

Email Archiving vs Email Backup



A common mistake organizations make is confusing data backups and email data archiving. Because we hear this confusion so often, we created the 'Email Archiving vs Email Backup' guide to help clarify how archiving significantly differs from just backing up email data. In this guide you can find out more about these two different concepts and why Email Backup can not fulfill organizations requirements and obligations that Email Archiving provides.

What is an Email Backup?

A backup generates a snapshot of data of information at a very specific date that in most cases works as a safe net in case of data loss or server failover. The main reason organizations and individuals backup Email data is either for safety and future migration options. With Email Backup the most common task is Email restoring.



What is Email Archiving?



Email archiving saves all email data for an extended period of time and index it for easy search and retrieval works as an indexed historical reference of emails that can be instantly accessed and is placed outside of the backup cycle. Key benefits that email archiving provides to organizations are email authenticity, email longevity, instant access thorough indexed searches, archiving access footprint, auditing, corporate compliance & legal holds. Archiving processes are stable with a long life since email data is stored over multiple years.

What does Email Archiving provide that Backup does not?

Email authenticity. All email archived data is stored with timestamps and fingerprinted maintaining and ensuring the authenticity while protecting Emails against any data editing



Email longevity. Email data is stored for up to 10 years or more. Archiving is designed for long retention so it is easy to go back in time to find information, restore or use as evidence

Instant access. Archiving indexes emails and provides an advanced search engine that returns emails instantly. End user consoles allow for email search and retrieval without administrator intervention

Auditing. A traditional email archiving provides full audit trail of user activities and systems including email footprints effective disposing information for legal hold that can potentially be used for litigation

Compliance. Helps organizations meet law demands by archiving information according to regulatory compliance such government regulations, HIPAA, PCI, SOX and more

Legal holds. Unlike backup email archiving provides an effective way of disposing information for legal hold that can potentially be used for litigation through timestamp

Administrator-free. Administrators can grant users easy and instant access to their own email archive simplifying on-going IT management and overall administration

How does the email archiving work?

Email servers such as Microsoft Exchange, Domino and other platforms feature a capability called journaling that when enabled will store a copy of any email message that received or sent through the email server to the email journaling mailbox. At different time intervals email archiving solutions accesses the email journaling mailbox, in exactly the same way that Outlook or any other email reader in the market accesses a user's email. When there are email messages in the journaling mailbox, archiving solutions grab the information and divide them into message batches it moves them into the email archive. After due confirmation from the Email servers that batches have been fully processed the remaining batch at the email server is removed from the journaling mailbox.

