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IBM Makes New Acquisition on Storage Land

IBM grabs Diligent Technologies, continues its storage spending spree

IBM announced today the acquisition of Diligent Technologies, this being the third buy Big Blue make in the storage fields. Through this move, IBM plans on adding data de-duplication technology developed by Diligent Technologies to its own storage portfolio. In the last few months IBM has made two more grabs in the area, including Softek, NovusCG, and Arsenal Digital Solutions. The company also purchased the Israeli-based XIV in January and announced earlier this month its intention of acquiring FilesX, a provider of continuous data protection software. According to IBM, Diligent's technology will become an important part of IBM's New Enterprise Data Center model. Data de-duplication technology offerings are tailored to give a hand to organizations in improving efficiencies and reducing costs of data-center storage. Further more, IBM believes that the complexity of data-center management is at unprecedented levels at this time. "Diligent's data de-duplication software is a critical technology that will be integrated into the IBM Storage portfolio to further extend our information infrastructure strategy, allowing our clients to eliminate redundant data and streamline the infrastructure required to support their business - which can result in dramatic improvements in data-center efficiency," stated Andy Monshaw, general manager of IBM System Storage. IBM announced that, Together with Diligent's technology, the company will have the ability of offering solutions to help reducing the amount of physical storage space firms need. This way there will be important reductions in costs and energy consumption, and the time needed to back up and recover information will be significantly reduces as well. Overland, HDS, and Sun are some of the storage vendors that use Diligent's ProtecTier software and the startup has resellers deals with them. The way IBM will handle these agreements is not known at this time. The purchase sum has not been disclosed either, though there are some voices claiming that \$20 million are involved.