares remain accessible in their original location, and newly migrated shares are accessible in their new location. AutoVirt's global namespace resolves client requests transparently.

Replicate

Establish replication relationships and schedule data syncs, from source to destination, as frequently as you wish. AutoVirt offers two replication relationships: a mirror policy allows you to sync data from remote offices to a central location, and a distribution policy syncs read-only copies of source data to remote sites. AutoVirt's centralization paradigm allows you to establish failover relationships. If an office's file server fails, clients will automatically be redirected to the replica. AutoVirt's distribution policy also ensures high availability through locality of reference. Clients are automatically directed to the closest location of the replicated data; if the closest copy becomes unresponsive, client requests will be resolved to the next-closest location.

Archive

Archive files to preserve valuable tier 1 storage and to meet your company's retention guidelines. An AutoVirt archive policy allows you to apply file-level filters for type, size, create date, and last-modified date. You can schedule the archive policy to run at regular intervals, so that new files are automatically identified and moved from source to archive as they meet your filter criteria. When AutoVirt archives a file, it leaves behind a Windows shortcut. The shortcut resolves to the archive where the file has been placed. Archived files are read-only.

Automatic ACL preservation

For any AutoVirt copy, migration, replication, or archiving job, ACLs are automatically applied

Microsoft DFS compatibility

DFS namespaces can be quickly and automatically translated into AutoVirt namespaces. DFS-R relationships are compatible with AutoVirt replication policies

Contact SiGNAL Computer Products Inc., your authorized AutoVirt partner. We can help with product information, trial downloads, and pricing information.

1-800-228-8781 or visit us online at <http://www.gosignal.com/autovirt.html>