Highlights

Takes significantly less time than a conventional DICOM data migration

Eliminates the need to maintain jukebox or DICOM server throughout the migration project

Eliminates the need for local clinical and IT labor and resources during the migration

Allows your staff to quickly transition away from your legacy system, eliminating dependency on older, less reliable storage technology

Is especially suited for image-intensive specialties, such as cardiology and radiology

datafirst.

Hyper-Migration

Migrating your DICOM data quickly, safely, and cost-effectively

DICOM Data Importance

To provide patient care, facilities need immediate access to DICOM images today, while knowing they can depend on their availability tomorrow. Accessing prior studies to monitor patient progression and to document changes is clinically imperative and has significant regulatory requirements surrounding it. Organizations also face constant pressures to modernize the way they provide healthcare, including DICOM image management, while dealing with the challenges of declining budgets.

Older Archive Systems, Today's Risks

As legacy Picture Archiving and Communication Systems (PACS) and storage devices such as jukeboxes approach the end of their lifecycles, they become less reliable, often causing frustration for clinical staff needing access to imaging data. This, coupled with the fact that many facilities have hundreds of "shelved" media outside a storage jukebox, makes delivering patient care especially challenging. To add to the problem, parts and service are often unavailable when facilities run into problems with their server or jukebox. In many cases, the vendor of the product is no longer in business. In addition, as DICOM servers and archive systems age, facilities are exposed to assorted risks—including data loss, financial impact, hospital downtime, and compliance issues.

To better serve patient and staff needs, remain competitive, expedite workflow, and reduce exposure to risk, many facilities are upgrading or replacing their PACS and/or jukebox archives. An integral part of this strategy is implementing a **DICOM migration**. Migrating DICOM data to the new PACS system allows clinicians to take full advantage of new diagnostic tools and enhancements while maintaining immediate access to all legacy studies.

Conventional DICOM Migration

For many organizations, a conventional DICOM data migration approach works well—especially if the legacy system is fully functional, supported, and easily maintained throughout the project. However, many medical facilities lack this level of functionality in their existing systems. For these organizations that do not have a stable, functioning system, the migration process could be time-consuming, tedious, complex, costly, and resource-intensive. Typical DICOM data migrations are manual and involve various types of media—such as DVDs, CDs, magneto-optical (MO) cartridges, Blu-ray Discs, and tapes—and due to the legacy underlying technology, they may require transferring the data one patient record at a time. The process can involve tens of thousands of files and can take many months or even years to complete. In addition, the older the legacy archive system, the greater the potential for migration problems.

Migrating DICOM image data from legacy systems to new systems is an enormous undertaking and places huge demands on the older systems during the process. In many cases, older systems cannot keep up with this intensive data migration process and often fail during the process. This can interrupt day-to-day operations, require costly service calls, and leave the data migration paused in an incomplete state while trying to locate parts and service for the legacy systems. Additionally, transferring semi-DICOM or even "true DICOM" data between servers and archives requires industry expertise since nearly all solutions treat image data uniquely. In these cases, specialized DICOM tools must be incorporated to accommodate specific requirements and ensure the data sent to the target system is in the format it prefers.

The Need for Speed

In these risky, costly, and frustrating situations, a **Hyper-Migration** strategy will deliver the best results. It can offer significant benefits over the conventional approach. DataFirst Hyper-Migration is a turnkey solution to migrating DICOM data from your legacy system to your new system—quickly, safely, and cost-effectively.

DataFirst Hyper-Migration

DataFirst Hyper-Migration is an upgrade option to conventional DICOM data migration. For organizations that can benefit from the service, DataFirst moves data from the legacy PACS system to the target system *rapidly*, and can offer tangible business benefits, including:

- Expedites the migration process, dramatically reducing total project longevity
- Offers a highly efficient, cost-effective, safe alternative to other migration strategies
- Is particularly suited for image-intensive specialties, such as cardiology and radiology
- Frees up local clinical and IT resources that would normally need to participate in the process
- Reads data in a parallel fashion, rather than file by file as in conventional strategies
- Eliminates any potential problems related to the older system during the migration process
- Can be used as a disaster recovery solution by quickly copying data off a broken archive system
- Allows you to decommission your legacy jukebox technology BEFORE the migration and secure all data online for future use
- Lets you see ROI on your new imaging system much faster than with traditional DICOM migrations

The Hyper-Migration Process

The Hyper-Migration process is seamless for clinical staff and technologists. DataFirst engineers manage the process from beginning to end in a turnkey fashion. Sites experience effectively no downtime and only logistical data is required from facility teams. To ensure accurate implementation, DataFirst uses an extensive array of specialized DICOM tools to facilitate the movement of data.

The following outlines the Hyper-Migration process, along with the roles of DataFirst and your hospital or medical facility:

Your hospital or medical facility:

- Provides a small area (approximately 100 square feet) in close proximity to the legacy archive, plus four 110-volt power outlets
- Enables access to the new system that will receive the data, allows ongoing Internet connectivity throughout the migration, and provides an onsite or on-call resource during the initial phase to answer any questions
- Allows DataFirst access to the server, media jukebox, and any other components required at the start of the process

DataFirst:

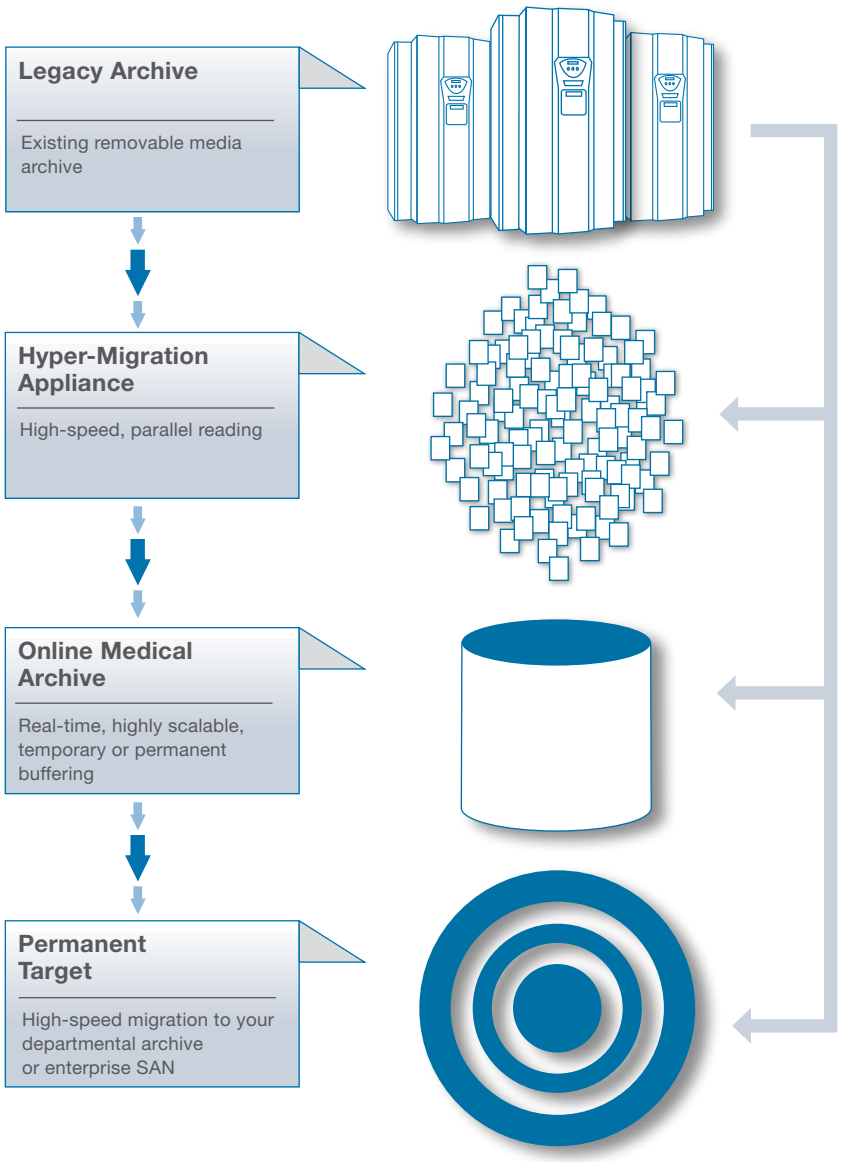
- Brings all the software, hardware, and resources onsite that are required for implementation
- Installs and configures the onsite HMAs (Hyper-Migration Appliances) to enable the migration
- Compares empirical database information gathered during the HMA process to the legacy system database to identify media management discrepancies, if made available by the site
- Establishes a remote connection with the DataFirst computer so DataFirst can monitor the entire migration process, which is automated once installed, configured, and initiated
- Sends the data automatically, at the highest speed possible, to the target destination, monitoring the transfer every step of the way
- Delivers your data safely and reliably for ready use on your new system

Conventional DICOM Migration vs. Hyper-Migration

	Conventional Migration	Hyper-Migration
Timeframe	Can take YEARS to complete the migration	Standard projects completed in a matter of days or weeks
Resources	Requires substantial local resources for media management during the migration process	Only minimal resources needed during initial migration setup; no ongoing resources required
Maintenance Costs	Maintenance contract required to keep legacy system up and running and “alive” for duration of migration process	None; plus, allows you to decommission your legacy server and jukebox immediately
Hardware Costs	Potential for sizeable costs in the event of problems with legacy archive and DICOM server during migration (service, replacement parts, etc.)	None; eliminates your need to rely on the server and jukebox
Risks	Financial impact; potential for regulatory noncompliance when depending on legacy PACS system for day-to-day archiving and retrieval; threats to project feasibility if the server/archive stops performing throughout the project	None beyond risks inherent in existing onsite systems and network

DataFirst Hyper-Migration:

From legacy system to target system—*fast*.



Additional Migration Services from DataFirst

Hyper Data Cleansing

DICOM Data Cleanup/Tag Validation—DataFirst evaluates, modifies, or replaces the contents of a specific DICOM tag within each image as it is passed through the migration process. These services are offered in addition to normal data migration projects.

Additional Applications for Hyper-Migration

Archive Refresh—DataFirst upgrades the legacy storage repository, such as copying data from a jukebox to a spinning disc to move data online and make it readily accessible.

Why DataFirst?

DataFirst has been a leader in DICOM data software and services for more than 20 years, with hundreds of DataFirst DICOM products operating in medical facilities across North America. Since designing and delivering the first medical laser disc archive to the market in 1990, our company has been instrumental in developing next-generation technologies for the healthcare industry. In fact, we helped develop the DICOM standard, enabling organizations to innovate to remain competitive while better satisfying HIPAA compliance. Our proven expertise and leading technology solutions—including archival storage and specialized DICOM tools—allow us to successfully migrate medical image data in both conventional and hyper scenarios. If you have a need for a more rapid migration to your new PACS system—for whatever reason—DataFirst can help. We can do it quickly and safely, will manage the entire process, and can reduce your risk today and save you money in the long run.

To learn more about DataFirst Hyper-Migration, please contact us at 1.800.634.8504 or Sales@DataFirst.com.
Or you can visit us on the web at www.datafirst.com.