

The Royal Navy's Data Gets Shipshape

A case study.

The Royal Navy needed to update the information systems on all their warships to the Defence Information Infrastructure (DII). This initiative is designed to standardize the Ministry of Defence's networks and record management system across the armed forces to increase governance and collaboration while maintaining strict security measures. The Royal Navy implemented an information governance program to capture, discover and reorganize unstructured data from its Fleet. Using ActiveNav, it ensured that units were compliant with stringent government legislation. The software also reduced server storage by nearly 73%, resulting in significant cost savings for the Ministry of Defence (MOD).

Compliance and Review

DII is one of the largest IT projects undertaken by the MOD; the Royal Navy has a maintenance program for all of its warships, submarines and Royal Fleet Auxiliary. As part of this cycle, the Royal Navy Operational Information Management (Op IM) Team used ActiveNav to review and cleanse all of the unstructured information stored on each ship's information systems. The software automatically identifies redundant, duplicate and obsolete files that can be deleted or archived according to requirements.

"ActiveNav has become very much a part of our daily lives over the last few years," said Warrant Officer Class 1, John Coleman. "We would not have been able to undertake this project in such a short timescale with the current resource without the help from ActiveNav. It's an accurate tool, which assists our procedures and processes, aids governance, and is fast and easy to use for the end-user."



At a glance

CHALLENGES

- Limited visibility into data stores
- Out-dated information systems
- Compliance with government regulations
- On-going data maintenance and governance

BENEFITS

- Reduced storage costs
- Robust data governance program
- Essential data from decommissioned fleets captured

ABOUT

- Royal Navy
- Military
- Portsmouth, UK
- 13,000+ Employees

Managing Data and Reducing Storage Costs

With the aid of ActiveNav, the Op IM Team has prepared nearly thirty units of varying sizes from Aircraft Carriers to Minor War Vessels for migration onto DII. During that time, ActiveNav has analyzed more than 700 GB of data, held in nearly 325,000 folders, of which just over 20% of the files on the systems were exact duplicates, which ActiveNav quickly identified for removal. This has resulted in an average of 18% server capacity saving.

More than 1.7 million files on the systems were identified as older than three years; these were removed and burnt to DVDs then sent to the secure Naval Historical Branch archives in line with current regulations.

Nearly 200 GB of files were retained and migrated to the new file structure for transfer to DII, ensuring compliance with the strict migration criteria.



RESULTS



Achieved a 70% reduction in server storage



Identified 20+% duplicates for removal

Compliance Requirements

Another unforeseen benefit of ActiveNav was its use on decommissioned Fleet units. Essential data was identified and captured from the units' servers, and sent to the Naval Historical Branch on behalf of Corporate Memory, ensuring compliance with government legislation.

Reduced Costs

The Royal Navy implemented an information governance program to capture, discover and re-organize unstructured data from its Fleet. Using ActiveNav, it ensured that units were compliant with government legislation as well as reducing server storage by nearly 73%, resulting in cost savings for the Ministry of Defence (MOD).

Serving Armed Forces Worldwide

ActiveNav's solutions are designed to meet the rigorous intelligence demands of defence agencies worldwide. ActiveNav works with defence agencies including the U.S. Marine Corps, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and U.S. Army.

"As warships and shore establishments upgrade their versions of DII to MOSS; and we will need to continue the maintenance cycle. This will ensure that each unit remains compliant with records management policy and legislation, thereby assuring the quality of our information and systems. ActiveNav helps us to achieve this."

**- John Coleman
Warrant Officer Class 1**

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Americas
Reston, VA, USA
+1 571 346 7607

EMEA
Winchester, UK
+44 (0) 1962 396690

APAC
Melbourne, Australia
+61 3 9982 4543

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