Storage Management Services Architecture Overview

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The purpose of the Storage Management Services Architecture document is to present a high level view of SMS. For detailed information about each module, please see the appendix "Other Documents." This document also provides a comprehensive glossary at the end of the document.

Executive Summary

Storage Management Services (SMS) is a one stop solution for most platforms, devices, and media. It provides a standard for data, devices, media, and storage management interfaces, that in turn produce storage management products that are extensible and compatible.

Modularization and hiding unnecessary information makes SMS' products extensible. Thus, changes in one module are unlikely to cause changes in another module. To add features, the user or developer simply replaces or adds a module. For example, when releasing a new NetWare OS, Novell can release an SMS module that allows existing SMS-compatible products to service the new OS.

SMS is flexible and robust. It can be configured to service targets (e.g., NetWare, DOS, Macintosh, etc.) on an enterprise level from a central location, or to service targets individually. For example, to manage data on an enterprise level, a network administrator, with the proper rights, requests that all SMS applications send their target's data to a central location for back up, or have each SMS site (each cloud in Figure 1-1) simultaneously back up the data locally. Figure 1-1 and Figure 1-2 shows two possible configurations for SMS (keep in mind that these are only two of many possible configurations).