

End user productivity for cloud-based archiving

Improving end-user productivity by giving end-users access to the data they need, when and where they need it.

Business needs

Cloud Computing has allowed businesses to deploy solutions that solve long standing IT problems in such a way that information services become more secure, easier to use and importantly much less expensive. The Cloud is giving businesses a way to deploy what were once complex or time consuming applications in a much shorter and cheaper time frame. Many businesses have adopted a Cloud first approach to upgrade and new business systems.

Business challenges

Archive services delivered from the Cloud require a new way of realizing value in a computing platform. Simply archiving in the Cloud only removes the local storage overhead and expenditure, while giving the users a degree of flexibility in terms of access. Organizations have to identify new ways of exposing value to their worker's without demanding significant changes in their workflows and without increasing the complexity of having to deal with multiple service providers.

Technical challenges

File archiving, SharePoint archiving and email archiving are usually delivered by individual services. Providing users access to these typically requires service and device specific applications to be deployed to relevant users. Users in turn need to be educated in the use of each system and technology teams have got to manage support of not only the disparate services their users are accessing, but also all of these end user access applications.

Mimecast is a leading provider of essential cloud archiving services.

Fast facts

- Mimecast Services for Outlook Version 4 – Archive access and productivity tools from within Outlook
- Mimecast Services for SharePoint – provides context to native SharePoint search
- Mimecast Personal Portal – Web-based archive and productivity tools
- Mimefiles – unified view of archived files for iPad

“The Mimecast archive can now store more than just email, but perhaps more importantly we’re providing users with the tools to be able to find what they need, quickly, in ways that suit their personal preferences, whether they are iPad users or Outlook junkies. In short, archiving is not just about what goes in; it’s how useful it is when it comes out.” – Grant Hodgkinson, Product Director, UEM, Mimecast

Mimecast solution

Mimecast provides a cloud-based archive service that provides end user centric features and capabilities to enhance the productivity of users. Mimecast achieves this by archiving emails and files from a variety of locations - including Microsoft Exchange, Document Libraries, Home Drives, Network Shares, Microsoft SharePoint as well as Dropbox and Box.net – and providing ubiquitous access to all these data types from all the user’s devices.

All files are indexed and stored in the Mimecast cloud-based archive, allowing for quick search and retrieval by administrators and end users, while allowing the organization to adhere to compliance, eDiscovery, and legal hold requests. Users are able to interact with these files from a variety of applications including the Mimefiles iPad app, the Mimecast Personal Portal, Mimecast Services for SharePoint and Mimecast Services for Outlook.

These applications ensure that users can easily access their archive with as little disruption to their workflow as possible, often accessing the archive from within the application they were already working in. For example: - Users working within Outlook can have their Mimecast archive search results returned to them within Outlook letting them stay productive within the same application.

In other instances, users will find that accessing the archive can provide them with valuable contextual information that may affect the outcome of the task at hand. This is best shown in the example of users working in SharePoint who can have SharePoint return Mimecast archive results to them in their SharePoint window. This would provide access to not only file searches, but email searches too, giving them access to non-document context for their search.

Mimecast also recognizes the need for users to access files from their mobile devices and have created an iPad specific app called Mimefiles to provide rapid and simple access to the data locked inside the archive. Now all your users can have access to all their files whilst on the move.

Coupled with the existing search capabilities provided across all major smartphones, Mimecast has ensured that users can interact with the data held in their personal archive no matter what device they are working on.

Key benefits

- Archive data from a broad range of repositories
- Self-service recovery of archived data
- Access data within the archive via common applications
- Access data during on-premise systems outages
- Immediate access to rich contextual data from searches



About Mimecast

Mimecast is a leading provider of essential cloud services for Microsoft Exchange. Mimecast delivers enterprise email management services that include security, continuity and archiving. This suite of services provides total end-to-end control of business email, while minimizing risk and reducing both cost and complexity. Founded in 2003, Mimecast serves thousands of customers worldwide and has offices in Europe, North America, and Africa.