Know your oldest array, what it holds and the date its support ends

About 15 minutes, from records you already have

When a storage array (the shared disks behind many servers) passes its end of support date, its maker stops fixing and supporting that model. The install year, the systems that depend on it and the support date usually sit in three different places.

Yes **2** Written down, with a date (a log, a screen, a document), and it meets your own plan.

Partly **1** Remembered, but not written down, or the record shows you missed your plan.

No **0** Nobody knows, or it was never done. A blank is a finding.

"None, checked on a date" counts as a record. No plan or target written down? Write your guess first, then measure: the guess is your plan.

Five questions about your own setup

1 Every array and its year

Your answer, and where it is written down (with the date) Have you listed every array you run, with the year it went into service? (An array is the shared disks behind many servers.)

No 0 | Partly 1 | Yes 2 Score 0, 1 or 2 This quarter Next quarter

How to raise it

Where to find it:
The purchase order, the asset tag or the array's own log.

To get it to a 2:
A dated list written from those records, not from memory.

2 The oldest one

Your answer, and where it is written down (with the date) Which array on that list is the oldest, and is it circled?

No 0 | Partly 1 | Yes 2 Score 0, 1 or 2 This quarter Next quarter

How to raise it

Where to find it:
Your list from row 1: the earliest install year.

To get it to a 2:
The oldest array circled on a dated list, with the year and where you read it.

3 What it holds

Your answer, and where it is written down (with the date) Which applications and data depend on the oldest array?

No 0 | Partly 1 | Yes 2 Score 0, 1 or 2 This quarter Next quarter

How to raise it

Where to find it:
The array's host list (the servers connected to it) and the application owners.

To get it to a 2:
The applications and data written down, confirmed by the application owners, with the date.

4 Its support end date

Your answer, and where it is written down (with the date) On what date does its maker stop supporting that exact model? (After that date the maker stops fixing and supporting it.)

No 0 | Partly 1 | Yes 2 | Score 0, 1 or 2 | This quarter | Next quarter

How to raise it

Where to find it:
The maker's end of support page for your model, or your support contract.

To get it to a 2:
The date, with where you read it. Not found? Write "not found"; the blank is a finding.

5 Said in one sentence

Your answer, and where it is written down (with the date) Could you say, with a date on it: "The oldest array holds these systems, and its support ends on this date"?

No 0 | Partly 1 | Yes 2 | Score 0, 1 or 2 | This quarter | Next quarter

How to raise it

Where to find it:
Rows 2 to 4, written as one sentence in your own notes.

To get it to a 2:
The sentence written down and dated, read again inside the interval your team sets. No interval written down? Write your guess (once a quarter, once a year) and score against it.

Your total, out of 10

9-10 **Known** Score the same page again next quarter.

5-8 **Partly known** Fix your lowest row this week.

0-4 **Assumed** Do row 1 this week.

Two rules beat the total: if row 1 scores below 2, the result is Assumed. Any row that missed your plan or guess is your next step.

> What is the oldest storage system you have seen still running in production?

What this does not prove

A list of arrays and years shows what you know about. It does not show what a forgotten system still holds, or who still depends on it. A support date read today can change if the maker changes it or your contract changes.

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