



Scalability and performance with Spirion Sensitive Data Platform

Achieve Privacy-Grade data discovery and purposeful classification in a highly scalable SaaS hybrid architecture that can thoroughly scan both on-premises endpoints/servers and cloud repositories.

Problems with traditional scanning approaches

Traditional data discovery scans can be time consuming in order to yield accurate results. Most approaches choose to sacrifice accuracy, omit certain locations, and miss context in order to “complete” discovery quickly. These design choices don’t result in thorough discovery as they yield false positives – or even worse, false negatives, leaving gaps in location coverage. This fails to provide the depth of information required to understand the context of the data found resulting in concerns over accurate compliance with privacy regulations.

Bandwidth, capacity, and contention

Bandwidth and capacity are also a concern due to the high volume of data being read during scans. To compensate, it is important to keep the scanning software or agent as close to the data as possible, thereby greatly reducing bandwidth requirements and avoiding contention with other users.

Agents vs Agentless, or both?

Some other discovery solutions offer only agentless scanning, where all data is read by a single centralized deployment of cloud-based software.

While this centralized approach can be simpler to deploy and maintain, it may also have significant limitations and performance issues if on-premises drives or databases need to be scanned for compliance or security reasons, including:

- Network contention and congestion on internal LANs, across firewalls, and during transit of Internet connections.

- Consumption of excessive Internet bandwidth needed by other critical functions like off-site backups and other SaaS applications.
- Significant cloud repository egress fees may be incurred when data is scanned in a cloud repository without using an agent within or directly adjacent to the cloud repository.

The solution

Spirion Sensitive Data Platform (SDP) allows for agent-based, agentless or a hybrid combination for deployments. Local Agents can be deployed directly on servers and PCs where advantageous. Cloud Agents can be used to scan both repositories and or a combination of cloud and on-premises locations.

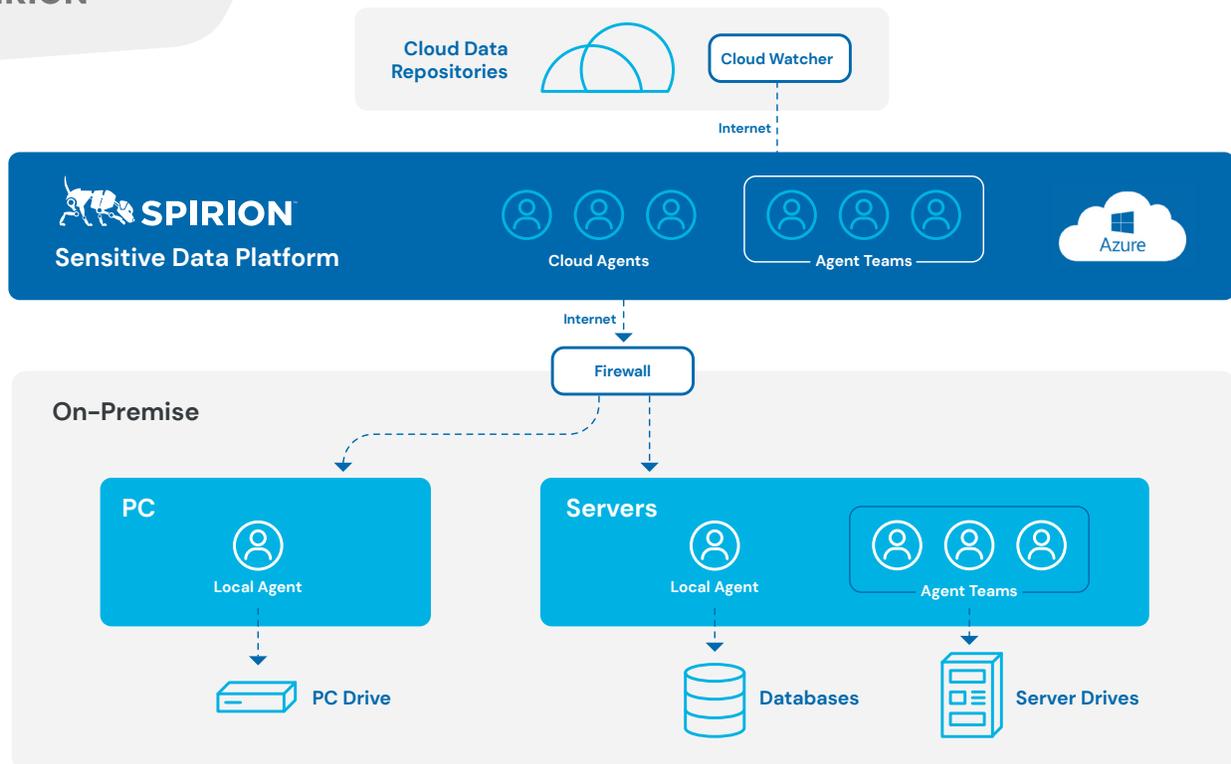
Cloud Agents

Cloud Agents run up in the cloud on the Azure platform. They work from a shared global search history, so they are aware of what other agents have already scanned. This eliminates duplicative rescanning while ensuring that a complete and thorough scan is done and the results are immediately visible in the Spirion SDP Console as the scan progresses. Cloud Agents can be automatically added or destroyed, and groups of Cloud Agents can be launched as an Agent Team wherever needed. This offers time and cost efficiencies with no pre-configuration overhead or dedicated hardware requirements.

On-Prem Agents

On-Prem Agents are usually deployed to on premise workstations, PCs, servers being scanned, or other local compute platforms. They make highly effective use of local compute resources and the high bandwidth/low contention storage busses connecting disk drives to





the server or PC they are running on. Because only the scan results are returned to the Spirion SDP Console, On-Prem Agents greatly reduce network bandwidth and content issues.

Cloud Watcher

Cloud Watcher is a new feature that is like a Cloud Agent. Rather than performing scans on demand or based on a preset schedule, Cloud Watcher starts a new scan by a Cloud Agent whenever a cloud repository API indicates that new or changed data is present. This capability improves the performance and scheduling impact of scanning for new or changed data by only scanning when necessary.

Agent teams

By combining sets of Cloud Agents or On-Prem Agents into an Agent Team, Spirion SDP can speed up large scans by breaking the work into small segments, allowing for distributed or parallelized scanning that greatly reduces overall scan times. Agent Teams are fully automated and highly scalable – you simply select a set of Agents to use

and Spirion SDP figures out how to divide and distribute the scan process across them, sharing a global scan history to ensure that no work is duplicated. As additional Agents configured for the scan become available, they check a queue for the next available scan portion and begin scanning immediately

Hybrid architectures provide flexibility, scalability, and performance

Asking whether a discovery tool is Agent-based or Agentless/Centralized is asking the wrong question. The question should be – what method is best for the organization? Usually the answer is a combination of both Agent-based and centralized scanning in a hybrid approach to provide both flexibility and scalability. Spirion SDP offers choice in deploy agents where necessary while still providing robust centralized, automated, and highly scalable agentless scanning options for consistently high performance and comprehensive discovery. Spirion SDP allows for the use of the method that is most appropriate for the task at hand to avoid compromises and maximize the total cost of ownership.

Talk to a Spirion data security and compliance expert today: expert@spirion.com

Spirion has relentlessly solved real data protection problems since 2006 with accurate, contextual discovery of structured and unstructured data; purposeful classification; automated real-time risk remediation; and powerful analytics and dashboards to give organizations greater visibility into their most at-risk data and assets. Visit us at spirion.com