

# EMC Software and HIPAA

## What is HIPAA and what does it mean to be compliant to this standard?

Enacted in 1996, the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) outlines standards for the storage, management, and use of healthcare information. HIPAA requires that regulated organizations standardize the exchange of electronic data related to healthcare-related transactions and protect the privacy and security of Personal Health Information (PHI). The law also requires that covered entities must have backup, disaster recovery, and media controls in effect.

### How can EMC software help keep you in compliance?

Our opportunity to serve the healthcare industry is multifold.

EMC software:

- Provides corporate-level and individual office-level disaster recovery services for HIPAA compliance
- Supports HIPAA compliance surrounding requirements for security, privacy, and access of patient information
- Provides HIPAA-compliant records management

### How does EMC software address compliance from a business requirements perspective?

EMC offers document management and disaster recovery solutions that address many of the requirements of HIPAA, for both security and recoverability in the case of disaster. The EMC® Documentum® ApplicationXtender® family of products, when combined with EMC DiskXtender®, provides image-enabled records management for HIPAA compliance. The EMC NetWorker™ suite provides comprehensive backup and recovery in heterogeneous environments, including Windows, UNIX, Linux, and OpenVMS. NetWorker database modules provide complete, online protection for multiple database systems, including Oracle, DB2, MS SQL Server, and Informix. NetWorker can provide support for your organization's disaster recovery plan in accordance with HIPAA.

### How does EMC software address HIPAA from a technical requirements perspective?

EMC software can address the requirements of HIPAA through:

#### *Audit trails*

The ApplicationXtender suite is ODMA compliant, a software industry standard, and enables comprehensive audit trails to be established for user management, access management, and system monitoring functions for content capture and modification. Audit trails keep information and parameters in logs that can then be used to create compliance reports for HIPAA. An industry standard reporting package (such as Crystal Reports) can be used to generate these reports based on the data tracked through ApplicationXtender audit trails.

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### ***Security and access***

The ApplicationXtender suite offers multiple levels of security, including encrypted connections for both network and web-based user session initiations. Where appropriate, the use of secure sockets and other industry standard technologies are implemented. ApplicationXtender provides for the granting of system access to users and to defined user groups. Administrators or “super users” can also be defined. In addition to system-level access security, EMC offers application-level, functional, and document-level security.

### ***Data retention***

HIPAA requirements for information/data/records/image retention within the records management solution are specific. Standard DiskXtender functionality, implemented as the storage and archival component for ApplicationXtender, meets these requirements fully. DiskXtender on its own can provide long-term archival of virtually any type of data file for a wide variety of applications. DiskXtender works by migrating data off primary servers onto alternate storage media. In addition, DiskXtender provides quick, transparent access to archived data for users and applications—without intervention from IT personnel. DiskXtender enables organizations to use a wide variety of storage media for archiving, depending on their budget constraints, retrieval time objectives, data volume, and other factors.

### ***Backup and disaster recovery***

HIPAA requires that healthcare organizations have disaster recovery and contingency plans in place. A solid backup and recovery strategy is a key component of disaster recovery, which can be addressed by EMC NetWorker.

## **Take the Next Step**

To learn more about EMC solutions for HIPAA compliance, visit us online at <http://software.EMC.com> or call 800.607.9546 (outside the U.S.: +1.925.600.5802).



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