

## CASE STUDY

# IT Manager Saves a Quarter Million Dollars for Large Retailer by Finding Hidden Storage

## OBJECTIVES

A large auto parts retailer, relying on an infrastructure spread across seven data centers, needed to allocate storage for a new application. Instead of buying a new array, they hoped there might be an alternative solution to the application requirements – as well as their ongoing challenges with manual storage management.

## SOLUTION

The customer was surprised in the insight quickly provided by Visual Storage Intelligence®.

In one particular array, they found 75% of the array was orphaned. Six months before, the IT team had undergone an intense data migration project, and moved storage among their various arrays. This particular array had data that was no longer needed and/or valid, but the LUNs still showed as allocated.

Excited about these findings, the IT manager was able to visually show how this free space could be used for the new application. Eventually, the company did not have to buy new storage, and saved themselves \$250,000.

## VERDICT

"With Visual Storage Intelligence, we are able to place and manage storage more strategically. This allowed us to reduce our overall costs, improve our storage performance, and significantly lower the amount of time and effort required to do analysis and tracking."

## AT A GLANCE

### Environment

- EMC DMX
- NetApp
- Seven Data Centers

### Challenges

- Managing large & diverse infrastructure manually.
- Identifying free space.
- Mapping tier storage & servers.
- Utilizing SAN & NAS devices properly.

### Results

- Quickly identified hidden space in 75% of one array.
- Saved \$250,000 by avoiding major purchase.
- Improved management efficiency.



"Visual Storage Intelligence did all the work for us so we could spend our time on decision-making, not data collection and analysis."

**IT Manager**  
Large Retailer