Delivering successful Mergers and Divestitures with AI.DATALIFT

According to the ONS, the value of mergers and acquisitions in Q4 2018 was £33.3bn in the UK alone.

These significant restructuring events in organisations are an ever-present reality, especially in enterprise organisations. They pose a challenge to organisations as they try to grapple with rapidly expanding data sets alongside the even greater challenge of trying to extract one dataset from within another.

Alongside this, organisations also face pressure from regulations such as the GDPR. This means that not only do they need to safely manage their data, but they also need to understand the risk level within it, report on it, and manage it to reduce the risk. Over-retention of data and failure to properly control the access and use of it introduces the risk of financial penalty as well as the opportunity for data breaches and unauthorised release.

Customer Situtation

In a divestiture situation, where a data set is being extracted, this risk is increased significantly as the organisation has a duty to find and isolate the correct data, and ensure that personal data, or project data, is carefully managed to avoid accidental exposure or release to an organisation that should not have access to it. For merging organisations it's also important to ensure that incoming data does not raise the risk profile for the organisation. For all organisations it is important they are aware of the data they own, understand why they own it, ensure that its management is appropriate for its sensitivity, and where possible, identity and reduce the risk associated with its retention.

Key Challenge

A key challenge for any organisation engaged in data consolidation or separation activities is establishing consensus within the business - what data can and must be divested or retained. Key business functions such as HR, Legal and IT will each hold a differing opinion on data requirements. Together they need to define a standardised approach to data identification and separation to ensure that an efficient and effective transition can be delivered, whilst keeping time and costs to a minimum.

Discover & Classify to Retain & Divest with AI.DATALIFT

AI.DATALIFT is a cloud-based solution that creates and maintains a rich index of data from your organisation's existing systems. Metadata and content are uploaded and processed within the Cloud to provide fast and efficient analysis with no impact to original data.

Metadata includes date ranges for creation, last modified and accessed dates, document owners, user access rights, and location within business infrastructure. All of this is critical to enable your business to determine who is most likely to have created, used or held content.

Content analysis advances deeper with full text extraction and delivers the ability to search for keywords, phrases, concepts, themes and patterns. Complex pattern detection enables identification of unique identifiers (company and transaction numbers), intellectual property (IP), commercially sensitive information (CSI) and personally identifiable information (PII).

When this powerful insight is coupled with business matter experts, decisions concerning relevant data can be made. Policies can be applied against classifications supporting a range of actions such as disposal, archive, retention and migration. With a fully audited trail of actions, this approach can be applied to large tranches of data quickly and in a uniform manner.

This ensures that business as usual continues seamlessly from day one planning, right through until divestment has completed, with minimum business impact.

Statoil Fuel & Retail

Statoil Fuel and Retail (SFR), a Norwegian Energy Company, was founded in 2010 following a successful separation from Statoil ASA. This was facilitated by Automated Intelligence using AI.DATALIFT.

Operating across 36 different countries, SFR needed to securely migrate files from Statoil ASA's existing document management system, Meridio, into a new SharePoint platform while retaining all legacy metadata.
AI.DATALIFT extracted all of the content and analysed SFR's data to identify duplicate, redundant, obsolete and irrelevant data and categorised it against its information policy.

Over 50% data reduction was achieved prior to migration and a seamless, secure migration was delivered. SFR benefited from a new cleansed data platform, streamlined, appropriate for the new business and with a reduced risk profile.

Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy

The Department for Business Energy and Industrial Strategy (DBEIS) was formed in 2016 following a Machinery of Government change which saw two separate government departments merge. This data merge and migration was facilitated by Automated Intelligence using AI.DATALIFT.

DBEIS required over 26TB of data to be extracted from legacy systems and migrated to the cloud, ensuring all data was relocated to prevent risk of penalty or data loss.

AI.DATALIFT, using Microsoft Data Box, completed this project in just a few weeks, transferring the 26TB of sensitive data to a Microsoft Data Centre and uploading it to Azure quickly and securely.

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