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THE KOMPRISE DATA EXPERIENCE

Integrated Healthcare System Saves $5M, Avoids Lock-In with Komprise Cloud Tiering

Overview

A U.S.-based academic healthcare system with several hospitals and a medical school faces data challenges like many other healthcare groups today: rapid growth of large medical image files and research data, which is constraining IT resources to store, protect and manage. This unstructured data is highly strategic to healthcare organizations today, driving cutting-edge research, patient-centric care and more efficient practices. It is also an enormous expense and burden to manage. The healthcare organization is already storing more than 16PB of data on its EMC Isilon NAS systems.

To cope with the data deluge, the IT organization was using a data management product to archive years-old data from Isilon to a lower-cost storage array in its data center and to AWS S3. Yet the offline archival process was manual and disruptive because users could no longer see the data or access it. In addition, the director couldn't easily track data after it had been archived off Isilon.

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"Nobody wants to throw anything away because they might want to crunch it again later to support our research or they want to review old images for patients," said the director of IT infrastructure at the healthcare system.

Key Stats

Industry: Healthcare

Storage: Dell EMC Isilon, Azure Blob

Data Analyzed: 9.2 PB

Data Moved: 6.0 PB

Use Cases: Cloud Data Tiering, Migration, Disaster Recovery

Results: $5M cost avoidance. Non-disruptive tiering, full data visibility, storage savings, no lock-in for data movement.

Komprise Transparent Data Tiering to Cloud

The healthcare system discovered a new solution for unstructured data tiering, migration and visibility: **Komprise Intelligent Data Management**. With an analytics-driven approach, the storage team is using Komprise to tier data older than two years to Azure, its new cloud platform of choice.

So far, IT has tiered more than 6PB to Azure Blob with plans to continue moving data over time. This is freeing up significant space on its on-premises storage arrays and avoiding millions of dollars on storage and backup refresh costs.

> *"We like that Komprise has a no lock-in approach as the solution does not sit in the hot data path and tiers files without chunking them into a proprietary format."*

Results

Storage cost avoidance: Since tiering is moving cold data continuously to the cloud, IT hasn't needed to buy more storage as data volumes grow. The healthcare organization is therefore approaching $5M in savings on storage and backup costs. IT has decreased utilization on its Dell Isilon storage arrays from over 80% to below 70%, which is the baseline the IT director prefers to maintain. In time, IT will be able to consolidate the arrays to a single storage device.

Non-disruptive user experience: IT has had zero complaints from users trying to find their data, as **Komprise Transparent Move Technology** tiers data using Dynamic Links which redirects from the original file location. "I didn't want the customer to care about where their data is and now they just see it in the same place," the director said. So far, he added, there have been few requests from individuals wanting to recall files back from Azure.

Full visibility: With Komprise, the infrastructure director has full visibility into all data wherever it resides, even after it has been tiered to Azure. This is valuable for his team to ensure critical unstructured data hasn't been lost and so departments can locate important files.

Rich metadata analysis for decision-making: The IT organization uses **Komprise Deep Analytics** to run custom queries on all file metadata. They are looking at the metadata for the best opportunities to tier data, based on last modified or last access times. "If I have a 40TB share that hasn't been touched for a long time, we'll just move the whole thing at once," the director says.

No lock-in and fast migrations without rehydration: Komprise **Elastic Data Migration**, included in the full Intelligent Data Management platform, makes the process of moving data between storage platforms simple, fast and painless, compared to previous solutions. Unlike storage-vendor tiering solutions that are proprietary, even if the healthcare organization stops using Komprise, IT can still migrate the data tiered by Komprise directly to a new platform. This avoids the need to retain storage capacity on-premises for rehydration.

A foundation for cloud AI: Komprise, with its **Smart Data Workflows** capabilities, will in the future allows the healthcare system to locate and feed unstructured data, such as large research files, to AI and analytics services in the cloud.
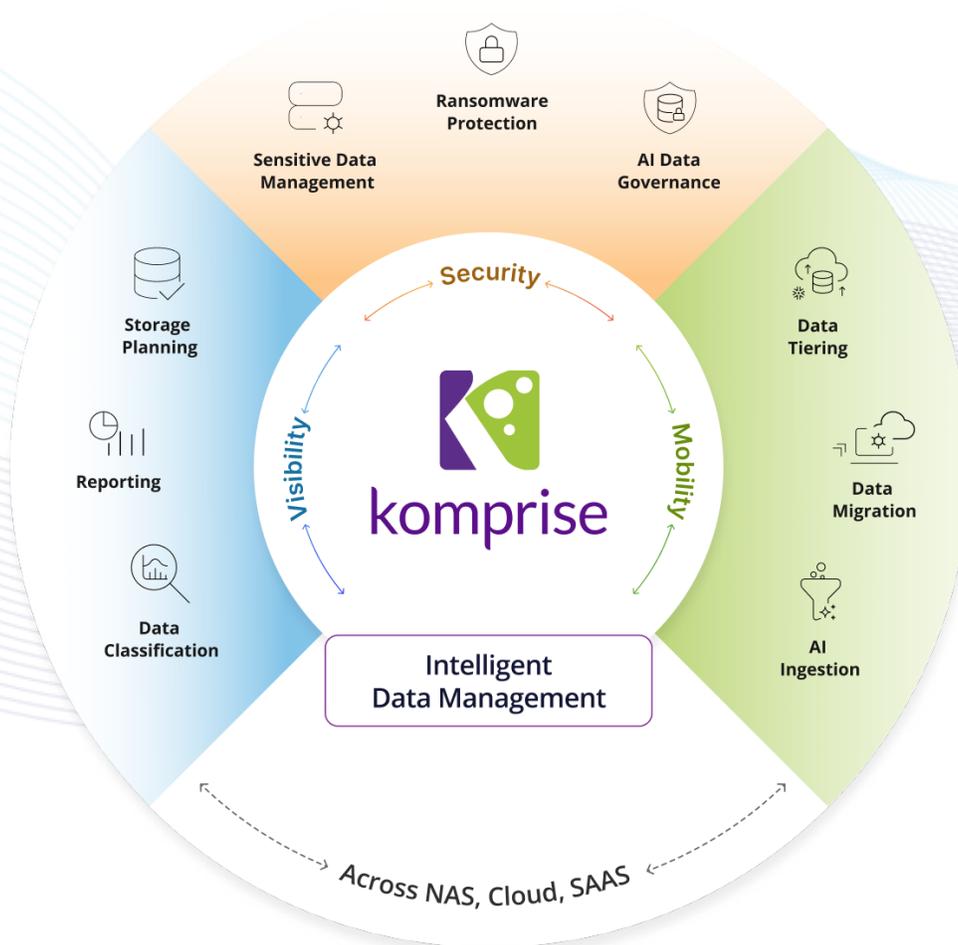
Replication for DR: Finally, the IT organization realized they could also use Komprise for cost-effective disaster recovery and has begun the process of replicating high-priority datasets to Azure for that purpose.

About Komprise

Komprise connects unstructured data management with AI through a unified platform. With Komprise Intelligent Data Management, enterprise IT can easily analyze, migrate, transparently tier and manage the lifecycle of petabytes of file and object data across hybrid environments. Organizations gain full visibility across silos to optimize storage, backup, ransomware and cloud costs. Komprise Smart Data Workflows and the Komprise Global Metadatabase unlock rich unstructured data context and governed access for AI. www.komprise.com

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