

Storage Manager for AD Is Now File Dynamics

New product offering addresses dynamic demands for today's organizations.

For more than a decade, Storage Manager has evolved as a single product in support of customers in both eDirectory and Active Directory environments. Although a single product offering, Storage Manager has consisted of two deliverables, one for each environment. However, the need to develop and release new versions and updates to both sets of customers on their own cadence became more and more evident over time.

To better support customers, Micro Focus introduced File Dynamics as the evolution of Storage Manager for Active Directory in June of 2018. File Dynamics focuses solely on the dynamic demands of today's Active Directory organizations when it comes to data governance, growth, automation, compliance, security, and protection.

Micro Focus remains committed to Storage Manager eDirectory customers and will continue to evolve and support the product indefinitely. Look for an update soon for that product.

File Dynamics provides all of the identity-driven file system management capabilities of Storage Manager for Active Directory, along with a considerable amount of new features enabled through new target-driven policies:

- Copy, move, and groom files located on any location on the network

- Protect files from data loss or corruption such as a ransomware attack
- Handle work processes initiated from other applications
- Notify selected individuals when access permissions to high-value targets change
- Monitor and lock down changes in access permissions to high-value targets
- Set limits on how access permissions evolve through group inclusion and exclusion lists
- Assign data owners to be notified of access permission changes, perform data recovery, or perform remediation tasks

Upgrading from Storage Manager for Active Directory to File Dynamics

Much like upgrading from one version of Storage Manager to another, the process of upgrading from Storage Manager to File Dynamics is seamless. Existing policy definitions will move to the new product, and Storage Manager customers will be right at home in the File Dynamics UI.

Product Pricing and Upgrade Choices with File Dynamics Essentials

File Dynamics, with its extensive product capabilities, has a higher per-user license price than Storage Manager for Active Directory. Upgrade

pricing discounts from Storage Manager for Active Directory to File Dynamics may be available. Contact your Micro Focus sales representative for details.

With organizations setting annual budgets months in advance, Micro Focus realizes that a price increase from Storage Manager for Active Directory to File Dynamics might catch some organizations off guard. For this reason, File Dynamics Essentials is being offered as a bridge option.

File Dynamics Essentials offers all of the capabilities of Storage Manager for Active Directory, along with some new features, an updated Event Monitor, updated Agents, and support for Windows Server 2019. For a comparison between Storage Manager for Active Directory, File Dynamics Essentials, and the Full File Dynamics product, see the chart below.

All Storage Manager for Active Directory customers with active Maintenance will receive an activation code for File Dynamics Essentials. To activate a license, customers will use the activation code obtained from the Micro Focus Customer Care portal. Customers will use file-dynamicsupport.com website to generate the FD Essentials license.

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Feature Functionality	Storage Manager	File Dynamics	
	AD	Essentials	Full
Identity-Driven Lifecycle Management—Personal Storage	Yes	Yes	Yes
Identity-Driven Lifecycle Management—Collaborative Storage	Yes	Yes	Yes
Target-Driven Data Management—Copy	Yes	Yes	Yes
Target-Driven Data Management—Move	Yes	Yes	Yes
Target-Driven Data Management—Archive Content	Yes	Yes	Yes
Target-Driven Data Management—Cleanup Content	Yes	Yes	Yes
Cross-Empire Data Migration—eDirectory	Add-on	Add-on	Yes
Windows Server 2019 Support		Yes	Yes
Active Directory Scoping		Yes	Yes
High-Performance AD Event Monitor		Yes	Yes
High-Performance File System Agent		Yes	Yes
Advanced Scheduling Subsystem		Yes	Yes
Modernized Admin UI		Yes	Yes
Modernized Quota Manager Interface		Yes	Yes
Cross-Empire Data Migration—Active Directory			Yes
Data Access Governance: Security Policy—Notification			Yes
Data Access Governance: Security Policy—Lockdown			Yes
Data Access Governance: Security Policy—Fencing			Yes
Line-of-Business Data Owner Engagement			Yes
Remediation integration with File Reporter			Yes

Table 1. Feature comparison