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Interview: Toyota Relies on ZL Unified Archive

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Earlier this year, we covered a [story](#) about how Toyota Motor Sales has deployed [ZL's Unified Archive](#) to solve its in-house e-mail archiving needs. To learn more, I caught up with ZL's CTO, Arvind Srinivasan.

inside-Cloud: How was archiving handled prior to the ZL implementation?

Arvind Srinivasan: Toyota's primary reason for bringing ZL in-house as their primary archiving system was to ensure defensible preservation of data for litigation, including search, retention and storage management. Prior to implementing ZL, Toyota manually journaled all e-mail for relevant custodians to a specific Domino server (they currently utilize Domino Lotus Notes for e-mail) and exported this data into a different tool to be able to search through it for relevant information. ZL was able to provide an end-to-end process where e-mail for custodians was automatically captured, placed on legal hold, made searchable and exportable without any manual processes required.

inside-Cloud: How does the ZL approach help Toyota achieve regulatory compliance?

Arvind Srinivasan: ZL allows Toyota to achieve regulatory compliance by providing a unified platform that allows them to manage all e-mail from "cradle to grave" as it relates to litigation. The ZL system ensures 100% capture of all data backed up by comprehensive audit trails and reporting, legal hold preservation for legacy data and live data, sub-second search speeds – the fastest in the industry – across all data within the archive, analytic tools, export abilities and storage management. By managing the entire process in one unified platform, ZL ensures complete chain of custody for every piece of data and due to

the fact that ZL has developed the entire solution in-house, support and troubleshooting is highly efficient and accurate.

inside-Cloud: How does ZL Unified Archive ensure that only one data copy is stored?

Arvind Srinivasan: ZL is able to ensure that one, and only one, copy of the data is stored due to its unique unified platform. Unlike any other player in the market, ZL has developed every component of its solution in-house without acquiring other products to integrate with, OEM'ing components or licensing other software. While most competitors in the space have acquired several companies and products that have been strung together through API integration to create an "integrated solution", these solutions are unable to scale and individual applications are built using fundamentally different architectures. As such, when the same e-mail that exists in the Records Management application is brought into the E-Discovery application, a separate copy because each application has its own architecture for indexing the data and maintaining its integrity. ZL, however, has a unified platform where every single application leverages the same master index, master database and master hashing technology, ensuring that only one copy is stored regardless of how many applications might be interacting with the data. This is critical from a risk mitigation and litigation perspective in ensuring that when data is purged, it is in fact gone without any copies left elsewhere. By maintaining the single copy, ZL is also able to ensure 100% accountability and chain of custody backed by defensible audit trails and reporting.

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