

## ILM >> Overview

### Overview:

Asparian assists companies in implementing the proper Information Lifecycle Management (ILM) framework to determine the real value of data within an organization and enable our customers to best assign storage resources based on frequency of use and value to the enterprise.

ILM is a combination of processes and technologies that determines how data flows through an environment. Asparian ensures ILM is part of our clients' overall information technology strategy as it relates to disaster recovery, business continuance and regulatory requirements.

Asparian's engineers utilize a five steps process of Information Lifecycle Management consisting of an initial assessment of the environment, socialization between departments, classification of data, automation of processes and review process on a regular basis.

Through proven methodologies, Asparian ensures the success of multi-vendor technologies to reduce storage costs, simplify storage management and enhance availability while supporting end users needs.

Within ILM, Asparian provides modular offerings that include Virtualization, Storage Area Network (SAN), Network Attached Storage (NAS), Disaster Recovery & Backup, Business Continuity, Consolidation and Technology Fulfillment consulting services.

As your one-stop source for Storage Services backed by structured methodologies, we help you simplify enterprise storage requirements base on your needs and objectives.

### Key Information Lifecycle Management Benefits:

#### Create Tiered Storage Architecture

Reduce costs by allocating data assets to the proper storage format.

#### Enable Policy Automation

Automate information management to increase access and enhance business continuity.

#### Reduce Non-Compliance Risks

Ensure easy compliance through policy-based management.

#### Simplify Data Management

Standard policies for the automatic migration, retention and deletion of data throughout its life.

#### Reduce Storage Cost

Optimize and minimize the use of valuable disk space by moving less active data to lower-cost disk alternatives or automated tape while maintaining fast access to information.

#### Maximize Information Use

Match performance needs with storage options providing the fastest access to most important data.

#### Protect Data Appropriately

Use the highest levels of protection for the most valuable information and provide options to data.

#### Ensure Regulatory Compliance

Match compliance and Business Continuance requirements to the appropriate archival options.

**About Us:** Asparian, LLC is a technology focused, business driven consulting and technology services firm. While encompassing multi-industry expertise and best practice business process knowledge, Asparian provides trusted insight into existing and emerging technologies while identifying new business and technology trends supporting organizations to sustain long-term success.

### >> Key Features:

- Virtualization
- SAN/NAS
- Business Continuity
- Disaster Recovery & Backup
- Consolidation
- Technology Fulfillment

### >> Key Benefits:

- Maximize Storage Resources
- Tiered Storage Architecture
- Enable Policy Automation
- Increase Utilization of Existing Assets
- Improve Classification
- Decrease Compliance Costs
- Simplify Data Management
- Reduce Storage Cost
- Maximize Information Use
- Protect Data Appropriately
- Reduce Non-Compliance Risks
- Support User Needs

### >> Key Methodologies:

- Assessment
- Socialization
- Classification
- Automation
- Review

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**ILM ► ► Definition & Methodology**

Information Lifecycle Management (ILM) is a combination of processes and technologies that determines how data flows through an environment. This methodology is used to solve key issues such as ineffective storage utilization, storage management costs and regulatory requirements for data archival.

**Information Lifecycle Management Methodology:****1. Assessment Phase**

In the assessment phase of ILM, storage administrators can take advantage of Storage Resource Management (SRM) technologies. SRM solutions help IT administrators figure out what data resides on the storage assets in their environment. SRM tools can generate reports for IT that outline data usage patterns.

**2. Socialization Phase**

Once the IT department understands what data it has and where the data lives, it can begin the next steps of the ILM process: generating reports from the SRM tools, presenting them to the company's department heads and explaining the breakdown of storage asset utilization and the costs involved.

**3. Classification Phase**

IT must work with department heads to set up a classification schema for the company. Data can be classified in the following ways: Data type, Data "organization", Data age and Data "value".

IT will use all data collected at this point to establish policies to automate the data's migration through the environment, with a minimum amount of hands-on data management. SRM solutions should be employed throughout the ILM process, not merely for an initial assessment.

SRM technology can monitor the storage environment constantly, revealing where excess capacity, duplicate files, "unnecessary files" or aged files exist. This information is very important in the ILM process, for it is essential in understanding which data should be migrated, archived or purged.

**4. Automation Phase**

Once data has been classified and the department heads have agreed on a plan for where their data should live be at any point in its lifecycle, policies must be established to determine where (on which storage resources) the data should be located. Automated Data Migration (ADM) tools can automate the migration of data from one storage class to another based on user-defined policies.

ADM solutions are essentially a combination of intelligent SRM tools and Hierarchical Storage Management (HSM). HSM was designed to automate data migration for archival purpose and it is access-driven. In contrast, ADM solutions enable data migration across various storage resources based on a combination of user-defined criteria and it is data-value-driven.

**5. Review**

As with a Business Continuity Plan, Information Lifecycle Management is a continuous process. As your business grows and changes, ILM plans grow and change as well. Regular updates need to be conducted ensuring the process is sound and storage is correctly allocated to maximum benefit. As modifications are made so will the documentation (updated continuously).

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