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Automated File Server Disk Quota Management

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Sandia National Laboratories Infrastructure Computing Systems and Services Departments provide corporate file storage to all Sandia user accounts. This service is known as the Sandia Data Storage Service (SDSS). Users are allocated a certain amount of disk space automatically, and then charged a fee for additional space as needed. Requests for additional data space are managed via a web-based interface to a SQL database. SDSS administrators are responsible for making data quota modifications on the SDSS Servers to reflect the space requirements specified in this database. Originally, this was administered manually, via a user interface provided by the disk quota management application, but the task of updating user quotas was becoming more and more time-consuming, as additional disk space requirements became more common. An automated solution was needed, not only to eliminate the manual process, but to improve response time between disk space requests and actual quota updates on the SDSS Servers. The product developed to meet this need, called SDSS Quota Management Service (QMS), fulfilled the designed role, provided additional capabilities to both users and administrators of SDSS, and reduced the effort expended by system administrators by 150 man-hours per year. Further collaboration between Sandia and the SIS Laboratory at New Mexico Tech University has resulted in even more automated quota management capabilities for SDSS.

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