# Seascape for Notes

swingsoftware

## Business Impact

When an organization decides to cease its investment in Lotus Notes and Domino, it has to think about migrating and archiving the data. From user mail files to custom Notes applications, the historical data accumulated on the platform has to be extracted and preserved. Only then, not before, can the Domino servers be shut down.

So, if IT modernization starts with archiving data, what is it that is preventing companies from swiftly archiving their data and decommissioning the server? Well, semi-structured data in NSF databases, i.e., Notes documents and their hierarchies, are difficult to archive with high fidelity. However, this level of accuracy is crucial in the compliance archiving.

„The best solution for my Lotus Notes archive project."

Daniel Pelletier, Solution Architect, TELUS

### 93%

93% of organizations have an action plan for Lotus Notes applications and data. Offload inactive data from Lotus Notes databases and accelerate your migration.
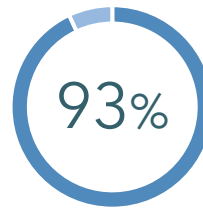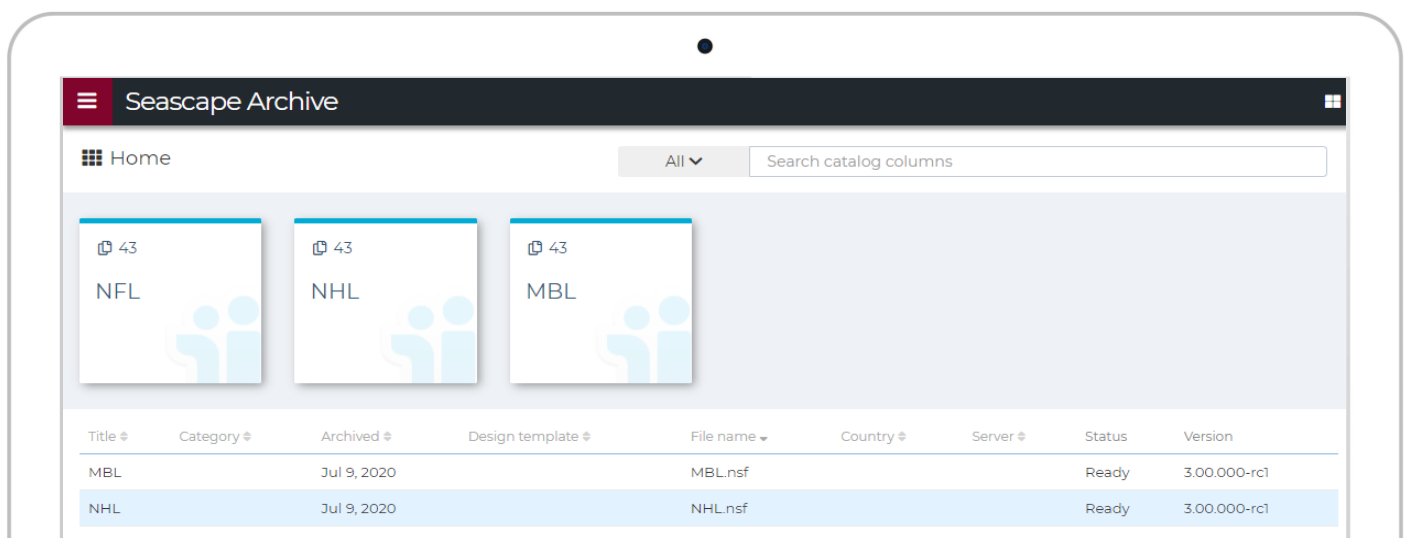
## Product Overview

SWING Seascape is an archiving solution for Lotus Notes (HCL Notes). It enables administrators to archive entire Notes applications, mail files, and other custom databases using a streamlined archiving process.

At the core of the product is SWING Software's proprietary PDF rendering engine, which converts Lotus Notes forms and emails into PDF files.

The PDF rendering engine was built specifically to convert Notes-specific types of content, such as embedded views, tabbed content, rich-text content, computed fields, document links, and more. It provides the highest PDF conversion fidelity for Lotus Notes available on the market today.

As part of the database archiving process, SWING Seascape converts all database documents into PDF files, and it also extracts the file attachments from Notes documents (in their native file formats or converted to PDF) and document metadata (saved as XML or JSON files).
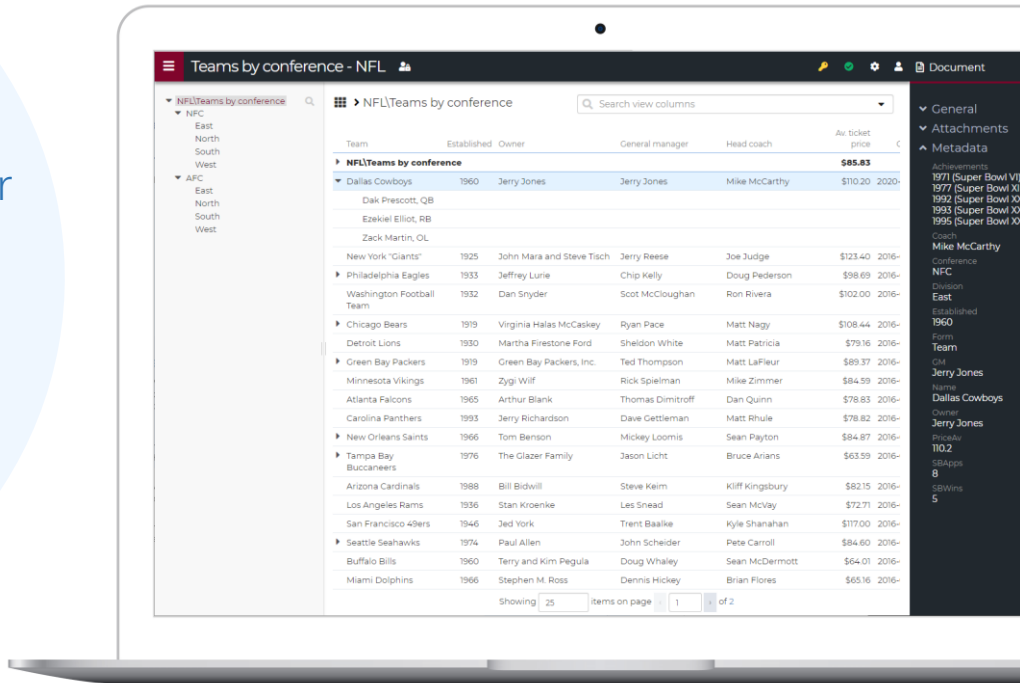
Administrators can choose between deploying the exported database content via standalone Web Archives or in Microsoft SharePoint lists or libraries.

Seascape also provides the ability to generate PDF and XML archives with automatically generated folder structures and rule-based filenames. This type of archive is suitable for manual or scripted import into any other content repository, either on-premise or in the cloud.

### Seascape Archive

Home | All ⌄ | Search catalog columns

| 📄 43 | 📄 43 | 📄 43 |
| NFL | NHL | MBL |

| Title ⇕ | Category ⇕ | Archived ⇕ | Design template ⇕ | File name ⌄ | Country ⇕ | Server ⇕ | Status | Version |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| MBL | | Jul 9, 2020 | | MBL.nsf | | | Ready | 3.00.000-rc1 |
| NHL | | Jul 9, 2020 | | NHL.nsf | | | Ready | 3.00.000-rc1 |

„[Seascape for Notes] delivers an excellent user experience."

Diane Jackson, Analyst/Developer, O-I Glass

# The Seascape Web Archive

The Web Archive is an automatically generated portable web application that closely resembles the original Notes application or mail database.

Its UI includes the exact same document views and categories as the source database, including the document response structures. The document views may be searched and sorted by any view column.

Users who have been using Notes for many years appreciate the Web Archive's look and feel, as they can quickly and easily find the documents and emails that they need.

From a technical standpoint, the Web Archive is designed as a standalone HTML application that does not require a database backend.

As a result, the Web Archive is highly portable and can be hosted on any web server, in shared network folders, or even copied locally onto PCs or laptops.

In all cases, all that is required to open a Web Archive is a web browser. A single Web Archive can consist of multiple databases, which are shown in a searchable database catalog, and it comes with full support for cross-database document links.

Once the source Notes databases have been exported to Web Archives, they can be decommissioned, and the Domino server shut down. Subsequently, the users can use the Web Archives to access the historical Notes data in any web browser.

# Seascape Flex Server–Get More Flexibility

For many organizations, Web Archive is a complete solution for exporting their Notes data into open standard file formats that their staff can access with zero recurring costs.

However, the portability of Web Archives does come at a cost, as the more advanced archive functions cannot be implemented without the right back-end code and database.

Highly regulated organizations typically require an archiving solution to support advanced searches and full-text searches. They must be able to manage user and group access to the archived databases, and there must be support for unrestricted scalability.

The answer to all of these requirements is the Seascape Flex add-on, which is a lightweight server that automatically extends the capabilities of standalone Web Archives.

Seascape Flex can be installed on a Windows server or a workstation. Once it is installed and linked to an existing Web Archive, it will automatically index the Web Archive's

PDF files, attachments, and metadata, and make them available for full-text searches via the advanced search dialog.

User management is handled either by connecting Seascape Flex to the organization's Active Directory or by creating internal users and groups in the Flex database. Once the user accounts have been set up, administrators can assign access permissions by simply selecting users or groups in each database.
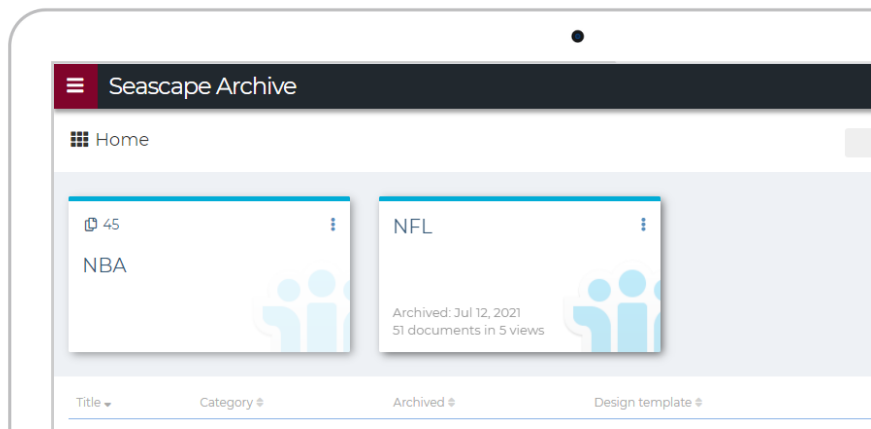
Seascape Flex is built around the industry standard Elasticsearch engine, which provides organizations with uncompromising fast document searches and flexible options for scaling their archives.

Below is a quick comparison of the features supported by a standalone Web Archive and the advanced features that are enabled by deploying both a Web Archive and Seascape Flex on a server.

| | Web Archive | Web Archive with Seascape Flex |
|---|---|---|
| Deployment method | Copy the archive to a web server, shared network folder, SharePoint library, or a local folder on a PC or laptop. | Copy the archive to a server (or PC) on which Seascape Flex has been installed. |
| View column search | Yes | Yes |
| Any field (metadata) search | No | Yes |
| Full-text search | No | Yes |
| Search across multiple archived databases | No | Yes |
| Access permissions | Not available. Access can be managed by configuring folder permissions. | Access permissions are assigned in Seascape Flex. Users are authenticated by Active Directory. Alternatively, users and groups can be created in Seascape Flex. |
| Scalability | For best performance, it is recommended to keep the exported document views to under 500K view entries. | There are no limitations on view sizes. |

**Seascape Archive**

Home

45
NBA

NFL

Archived: Jul 12, 2021
51 documents in 5 views

| Title | Category | Archived | Design template |
|---|---|---|---|

## Archiving Notes Data in Microsoft SharePoint

Organizations that use Microsoft SharePoint can opt to move their inactive Notes data into a SharePoint list or document library.

Saving Notes data into SharePoint has several advantages, such as the built-in search functionality. The existing SharePoint user accounts can be leveraged to manage access permissions, and new Power Apps forms and applications can be built that interact with the data imported into SharePoint lists.

Once the upload is complete, your SharePoint library will show the PDF files in the first SharePoint column, followed by the Notes metadata, which is displayed in the remaining columns.

If you chose to create a custom folder structure in your staging folder, that structure will be replicated in the SharePoint library.

File attachments from Lotus Notes are saved in the Attachments folder in SharePoint (optionally, they can also be embedded in the generated PDFs).

The PDF files in the SharePoint library remain linked to each other in the same way as the original Notes documents were linked using the Notes doclinks feature.

## Extract data to PDF and XML files

Organizations that wish to move their Notes data into any other document repository or file archive can use Seascape to export their database content to PDF and XML files. Once the file collections are created, they can be imported into the target system by an administrator.

The PDF and XML files can be named using an easy-to-configure naming convention, which makes it simple for users to find the files they are looking for.

The files can be saved either in a single folder or in a folder structure that is generated automatically based on rules configured in the export settings.

The folder structure enables users to navigate through the archived records easily, and it is also straightforward for administrators to replicate the required folder structure in the cloud solution that the data are migrated to.

As with a SharePoint integration, the PDF/XML archives also enable you to export Notes attachments, either by embedding them in the parent PDF documents or by saving them in attachment subfolders automatically generated for each Notes record.

Once your data has been extracted from Lotus Notes databases, you will no longer need Notes and Domino to access historical records.

Seascape for Notes preserves rich content, document hierarchies, categories, views, links, and metadata.

## Archiving Use Cases—From the Customer's Point of View

Over the years, Seascape users have used the product for a wide variety of use cases. Here are some examples:

**Email migration and archiving**. Exporting users' mailboxes to Web Archives as part of a migration to Exchange (with only the more recent emails being imported to Exchange). Some companies choose to export mail files to PDF/XML archives, which are stored in Google Drive or OneDrive.

**Server decommissioning**. Exporting data from applications that are not being actively used to Web Archives, prior to decommissioning the Domino server to cut costs. Consolidating Domino servers and then exporting the remaining databases before shutting down the last server.

**Sunsetting Notes clients**. Exporting Lotus Notes databases to Web Archives and making them available organization-wide for searches using Seascape Flex.

**Phased application retirement**. Instituting an archiving center to which users can send their databases to be archived with Seascape before the Notes/Domino cut-off date.

**Annual archiving**. Exporting application data as multiple Web Archives, one for each year. Based on retention policies, the oldest Web Archives are deleted each year.

**Microsoft 365 migration**. Exporting Notes data to SharePoint and building new Power Apps forms for the imported data.

**M&A**. Exporting old Notes databases inherited from another company to Web Archives or SharePoint.

## Premium Export Services – Let Us Do The Heavy Lifting For You

For clients who do not have dedicated resources to archive Notes databases on their own, SWING Software offers the Premium Export Services.

Contact us to discuss your specific needs. Our operations team will then suggest how we can export your data for you. We can deploy the generated archives using your preferred method.

The Premium Export Services are a perfect solution for clients who wish to have:

- No installation or deployment overhead
- No upfront license costs
- No troubleshooting delays

Depending on your preferences, the export can be performed remotely (in which case you will need to provide us with remote desktop access to your server or workstation) or you can send your databases to us by FTP or courier mail and we'll process them on our site.

To get the conversation started, simply fill in a short contact form and one of our representatives will contact you as soon as possible: https://www.swingsoftware.com/form/export-services/

# Archiving Success Stories

Seascape has been used to successfully complete thousands of archiving projects ranging from a single database to several thousand databases.

Here are some examples of Lotus Notes database archiving stories provided by our valued customers.

We invite you to join our other customers and build your success story today.

**O-I Glass** migrated from Lotus Notes/Domino to other platforms, starting with 110 Domino servers and 10,000 databases.

**Von Roll** used Seascape to sunset its remaining Domino servers and Lotus Notes applications following its email migration.

**NCH Corporation** decommissioned its Domino server while preserving access to its historical records for future reference.