Benefits of Purging and Archiving with Purge-it!

Sometimes the benefits of purging of archiving are clear, and other times they are not. Here are some of the reasons why 200 customers purge and archive their J.D. Edwards data with Purge-it!

Reduced Database Size

Databases grow exponentially, so more data has been added in the previous years, than in the original use of the system.

Some benefits of a smaller database size are: smaller tape requirement for backups; larger overnight job window due to faster overnight jobs; smaller disk usage for test environments; quicker data refreshes for other environments; smaller hardware specifications when replacing equipment; and disposal of data that is no longer needed operationally or legally.

Improved Performance

For both batch and interactive jobs. The performance increases could be exponential, not just linear.

Some benefits of improved performance are: processing fewer records results in quicker processing; reporting over only the required data will be quicker; removing transient interface data increases the performance of interfaces; reducing table size reduces full table scan times for non-indexed queries; index rebuilds are quicker; index fragmentation is lower; and index performance is quicker.

Legal Compliance

Legal retention periods can be industry and country specific.

Some benefits of legal compliance are: having a structured and effective Data Retention Policy will define what legally needs to be kept by an organisation; an effective Data Retention Policy will define the who, what, where, when, why and how of purging and archiving; and this provides a structured management framework for Information Life-Cycle Management

Data Cleansing and Business Process Improvement

Both of these functions are possible due to the Purge-it! error reporting functionality.

Some benefits of cleaning your data and improving your business processes are: identifying open, incomplete or unprocessed transactions; identifying transactions that have relationships to other documents within the system that still exist, and thus need to be retained in Production for data integrity purposes; identifying transactions that have not been fully processed through their expected life-cycle, indicating a business process error; and identifying transactions not to archive, due to them being incomplete.

Active Data Management

This is possible with the Purge-it! Environment Dashboard.

Some benefits of actively managing your data are: monitoring the percentage splits of data between Production and Archive; monitoring data counts and sizes at system and module level; showing when modules were last archived; and also the split by module within an environment.

Faster and More Confident Upgrades

This is primarily based upon the reduced database size, with various benefits.
Some benefits of a better upgrade process are: enabling the upgrades to fit within the go-live weekend; providing a smaller Production database to be used in the testing period prior to the main upgrade; enabling smaller and quicker environment backups, restores and refreshes whilst testing; archive data can be upgraded on a completely separate schedule to the main Production data; and provides data cleansing opportunities to mitigate the upgrading of poor quality data.

Optimise Disaster Recovery Operations

This provides benefits for both traditional and high availability disaster recovery solutions
Some benefits of optimised disaster recovery operations are: the size of the backup media can be smaller, mitigating the need for multiple backup tapes; decreasing the recovery time in the event of a disaster; and reducing the specification required for the high availability hardware.

Reduced Staffing

Reallocating staffing to other activities due to faster activity processing times.
Waiting for the system to respond for 10 minutes per day extrapolates out to 43 hours per year; time which could be well spent performing other activities. Increases in performance of the system could achieve this.

Increased User Satisfaction

Shifting from reactive to proactive activities.
Reducing helpdesk calls from users allows more time for IT staff to be proactive, rather than reactive, due to poor performing systems tending to generate a larger number of helpdesk calls.

Providing Ongoing Benefits

All the above benefits can be maintained, by purging and archiving on a regular basis. Purge-it! does not require system downtime, it can be scheduled on the J.D. Edwards scheduler (or any other third-party scheduler for J.D. Edwards), and the Purge-it! Date Offset functionality allows a "fire and forget" purging and archiving solution.

A summary of the types of benefits that can be achieved are as follows:

- Reduce future hardware cost
- Time-saving
- Reduction in labour costs
- Legal compliance
- Reducing potential future legal costs
- Effective data management
- Reducing potential lost revenue

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