

# Data Classification, Engagement Brief

## Discussion Document



### Overview

Clients regularly conduct data classifications and storage assessments to insure the alignment of the business requirements and data management policies to the IT organization's the storage infrastructure, operations and data management plans and strategies. The results of the storage assessment identify storage cost optimization opportunities, and improved operational and data management efficiencies and proficiencies. A direct finding is that there is not a clear understanding of the applications and their value to the business. Cold Creek Solutions offers a Data Classification Consulting Service designed to rank and rate a Clients Application Suite, value the data, and create a mapping to a Tiered Storage Model or Storage Service Catalogue.

Classifying ones data establishes standards and provides storage provisioning guidelines that quantify where and on what class of storage the Organization's data should reside. This prevents over capital expenditure spending cost effectively enabling the business, and meeting the business requirements, while realizing both capital and operating expense efficiencies, and potential savings.

Cold Creek Solutions is in numerous data centers, sees millions of dollars in technology spend, and has the experience of knowing what works in IT storage operations. Using Cold Creek Solutions' perspective, tools and expertise for Data Classification services fundamentally changes the decision dynamics in structuring and organizing the IT Data Management that drives your business data requirements.

### Our Perspective

Cold Creek Solutions' Storage Advisory services accelerate quality decisions, reduce the learning curve, and enables balanced IT Organizational, and storage infrastructure alignment. We begin with a clear understanding of the Client's technology infrastructure, business requirements and Service Level Agreements (SLAs). Based on the underlying technologies, and the necessary skill and competency levels to support and deliver the required services to the business. We deliver system and storage recommendations that meets the business requirements at an optimum costs. and iustifv and validate with storae economic modelina.

### Comprehensive Services Overview

- Evaluation and analysis performed by independent subject matter experts
- Cost optimized solutions that aligns with the Client's technology and business strategy
- Solutions that scale with the Client's growth needs over 3 years
- Reduced risk, improved timelines, optimized investments
- Executive documentation to facilitate the IT storage decisions that align with the data management business requirements

### Client Benefits:

- Leverage expert resources to reduce risk and timelines when making complex storage technology decisions
- Benefit from the knowledge of an independent resource's best practices and practical experience with other client organizations
- Requirement based evaluation and recommendations
- Packaged business cases for Executive communication and decisions
- Client Staff can focus on the core day-to-day business, and IT operational responsibilities
- Change the dynamics of data management, storage planning, strategy and optimization

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Data Classification Consultative skill sets are core competencies of Cold Creek Solutions' Storage Advisory Professional Services

A Cold Creek Solutions' Data Classification engagements consist of the following:

- **Application catalogue, and data validation of the baseline data definitions, consisting of**
  - Catalogue the applications utilized by each key business unit or functional operation
  - Identify the Application Owner, Users, and Data Stewards for each Applications within scope of the engagement
  - Define the application tiers and data types and classes
  - Determining the alternatives and core business impacts of the applications in consideration
  - Mutual agreement on the application tier definitions, data classes known gaps and solution strategies to proceed
- **Service Level findings and impact analysis**
  - Twelve (12) category findings and gap analysis, Storage Service Catalogue
- **Storage Service Catalogue, define the storage service levels attributes, and criteria**
- **Application and Host detail**
  - Map the application suite to their hosts
  - Map the storage resource and allocation to each application
- **Data Classification – Segregation of information comprising of core and ancillary components for standard business processing flow**
- **Classify data per data classifications descriptions**
- **Service level objectives and agreements confirmed and agreed upon with the Business**
  - Define and publish the service level objective
  - Collaboration and agreement with the business units on the service level agreement criteria
  - Define and publish the service level objectives
- **Application Data Groups**
  - Define application tier attributes and criteria
  - Compare of the application against the application attributes, business criticality, and business service level requirements
  - Map the application suites into application tier categories
- **Technology**
  - Map the application tiers onto the Storage Service Catalogue, as defined by the twelve (12) service level attributes, metrics and criteria
- **Development and manning of the business requirements to a tiered storage model storage service catalogue matrix**

## Data Classification Process Overview

