

IT Perspective

An Eze Castle Integration Newsletter

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Business Continuity Planning: Leveraging Replication Technologies

A Look at VoIP

Reviewing Email & Instant Messaging Archival Best Practices

Welcome to the February issue of Eze Castle Integration's newsletter, *IT Perspective*. We have designed this publication to keep you educated and informed on technology and its effect on your business.

We hope you enjoy *IT Perspective* and look forward to your feedback.

• **Business Continuity Planning: Leveraging Replication Technologies**

In the face of increased regulation and recent world events, all hedge funds should once again be taking serious looks at their Business Continuity Plans (BCP), or lack thereof.

Should a disaster occur, having a poor BCP can disrupt your operations, and negatively impact your company's financial performance, reputation and long-term viability. Your plan should seek to minimize the effects of such disasters, which could include human error, technological failures, terrorist acts, and natural disasters.

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• **A Look at VoIP**

Industry experts predict that by 2008, Voice over Internet Protocol (VoIP) will comprise 97 percent of all voice systems sold. In fact, most companies today are creating a roadmap for deploying a VoIP infrastructure; and most of the major telecommunications carriers and virtually all hardware platforms are moving towards VoIP services on both the LAN and WAN platforms.

Several larger financial institutions have



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already committed to roll out VoIP in their global offices. Bank of America has plans to deploy over 180,000 IP phones worldwide. Lehman Brothers and Merrill Lynch have also committed to installing a VoIP infrastructure. Larger banks are already implementing this technology and industry research indicates that smaller banks are following suit as more and more companies realize the cost-savings, feature enhancements and scalability that VoIP provides.

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• **Reviewing Email & Instant Messaging Archival Best Practices**

With the February 1, 2006 SEC deadline behind us, hedge funds' operators are well aware that the SEC requires retention of all relevant data and records linked to financial information, fund transactions. As a result, many funds have, or will, implement an email and instant messaging archival system. Archiving email and instant messages is a small component of compliance but can be a burden to most funds because of the electronic and public nature of the information exchanged. This article, will review process and technology best practices for email and instant messaging archival.

Email and instant messaging are vital electronic communication mechanisms within the securities industry and as previously mentioned need to be used in compliance with SEC archiving regulations. A number of technology companies have made SEC- compliant solutions available to the market that provide secure and efficient archival of email and instant messaging records for hedge fund managers.

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