

Align Storage Costs to Business Requirements

Utilization and Chargeback Reporting Services from Hitachi Data Systems simplify reporting and align resource needs with business objectives.

Accurately Allocate Storage: Save Time and Resources

IT Management Challenges

Storage-related costs, including storage operations expenses, represent a significant part of an overall IT budget. According to IDC, the annual cost to manage storage is close to 60% of all enterprise storage-related spending. This includes storage software, power, cooling, administration personnel and services.

Often, storage hardware is not considered expensive and is overallocated for projects and applications. In those instances, the overall cost of managing, protecting and keeping data available is not understood.

Traditional storage management makes it difficult to correctly account for budget allocations to internal or external customers. Yet storage growth and storage utilization drive IT costs, making it more complex to determine the true bottom line.

Solution

Utilization and Chargeback Reporting Services allow IT organizations to accurately allocate storage usage to the appropriate customers and departments driving the consumption of storage.

Utilization and Chargeback Reporting Services give you the controls you need to:

- Identify the cost drivers of storage by department and/or customer.
- Charge for actual usage.
- Set billing rates based on usage, storage type and/or content.
- Apply consistent charging mechanisms and pricing templates.
- Provide comprehensive management reports on utilization, cost and billing.
- Show trending of utilization.

Service Description

Utilization and Chargeback Reporting Services provide a monthly utilization and chargeback report that is customized for each customer (see Figure 1). These services are performed with Hitachi Data Systems skilled storage management consultants in our Service Operations Centers. The reports include information on:

- Department or customer
- Location
- Tiers
- Pools
- Hosts (virtual or physical, attached to the storage)

In addition to providing information on utilization by groups, Hitachi Data Systems also provides a monthly exception report on undefined assets (for example, a worldwide name that doesn't map to a host name, application, etc.).

The reports provide information that reveals:

- Actual storage allocation versus overall location or oversubscription (via dynamic provisioning)
- Forecasted storage growth through asset-level trending
- How to account for cost allocation based on user-defined rates

Utilization and Chargeback Reporting Services can provide chargeback-related information according to asset or storage, as indicated in Figure 2.

Your Success Is Our Top Priority

Utilization and Chargeback Reporting Services help you understand how your business is driving storage usage and how to align storage costs to that usage.

Take the next step and contact us to see how we can help you align IT costs to business requirements. Contact your Hitachi Data Systems account representative and ask how we can transform your environment or visit us at www.HDS.com/services.

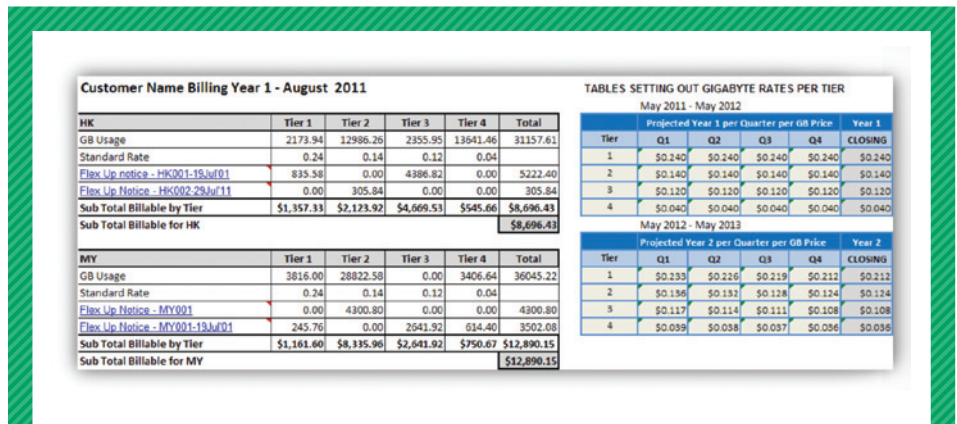


Figure 1. Sample Monthly Utilization and Chargeback Report

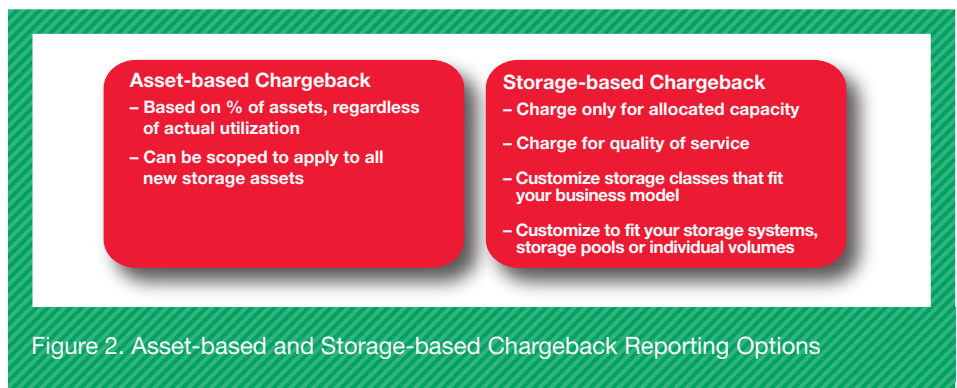


Figure 2. Asset-based and Storage-based Chargeback Reporting Options

BENEFITS OF UTILIZATION AND CHARGEBACK REPORTING SERVICES

- Increase your overall billing capabilities.
- Align resource needs with revenue objectives by charging clients or departments for storage allocated or used.
- Simplify reporting and auditing for tiered-storage architectures.
- Control storage-related capital expenditures centrally.
- Customize reports for automatic distribution to key personnel.
- Implement storage metering without increasing IT staff.
- Automate time-consuming utilization management and focus your IT resources on strategic projects.



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