



Grey Owl Engineering Efficiently Governs Hundreds of Terabytes of Data and Resolves File Issues in 10 Minutes



THE CHALLENGE

As a full-service engineering firm, Grey Owl Engineering is heavily loaded with data — hundreds of terabytes, and growing. The biggest share of the stored data is comprised of maps and engineering drawings. Multiple employees need to access and work with these files at the same time, which can result in issues with different versions. Therefore, one of the biggest challenges for Joel Roy, IT manager at Grey Owl Engineering, was establishing control over file manipulations to avoid such problems. Failure to establish such control could affect business operations, lead to problems at the construction stage and limit the firm's ability to provide quality services to its clients.

NETWRIX SOLUTION

Joel Roy needed a solution that would enable him to find anything he wanted to know about any file. After evaluating several products, he opted for the visibility platform offered by Netwrix, noting that "Netwrix Auditor was easy to use and had a nice interface. Everything was great right from the demo, so it was an obvious decision." After using the software for a little more than a year, Grey Owl Engineering has gained the following benefits:

Complete control over files and quick investigation of issues. The huge amount of data the company stores makes it hard to keep up with manipulations of files and folders.

Netwrix Auditor enables Joel to easily track all file read attempts, modifications, moves and deletions, and to address any issues in minutes. "It takes literally 10 minutes of my time to find out what happened to any file, whereas in the past it would take at least 2 or 3 hours each time — there would have been investigations, questions, meetings and all of those different things, which would have been a waste of a lot of people's time," said Joel.

Efficient data governance. Pre-built file analysis reports list data owners, empty folders and file duplicates, which has helped Joel clean up unnecessary files. As a result, he can now manage the huge volumes of data in a more efficient manner and provide even better support to business users who need the data in their daily work. In addition, one of the reports indicated that some users had more access rights that they needed, so he removed the excessive permissions, which reduced data exposure.

Changed employee behavior. Managers at the firm use the data provided by Netwrix Auditor to give employees more efficient training on policies and procedures, and to enable accountability. Joel said, "I can assure you now, without a shadow of the doubt, that there is much more due care and attention to file changes and file deletions in the company. It benefits the company as a whole. The employees are now more aware, more detail-oriented in their work. Because if they are not, and there is an issue, their errors and their lack of attention to detail can be found."

KEY BENEFITS

- Improved quality of business services
- Enabled better support of business users
- Ensured more efficient data governance
- Increased efficiency of IT operations

[Learn more about Netwrix Auditor](#)

Customer
Grey Owl Engineering

Industry
Oil & Gas

Website
www.greyowleng.com

Netwrix Auditor Applications
Netwrix Auditor for Active Directory,
Windows Server, Windows File Servers

Customer Profile
Grey Owl Engineering, headquartered in Calgary, Canada, is a leading midsize company that provides a comprehensive range of engineering, procurement, construction and management (EPCM) services to the national and international oil and gas industry. The firm has broad experience in pipelines and upstream facilities, and demonstrates industry leadership through the development of pipeline leak detection systems and innovative facility designs that reduce costs while improving operability.

I think Netwrix Auditor is fantastic. It brings substantial value to our organization. The reports generated are clear and easy to understand. Just recently there was an extremely important file change, and, to avoid a lot of finger pointing, I used Netwrix Auditor and alleviated the doubt about who did it within 2 minutes. I plan to continue to renew.

Joel Roy,
IT Manager,
Grey Owl Engineering