



Microsoft PST Capture & C2C's PST Enterprise

A Feature Comparison for PST Migration & Elimination



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The Microsoft PST Capture tool is best suited to small businesses using Exchange 2010 and Outlook 2010, where a limited number of PST files are located on a network file server. C2C's PST Enterprise is a more flexible and scalable solution, with a comprehensive feature set, that allows administrators to comfortably manage a project of up to 5 million PST files - regardless of their location on servers, desktops or laptops.

CLIENT FEATURES	PST Enterprise	PST Capture	
No client install	✓		PST Capture needs an agent installed and configured locally on each machine with PST files on it. PST Enterprise has a no footprint client that simply runs in memory on each machine.
Continual PST discovery and retry	✓		PST Enterprise client continually runs and updates the discovered PST data, whereas PST Capture needs to be manually initiated each time you want to search for PSTs.
Continual PST migration and retry	✓	✓	During a migration, both solutions can be configured to continually try until the migration is complete.
Supports Outlook 2000	✓		Microsoft no longer supports Outlook 2000.
Supports Outlook 2002/XP	✓		Microsoft no longer supports Outlook 2002/XP.
Supports Outlook 2003	✓	Not stated	Microsoft do not state that they support Outlook 2003, although it could be expected that they would.
Supports Outlook 2007	✓	Not stated	Microsoft do not state that they support Outlook 2007, although it could be expected that they would.
Supports Outlook 2010 (32 bit)	✓	Not stated	Microsoft do not state that they support Outlook 2010 32 bit, although it could be expected that they would.
Supports Outlook 2010 (64 bit)	✓	✓	Both the PST Enterprise Solution and PST Capture support Outlook 2010 64 bit
Discover and Migrate 'open' (in Outlook) PSTs	✓		PST Capture cannot open PST files for processing if the user has them open in Outlook. PST Enterprise can process them regardless of whether they are open or not.
Discover and Migrate PSTs on file system	✓	✓	Both the PST Enterprise solution and Microsoft's tool can discover and migrate PSTs that reside on file systems (and are not open in Outlook).
Search all hard drives on machine	✓	✓	Both the PST Enterprise solution and Microsoft's tool can search all hard drives on the agent machine.
Search selected hard drives (and mapped)	✓	✓	Both the PST Enterprise solution and Microsoft's tool can search selected hard drives on the agent machine and network mapped drives.
Compact PST files after processing	✓		PST Enterprise provides a configurable option to Compact (at a selected time) the original PST files after they have been processed. Microsoft's tool does not.
Disconnect PST files (from Outlook) after processing	✓		PST Enterprise provides a configurable option to Disconnect (from Outlook) the original PST files after they have been processed. Microsoft's tool does not. This is very important for the end user experience, leaving them with migrated data AND the original PST file will only result in confusion.
Delete PST files (from disk) after processing	✓		PST Enterprise provides a configurable option to Delete (from disk) the original PST files after they have been processed. Microsoft's tool does not. This helps with saving disk space on the client machines.



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NETWORK/BANDWITH CONSIDERATIONS	PST Enterprise	PST Capture	
PST data goes direct from client to server	✓		The PST Enterprise solution minimizes the processing and network overhead by passing data directly from the client to the Exchange server. The Microsoft tool passes data through a 'host' machine first, in effect doubling the processing time and the required network bandwidth.
Simple firewall traversal using HTTP	✓		Both the PST Enterprise solution and PST Capture use Web Services for client/server communication, however Microsoft uses a custom port (6674) which is not normally open through firewalls. PST Enterprise uses port 80, a port commonly allowed to traverse firewalls, making for a much simpler deployment, and seamless use both inside the organization and while working from home or a wireless hotspot.
Compressed / Encrypted data transfer	✓		For the transfer of data, PST Enterprise makes use of the built in Outlook/Exchange protocol which is both compressed and encrypted. The Microsoft tool encodes the file and sends it via Web Services.
Item by Item transfer	✓		The PST Enterprise solution sends the messages one by one, so that in the event of the machine being shutdown it can simply pick up where it left off when switched on again. PST Capture transfers the whole PST file, so if it fails at any time during the transfer then the whole file must be transferred across the network again.

SEVER/HOST FEATURES	PST Enterprise	PST Capture	
Support for Exchange 2000	✓		Microsoft no longer support Exchange 2000.
Support for Exchange 2003	✓		Microsoft do not state whether this tool is supported with Exchange 2003.
Support for Exchange 2007	✓		Microsoft do not state whether this tool is supported with Exchange 2007.
Support for Exchange 2010	✓	✓	Both the PST Enterprise solution and the Microsoft tool support Exchange 2010 (on premise).
Support for Exchange Online/BPOS/Office 365	✓	✓	Both the PST Enterprise solution and the Microsoft tool support hosted Exchange 2010 (Exchange Online/BPOS/Office365)
Support for 3rd Party Hosted Exchange Mailboxes	✓		Microsoft do not state whether this tool is supported with 3rd Party Hosted Exchange implementations.
Export 'discovered' PST data	✓	✓	Both the PST Enterprise solution and the Microsoft tool allow the discovered PST data (locations, sizes, names etc) to be exported.
Discovered PST Metadata Fields	18	6	Microsoft's tool reports a few (6) fields of discovered data about the PST. PST Enterprise provides a complete picture, by reporting an extensive number (18) of fields.
Accurate data size reported	✓		Microsoft's tool reports the size of the PST file on disk, which can be vastly different from the size of the data inside the PST file. PST Enterprise reports both values, giving admins an accurate reflection of both the volume of data to be transferred over the network, the disk storage required on the server as well as the volume of disk space that will eventually be saved on workstations and file servers.



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DETERMINING OWNERSHIP OF ORPHANED PSTS	PST Enterprise	PST Capture	
NTFS File Ownership reported		✓	Microsoft's tool reports the NTFS disk owner of the file (as a basis for manually assigning the owner of the data). This is fundamentally flawed as most files get the generic 'BUILTIN\Administrators' owner. PST Enterprise does not report this value as it has little value.
PST Data Ownership reported	✓		PST Enterprise analyzes the email data inside the PST, running 4 separate algorithms to best ascertain the 'real' owner of the data. Depending on the algorithm that best matched a confidence percentage is given.
Automatic determination of ownership	✓		After analyzing all the data inside a PST, using 4 separate algorithms, PST Enterprise will automatically assign ownership if the confidence percentage exceeds an administrator defined value.
Manual/Override PST ownership	✓	✓	The PST Enterprise solution allows the administrator to manually assign or override the owner of a PST file. Microsoft's tool forces the administrator to manually assign the owner of a PST file.
PST Status reported	✓	✓	Both the PST Enterprise solution and Microsoft's tool report on the status of each PST. Further, PST Enterprise also reports on every migration activity with date/time and number of items moved/failed.
Integration with Active Directory (report AD fields)	✓		The PST Enterprise solution interfaces to Active directory to display additional fields for each PST (e.g. owners OU, samAccountName or any other) to make the management and operation easier.



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MIGRATING DATA	PST Enterprise	PST Capture	
Migrate full PST	✓	✓	Both the PST Enterprise solution and Microsoft's tool allow the full PST to be migrated.
Delete selected data 'in place' before migrating	✓		The PST Enterprise solution allows policies to be set to delete all email older than X from a PST before doing the migration. This can help organizations considerably reduce the time, cost, effort and volume of data migrated.
Migrate only selected data	✓		The PST Enterprise solution allows policies to be set to only migrate data that was delivered between, before or after specific date ranges. This can help organizations considerably reduce the time, cost, effort and volume of data migrated (e.g. only migrate the last 12 months worth of data).
Migrate only selected folders	✓		The PST Enterprise solution allows policies to be set to only migrate data that resides in specific folders. This can help organizations considerably reduce the time, cost, effort and volume of data migrated (e.g. only migrate data in the 'Projects' folder).
Migrate only if PST data is less than defined size	✓		One of the key considerations in a PST migration project is not exceeding a user's mailbox quota with the data that is to be migrated in. PST Enterprise allows admins to limit the size of any one PST file that can be migrated into a user's mailbox.
Migrate only if all PST will fit in user mailbox	✓		One of the key considerations in a PST migration project is not exceeding a user's mailbox quota with the data that is to be migrated in. PST Enterprise allows admins to limit the size of the total of all PST files owned by a user, that can be migrated into that users mailbox.
"Accelerated Migrations" for users in cached mode	✓		PST Enterprise provides an 'accelerated migration' option for users in cached mode - in this mode the PST data is migrated into the users OST (cache) folder and then synchronized back to Exchange (using standard Exchange/Outlook) sync as bandwidth allows. This gives the benefit that end users 'perceive' the migration to have completed very quickly.
Multiple 'Migration Policies' concurrently	✓	✓	Both the PST Enterprise solution and Microsoft's tool allow multiple migration policies to be executed simultaneously.
Sharepoint PSTs / Internet Calendars	✓		The PST Enterprise solution will automatically recognize and filter out PSTs that host 'SharePoint Lists' or 'Internet Calendars' and 'IMAP' PST files as these should not be imported. Microsoft's tool will blindly import this data.
Scalability	✓		The PST Enterprise solution is designed and tested for migration projects of up to 5 million PST files, and hundreds of terrabytes of data. It is difficult to see Microsoft's tool scaling above a few hundred, given the level of manual intervention required.