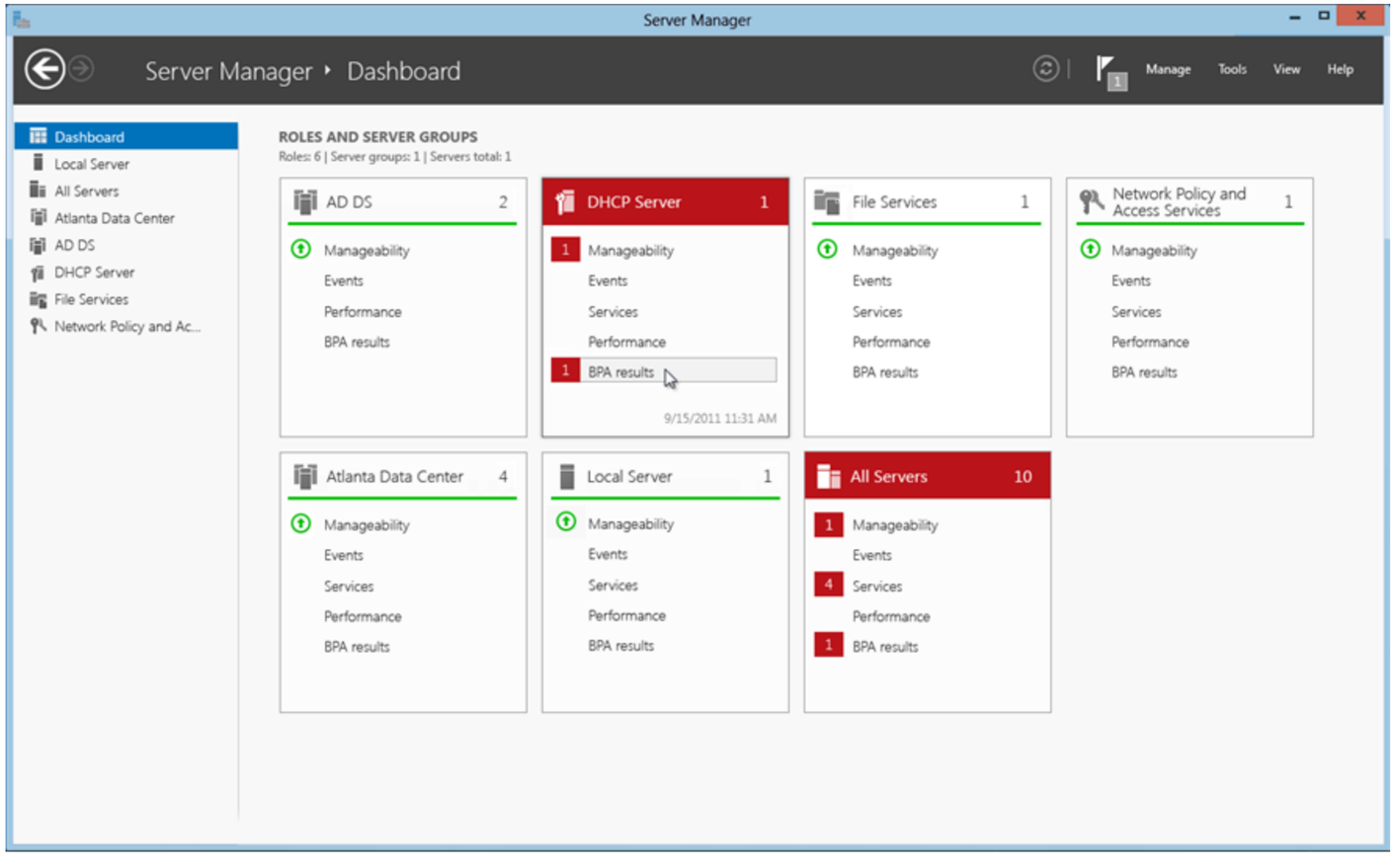
Server Manager

The Windows 8 Server Manager is a reimagined console for remote management of multiple servers and roles.



Server Manager simplifies the management of multiple remote servers and their installed OS roles by reducing the number of context switches within common workflows; adding centralized, quick monitoring; and providing effective troubleshooting.

The focus of our user experience investment in this release was to deliver a new, modern experience for Windows Server that is both fresh and familiar to IT Professionals.

The new version of Server Manager exemplifies this design direction, bringing a principled approach to design that embraces the Metro style being adopted across Microsoft.

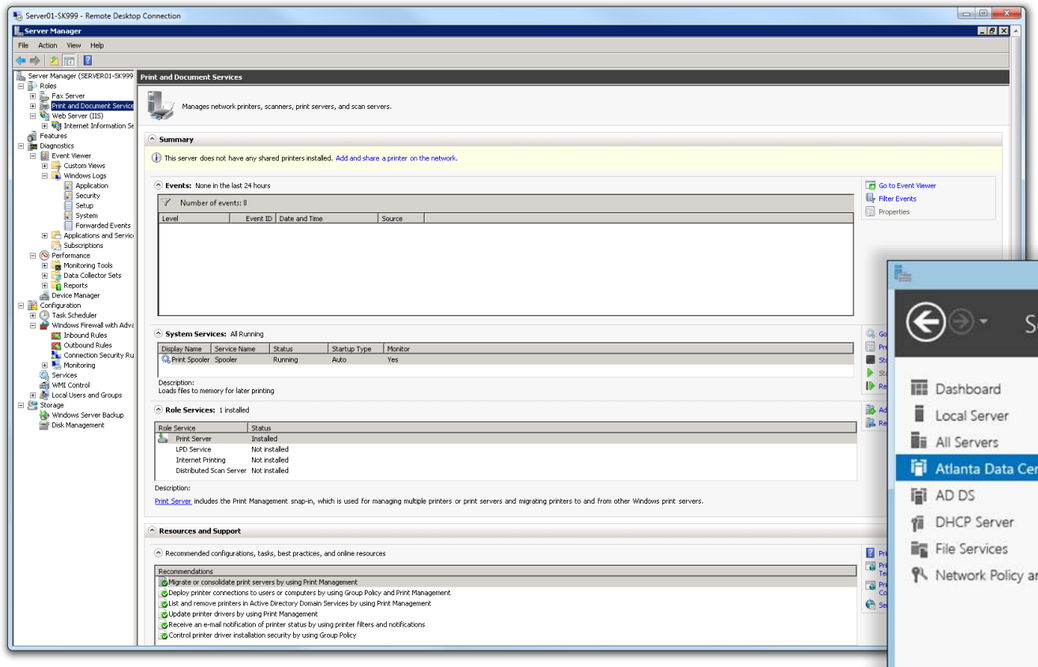
Experience Principles

Server Manager was designed to reflect our core values.

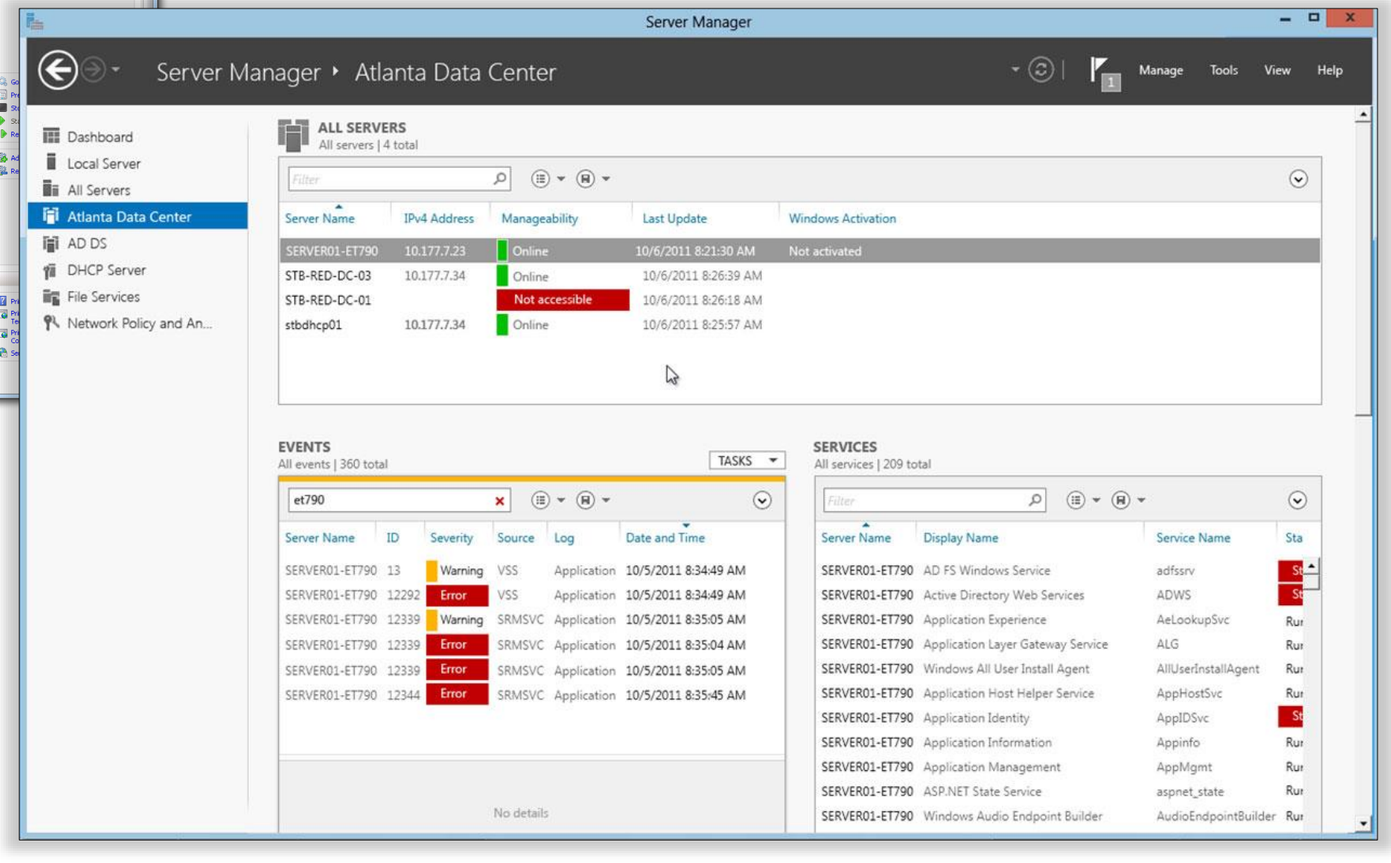
- ✓ Pride in craftsmanship
- ✓ Be fast and fluid
- ✓ Authentically digital
- ✓ Do more with less
- ✓ Win as one

Visual Evolution

Fresh yet familiar. The new Server Manager clearly resembles its predecessor.



Windows Server 2008



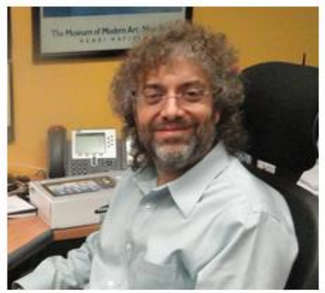
Windows Server 8

Server Manager's lineage is immediately clear and recognizable, which instills a sense of confidence for existing users. It also provides the right context for this release as an evolution.

Design Process

Design Research

Our users and their roles



IT Architects

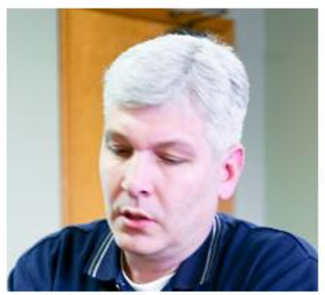
IT Developers

IT People Managers

System Administrators

Application Administrators

Computer and Mobile Device Administrators



Service Administrators

Cloud Brokers

Meet Michelle, an IT m

Michelle manages a team res servers and desktops in the c

"A control thing. More than anyth for the health of the systems I wa team to do all the tasks."

"We have to work stupid... 60-70 h you can do the bulk of them in you very positive! You are still able to kids good night..."

Key Things to Remember

- Michelle is an IT manager. She has Her team consists of:
  - Two people are DBAs
  - Two people are responsible
  - Two people are network en
  - 1 security administrator
  - 1 Unix administrator
- Michelle says "My team manages a servers. All running Windows Server
- Michelle thinks she would need **a lo**
- Because Michelle is a senior membe

Key Things to Remember

- The company provides support and applications and network componen
- After a recent merger, the compan

Design Process

Design Research

anagers

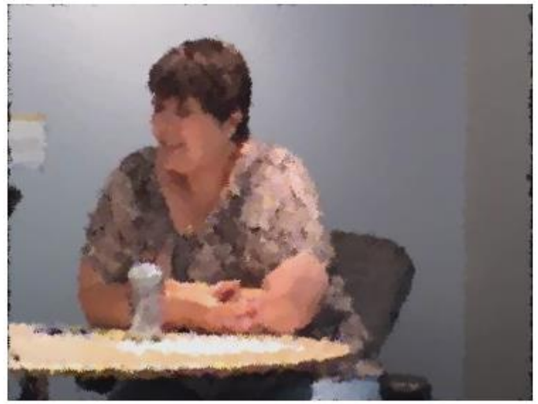
System Administrators

inistrators

Cloud Brokers

Meet Michelle, an IT manager

Michelle manages a team responsible for all the Windows servers and desktops in the company



"A control thing. More than anything, if I am responsible for the health of the systems I want a member of the team to do all the tasks."

"We have to work stupid… 60-70 hours a week, when you can do the bulk of them in your pajamas - that's very positive! You are still able to do laundry, kiss the kids good night…"

Key Things to Remember About Michelle

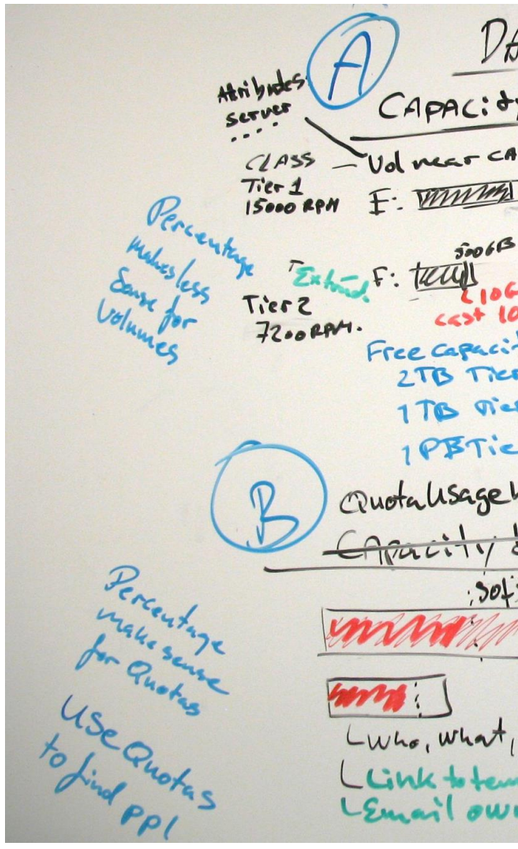
•Michelle is an IT manager. She has been working at her company for 19 years.
Her team consists of:

- •Two people are DBAs
- •Two people are responsible for HP 3000
- •Two people are network engineers
- •1 security administrator
- •1 Unix administrator

•Michelle says "My team manages all the windows servers and desktops. We also do phone support and video support". Her team managers 150 servers. All running Windows Server 2003.
•Michelle thinks she would need **a lobotomy** in order to agree to delegate tasks to end-users.
•Because Michelle is a senior member of the team she doesn't provision servers anymore.

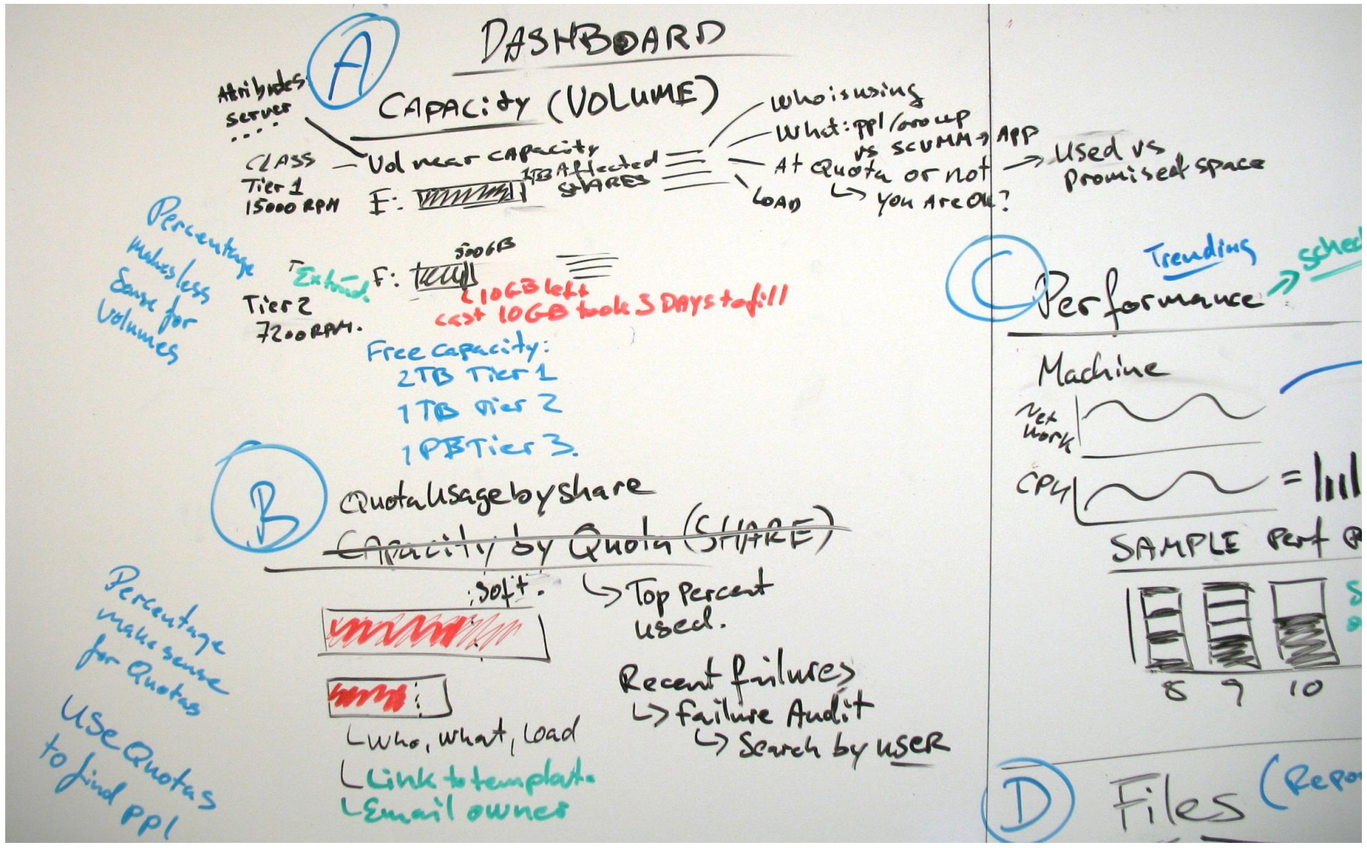
Key Things to Remember About Michelle's Company

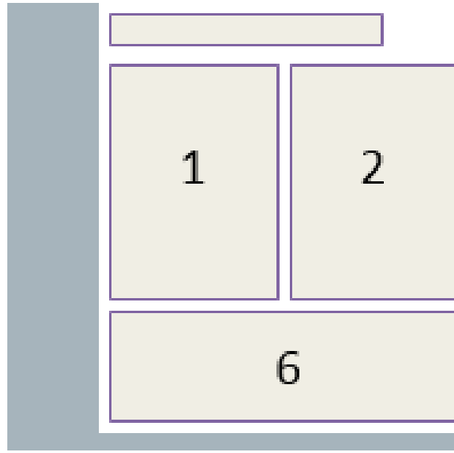
•The company provides support and applications for 34 colleges around Washington State. Each college has their own IT staff but some applications and network components are shared among the colleges.
•After a recent merger, the company now employees 140 people in 2 locations. The bulk of their servers resides in one location.

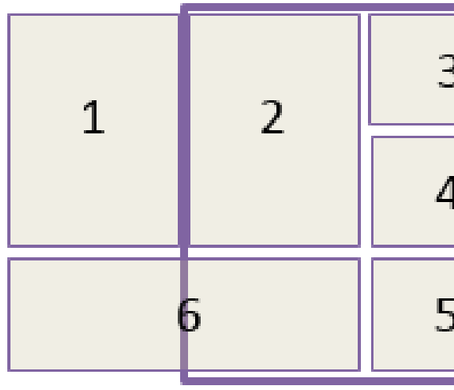


Design Process

White boarding







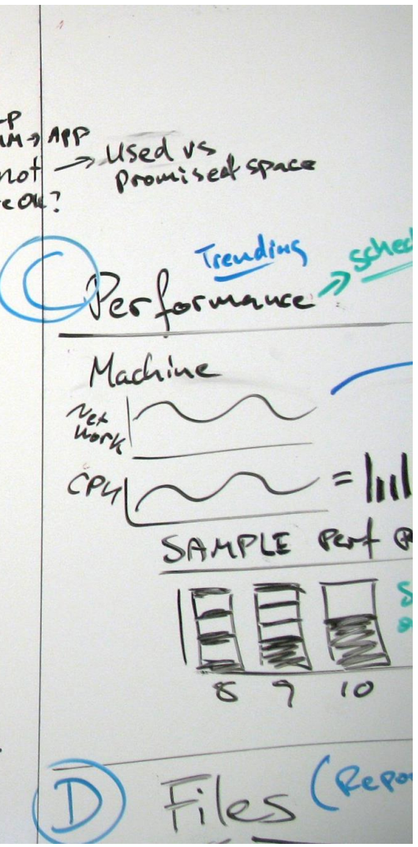
port and video support". Her team managers 150

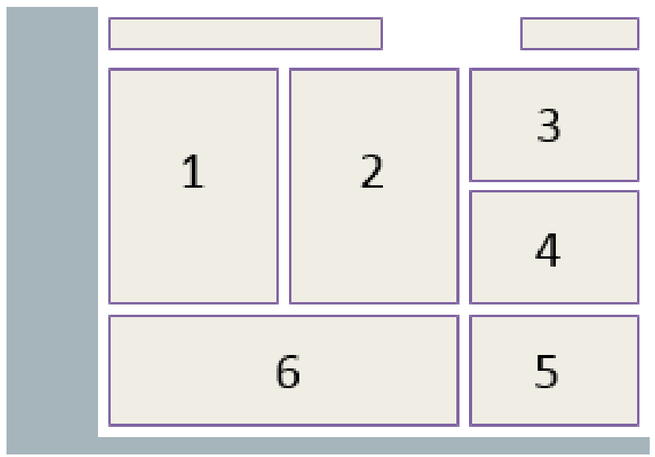
college has their own IT staff but some

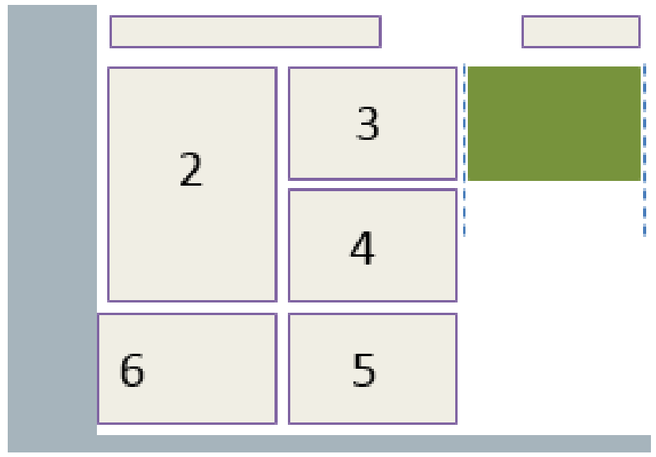
servers resides in one location.

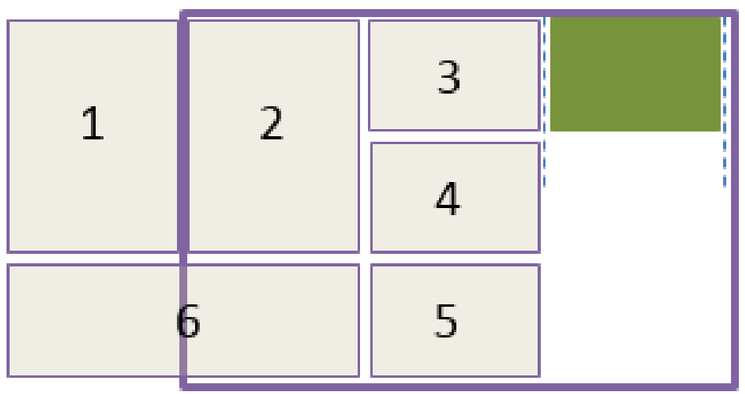
Design Process

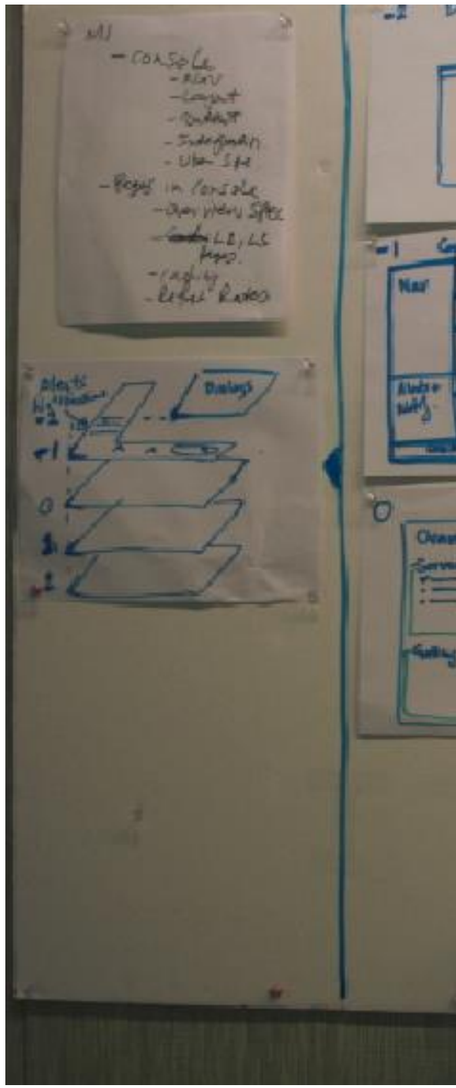
Alternative approaches











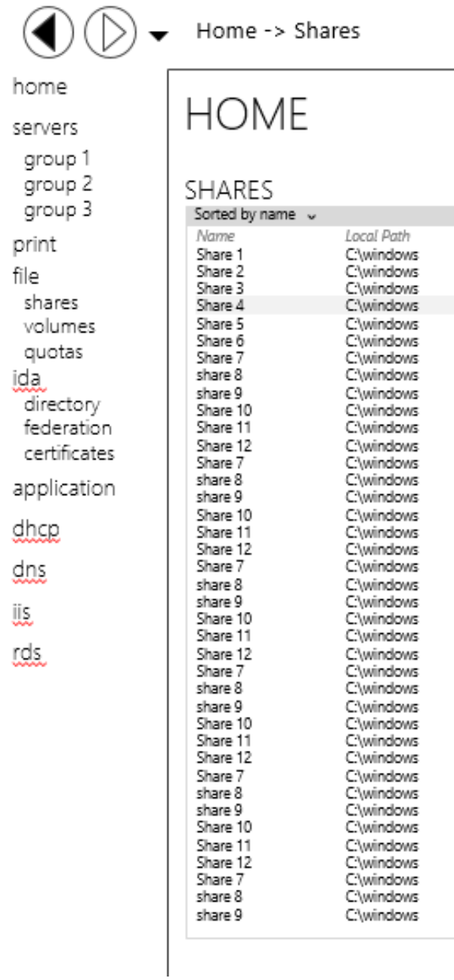
Design Process

Workshops

3

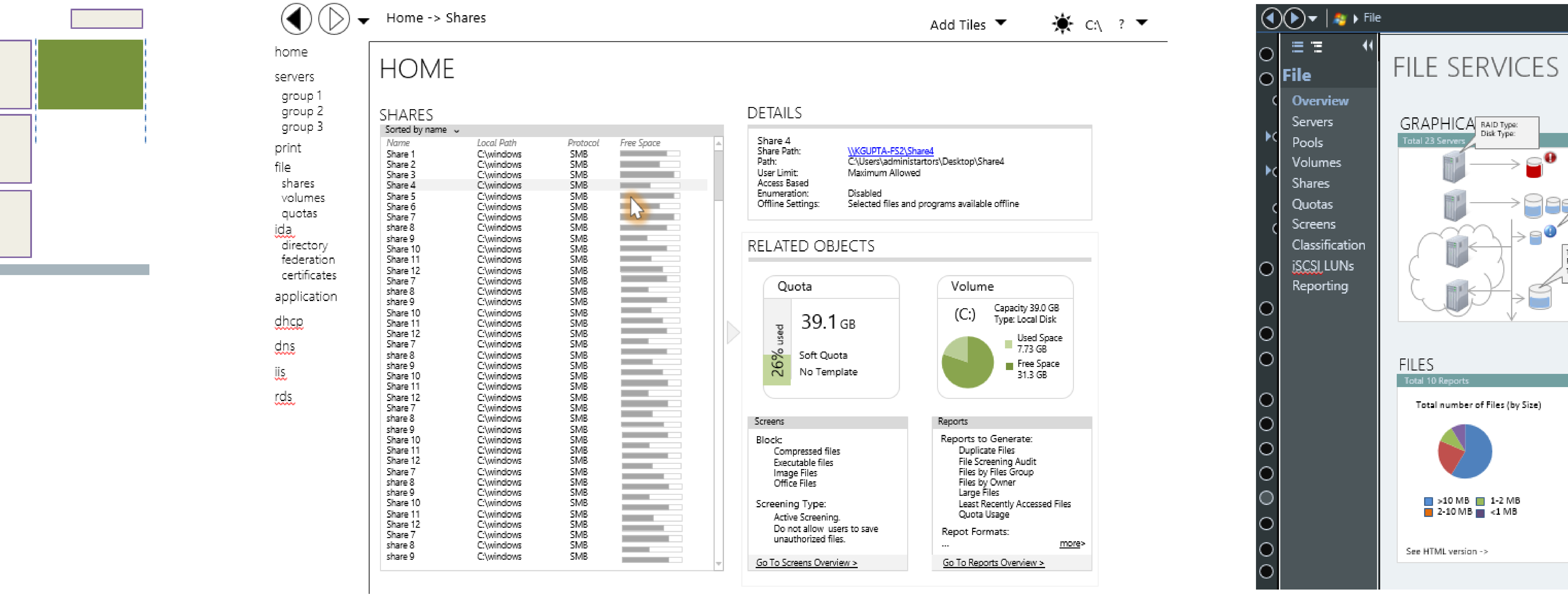
4

5



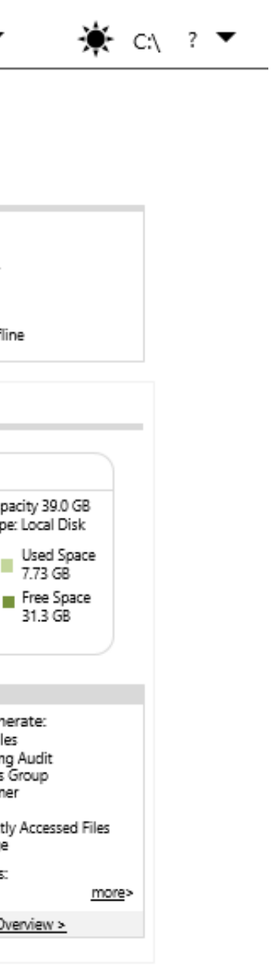
Design Process

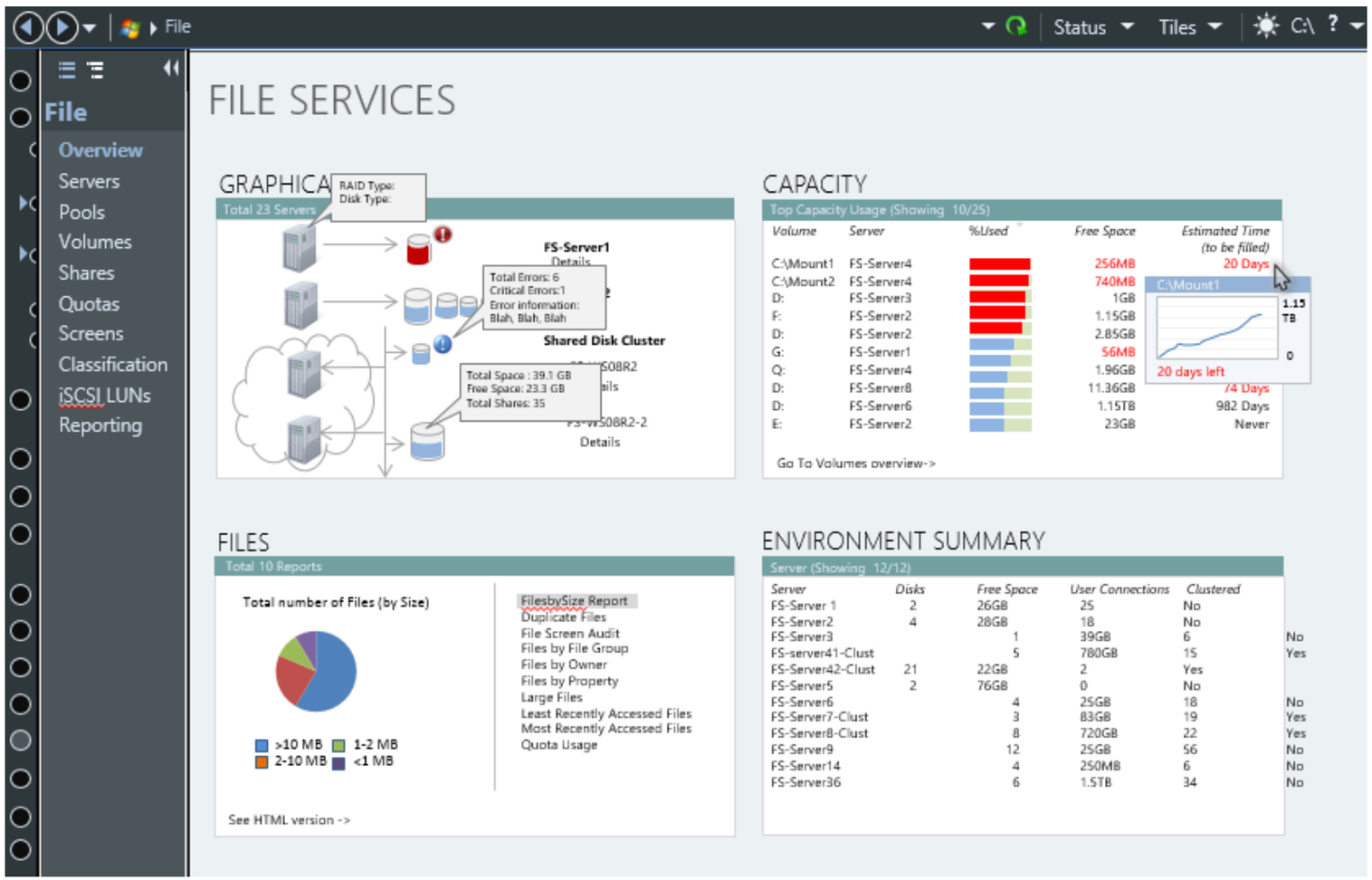
Low fidelity wireframes

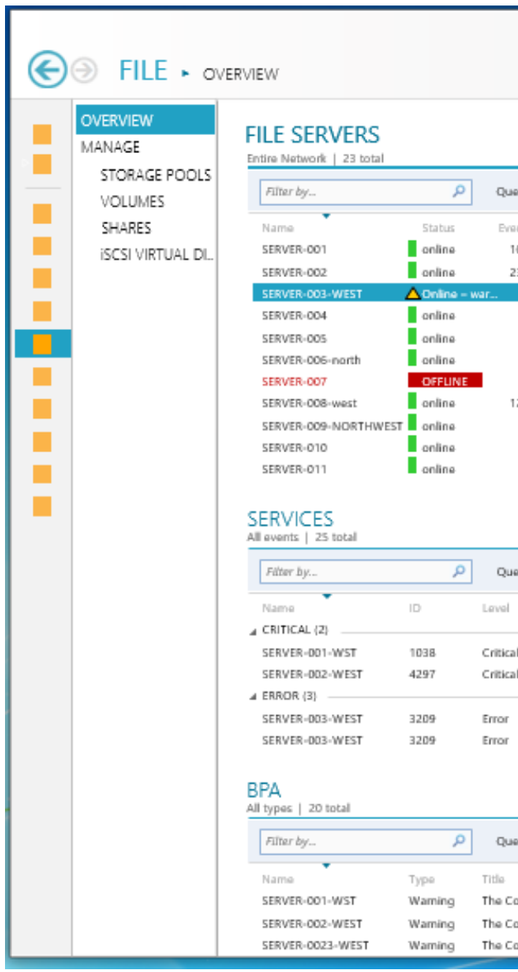


Design Process

Visual Refresh

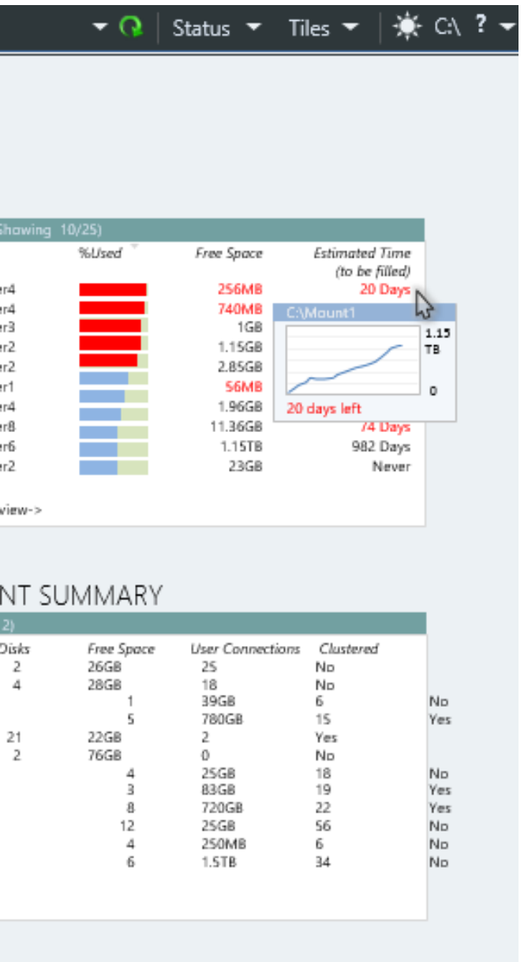


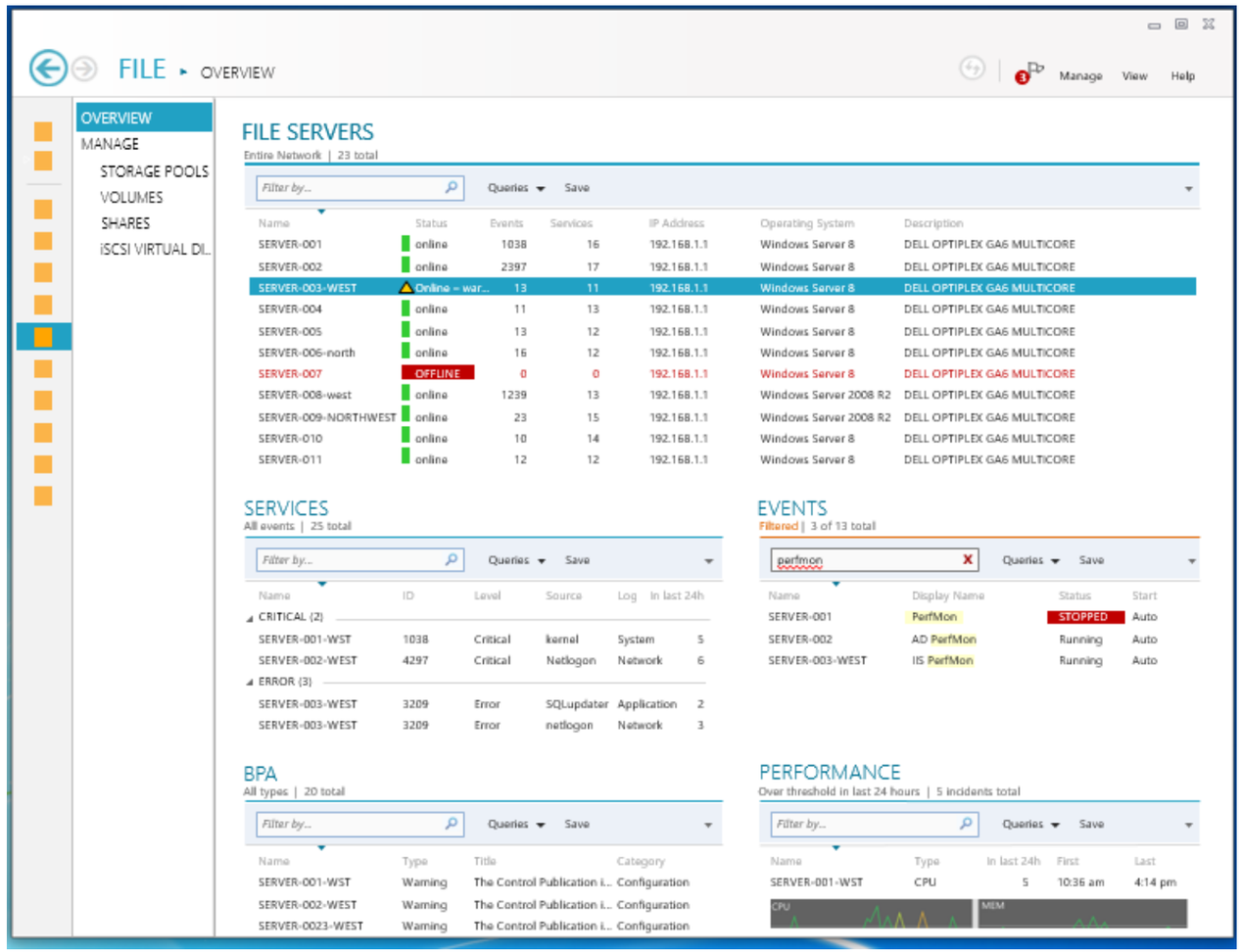


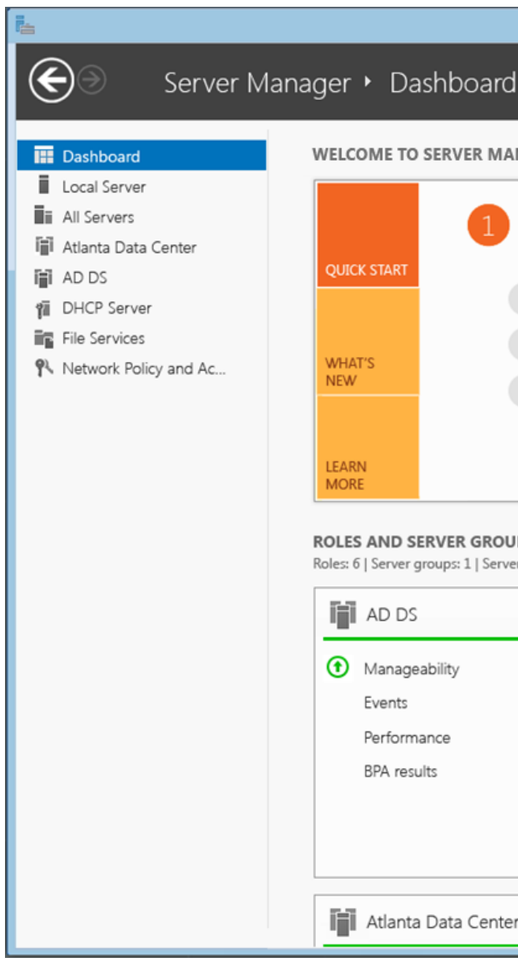


Design Process

Visual Refresh #2

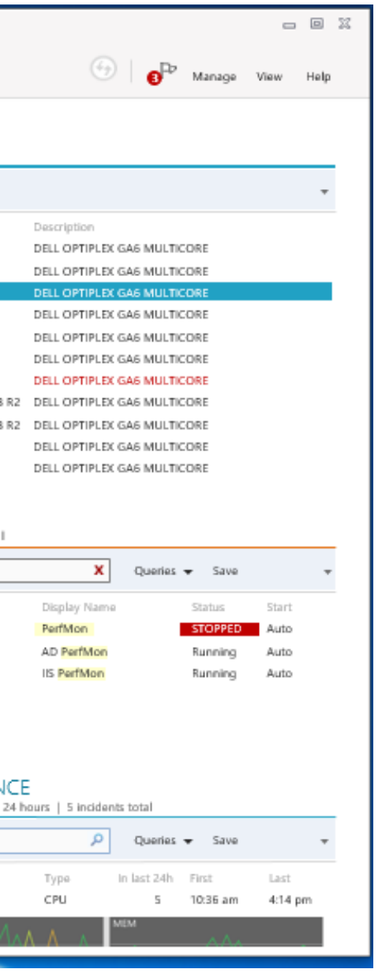


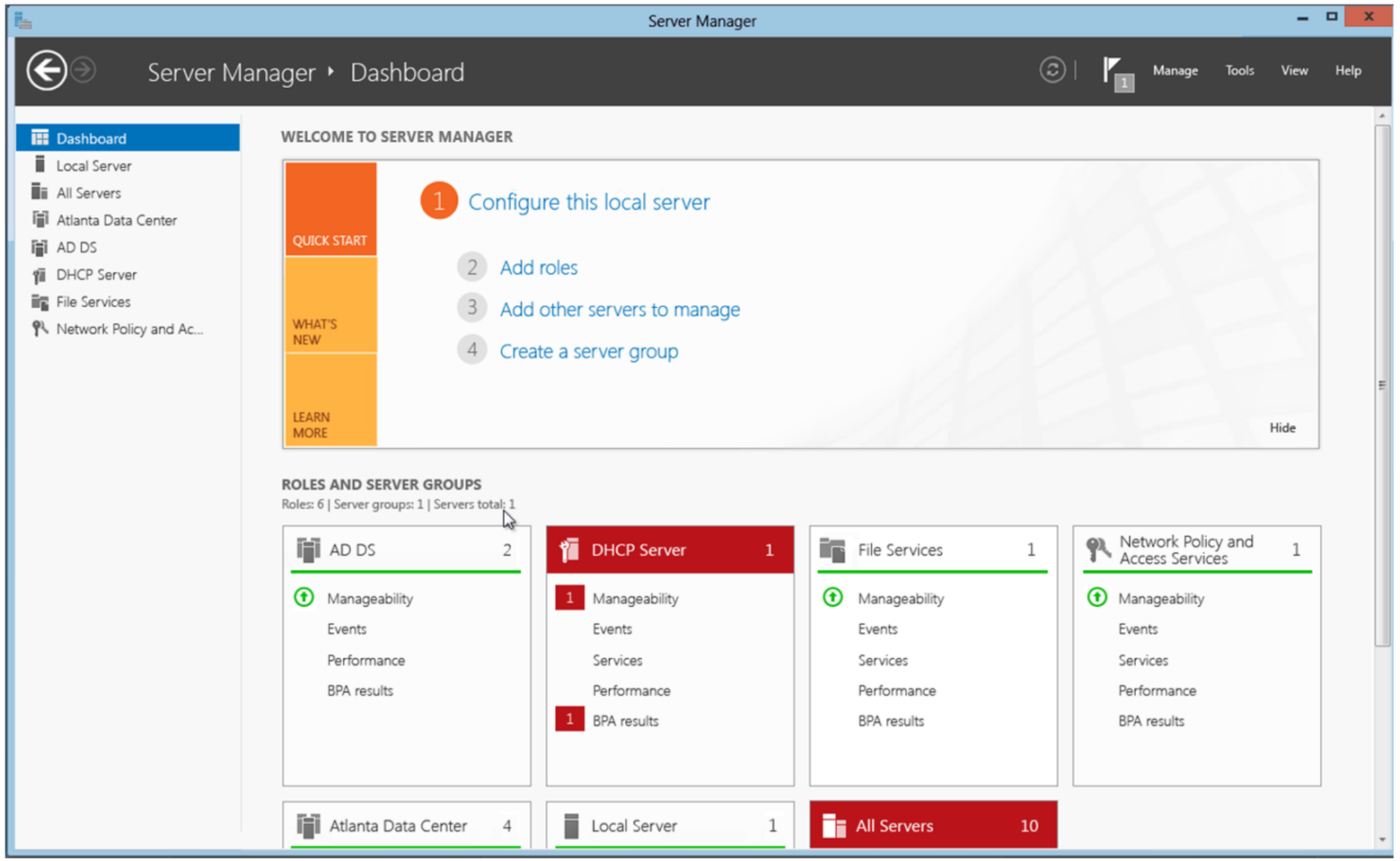


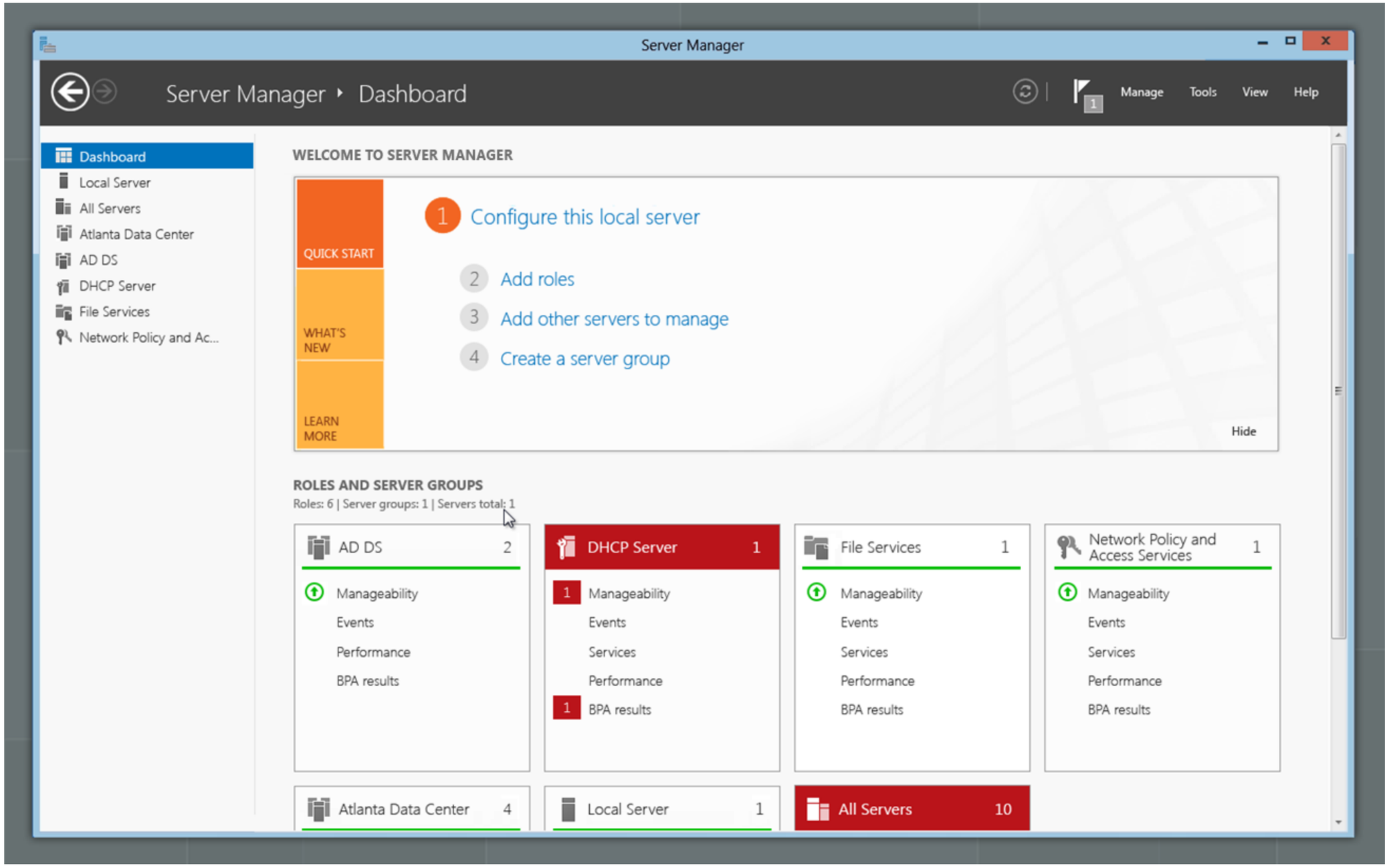


Design Process

Final Designs



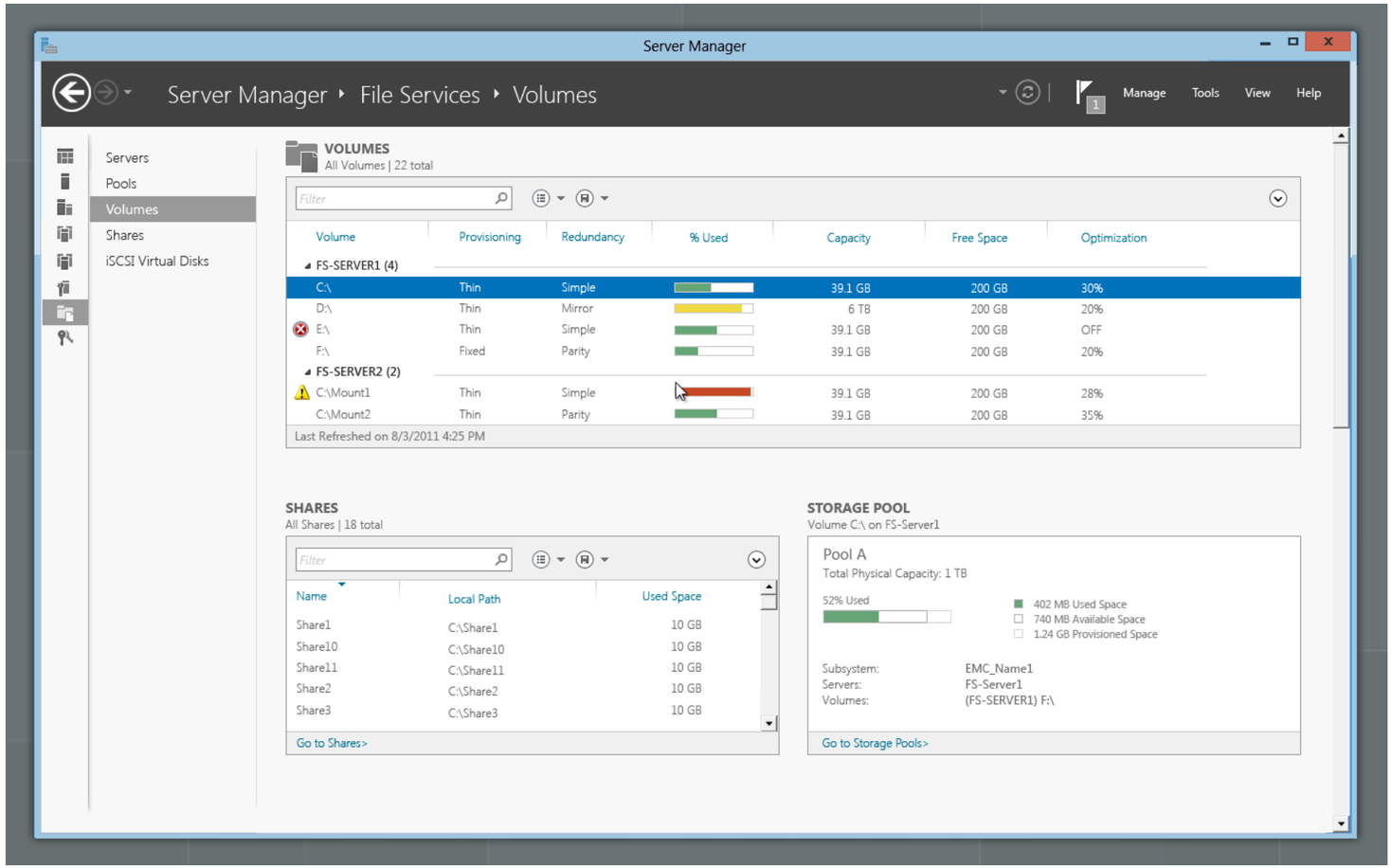



Server Manager
Server Manager ▸ Dashboard
Manage
Tools
View
Help
Dashboard
Local Server
All Servers
Atlanta Data Center
AD DS
DHCP Server
File Services
Network Policy and Ac...
WELCOME TO SERVER MANAGER
QUICK START
WHAT'S NEW
LEARN MORE
1 Configure this local server
2 Add roles
3 Add other servers to manage
4 Create a server group
Hide
ROLES AND SERVER GROUPS
Roles: 6 | Server groups: 1 | Servers total: 1
AD DS 2
Manageability
Events
Performance
BPA results
DHCP Server 1
Manageability
Events
Services
Performance
BPA results
File Services 1
Manageability
Events
Services
Performance
BPA results
Network Policy and Access Services 1
Manageability
Events
Services
Performance
BPA results
Atlanta Data Center 4
Local Server 1
All Servers 10

Roles – File Services

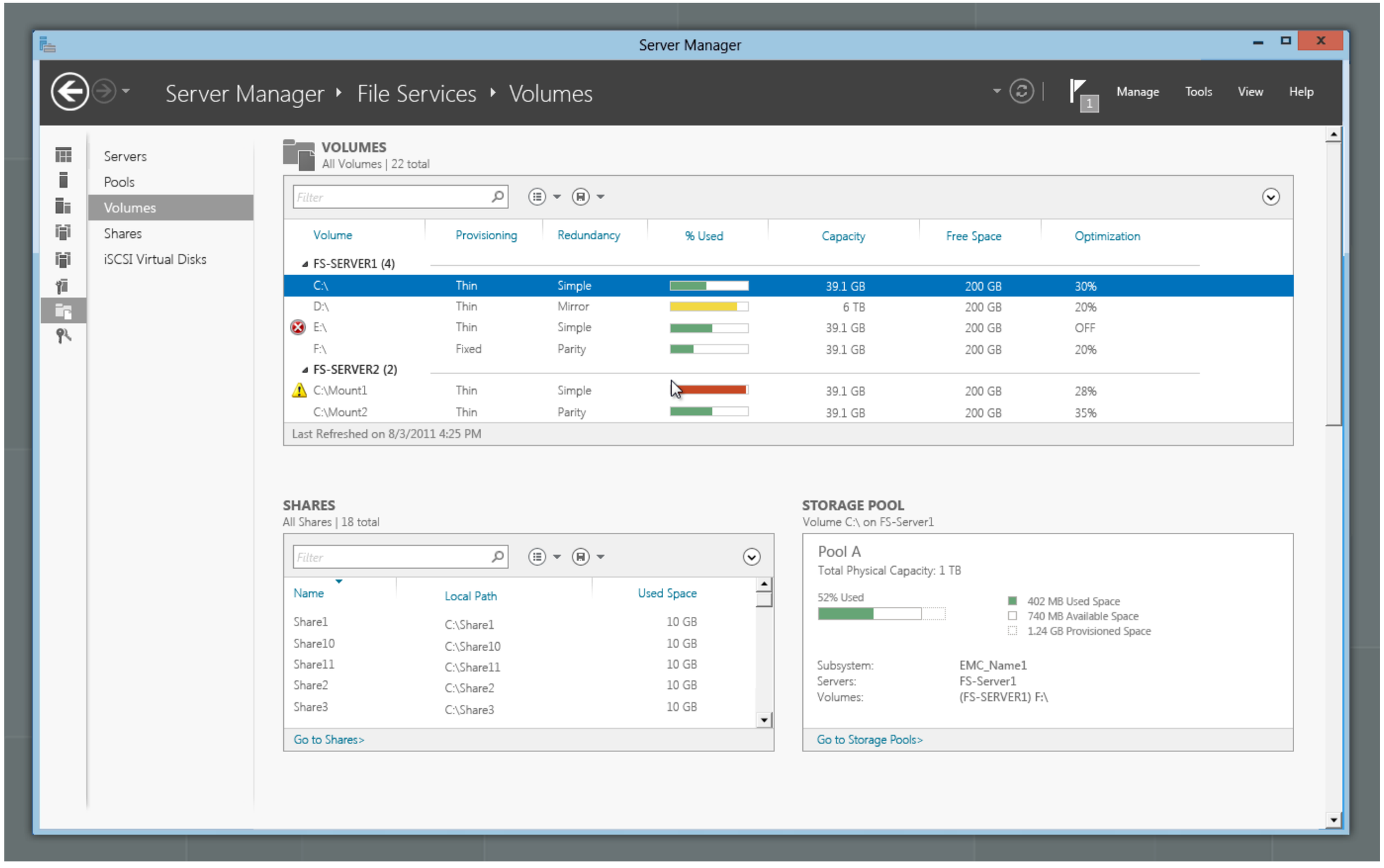
File Services

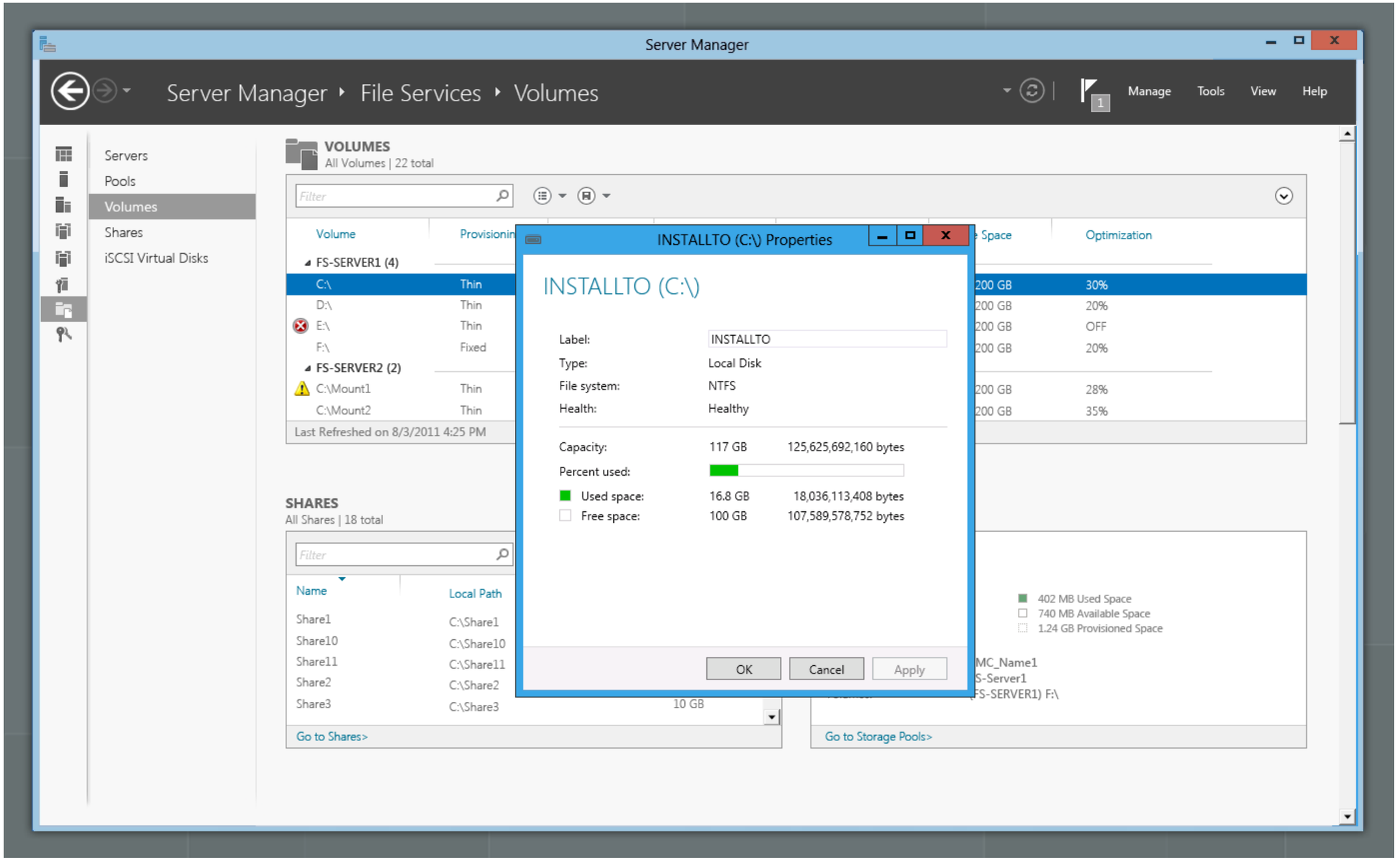
Centralized management of File Server and Storage components.



File Services enables users to easily pivot between key components of file server without the need to move to a separate tool.

Bringing management of key aspects of the file server, including storage management, into a single console takes the on-box experience closer to the experience of managing a file server appliance.


Server Manager
Server Manager ▸ File Services ▸ Volumes
Manage
Tools
View
Help
Servers
Pools
Volumes
Shares
iSCSI Virtual Disks
VOLUMES
All Volumes | 22 total
Filter
Volume
Provisioning
Redundancy
% Used
Capacity
Free Space
Optimization
FS-SERVER1 (4)
C:\ Thin Simple 39.1 GB 200 GB 30%
D:\ Thin Mirror 6 TB 200 GB 20%
E:\ Thin Simple 39.1 GB 200 GB OFF
F:\ Fixed Parity 39.1 GB 200 GB 20%
FS-SERVER2 (2)
C:\Mount1 Thin Simple 39.1 GB 200 GB 28%
C:\Mount2 Thin Parity 39.1 GB 200 GB 35%
Last Refreshed on 8/3/2011 4:25 PM
SHARES
All Shares | 18 total
Filter
Name
Local Path
Used Space
Share1 C:\Share1 10 GB
Share10 C:\Share10 10 GB
Share11 C:\Share11 10 GB
Share2 C:\Share2 10 GB
Share3 C:\Share3 10 GB
Go to Shares>
STORAGE POOL
Volume C:\ on FS-Server1
Pool A
Total Physical Capacity: 1 TB
52% Used
402 MB Used Space
740 MB Available Space
1.24 GB Provisioned Space
Subsystem: EMC_Name1
Servers: FS-Server1
Volumes: (FS-SERVER1) F:\
Go to Storage Pools>


Server Manager
Server Manager ▸ File Services ▸ Volumes
Manage
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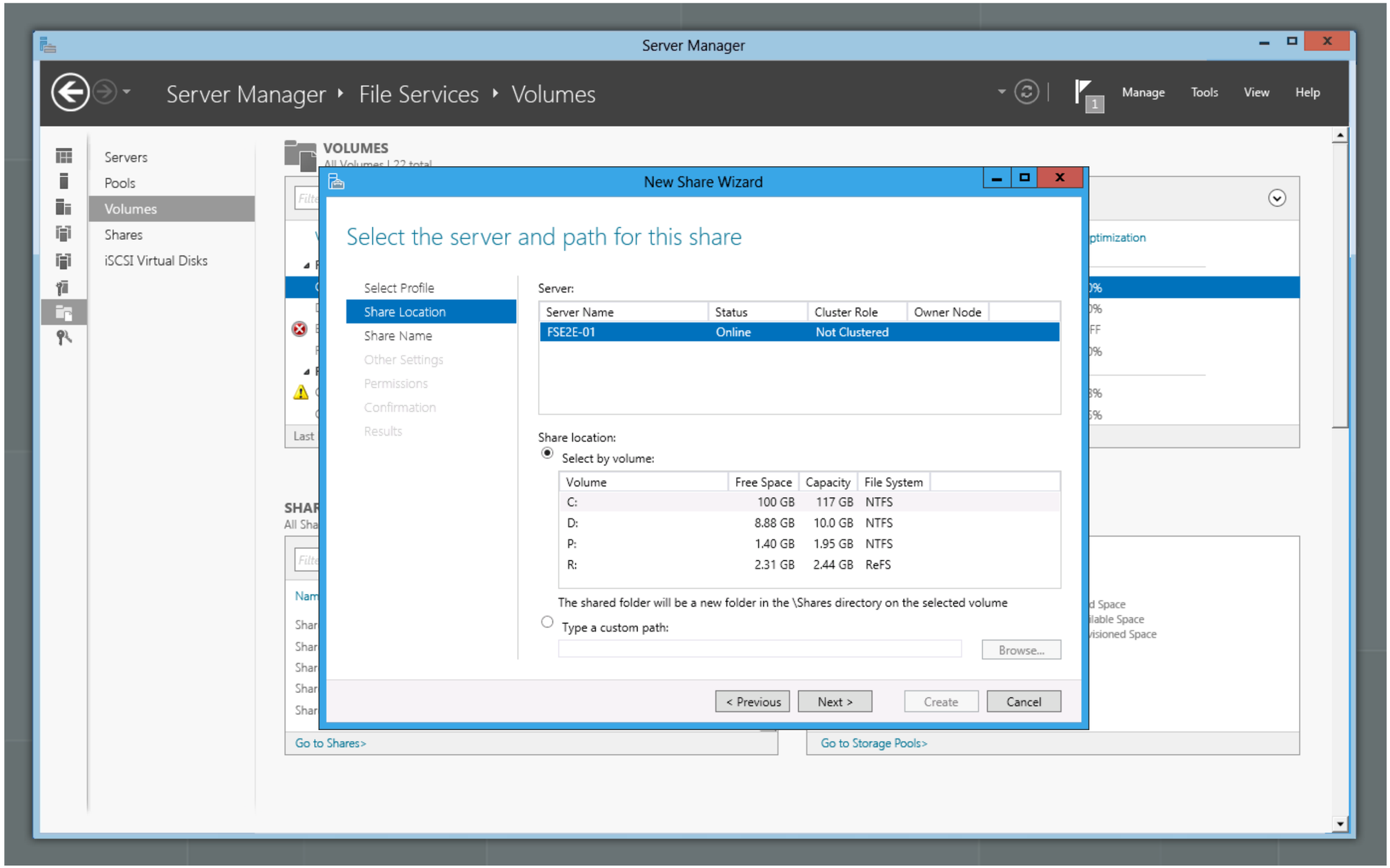
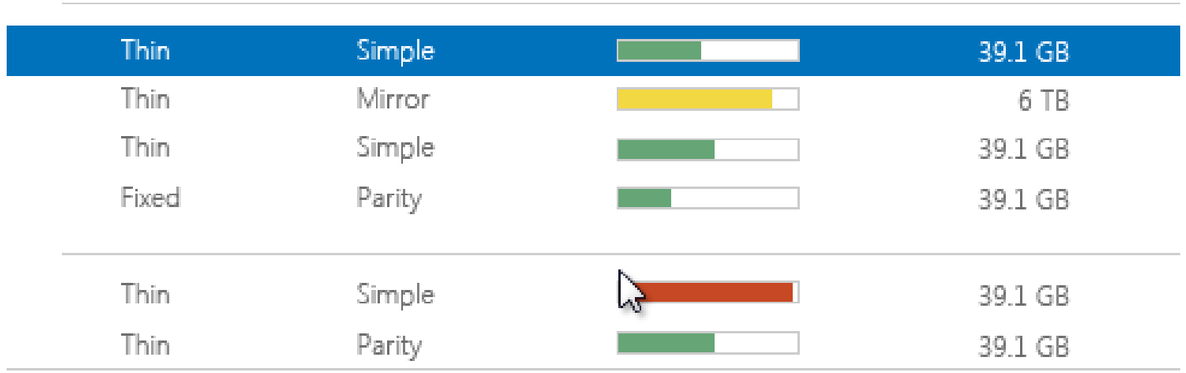
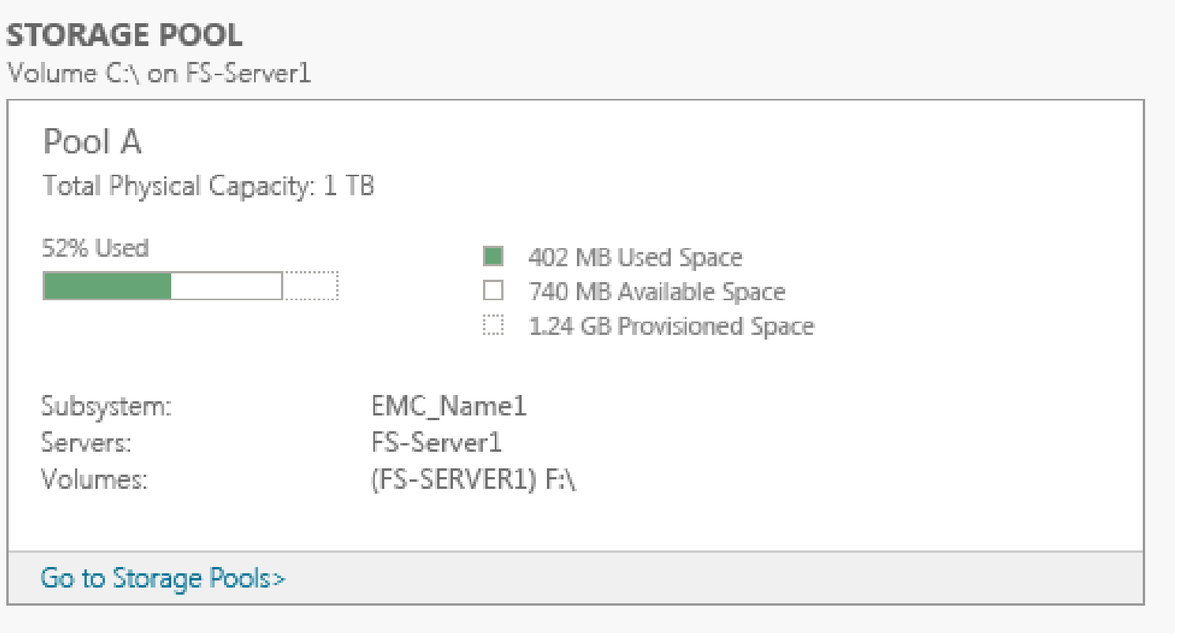
Volumes
Shares
iSCSI Virtual Disks
VOLUMES
All Volumes | 22 total
Filter
Volume
Provisionin
Space
Optimization
FS-SERVER1 (4)
C:\ Thin 200 GB 30%
D:\ Thin 200 GB 20%
E:\ Thin 200 GB OFF
F:\ Fixed 200 GB 20%
FS-SERVER2 (2)
C:\Mount1 Thin 200 GB 28%
C:\Mount2 Thin 200 GB 35%
Last Refreshed on 8/3/2011 4:25 PM
INSTALLTO (C:\) Properties
INSTALLTO (C:\)
Label: INSTALLTO
Type: Local Disk
File system: NTFS
Health: Healthy
Capacity: 117 GB 125,625,692,160 bytes
Percent used:
Used space: 16.8 GB 18,036,113,408 bytes
Free space: 100 GB 107,589,578,752 bytes
OK
Cancel
Apply
SHARES
All Shares | 18 total
Filter
Name
Local Path
Share1 C:\Share1
Share10 C:\Share10
Share11 C:\Share11
Share2 C:\Share2
Share3 C:\Share3
10 GB
Go to Shares>
402 MB Used Space
740 MB Available Space
1.24 GB Provisioned Space
MC_Name1
S-Server1
FS-SERVER1) F:\
Go to Storage Pools>


Server Manager
Server Manager ▸ File Services ▸ Volumes
Manage
Tools
View
Help
Servers
Pools
Volumes
Shares
iSCSI Virtual Disks
VOLUMES
New Share Wizard
Select the server and path for this share
Select Profile
Share Location
Share Name
Other Settings
Permissions
Confirmation
Results
Server:
Server Name
Status
Cluster Role
Owner Node
FSE2E-01
Online
Not Clustered
Share location:
Select by volume:
Volume
Free Space
Capacity
File System
C:
100 GB
117 GB
NTFS
D:
8.88 GB
10.0 GB
NTFS
P:
1.40 GB
1.95 GB
NTFS
R:
2.31 GB
2.44 GB
ReFS
The shared folder will be a new folder in the \Shares directory on the selected volume
Type a custom path:
Browse...
< Previous
Next >
Create
Cancel
Go to Shares>
Go to Storage Pools>

Bar Charts

Using visualizations to provide at-a-glance views.



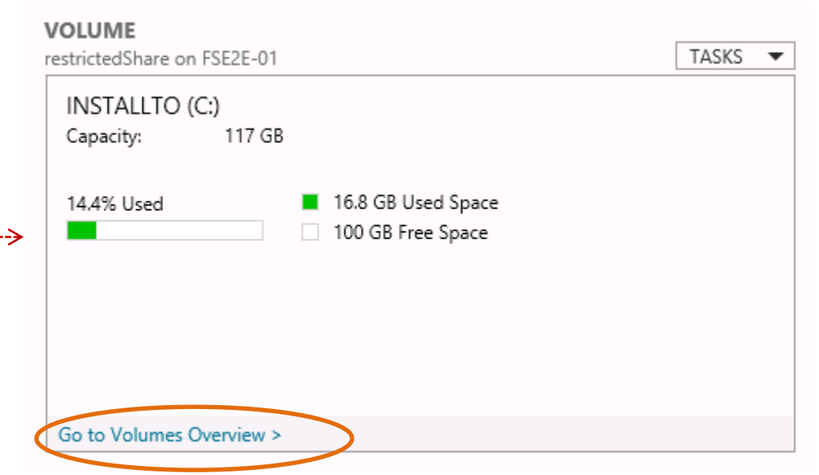


File Services utilizes bar charts in list views and related tiles to show storage usage. Charts rely on the familiar green, yellow, and red colors to show normal, warning and error states.

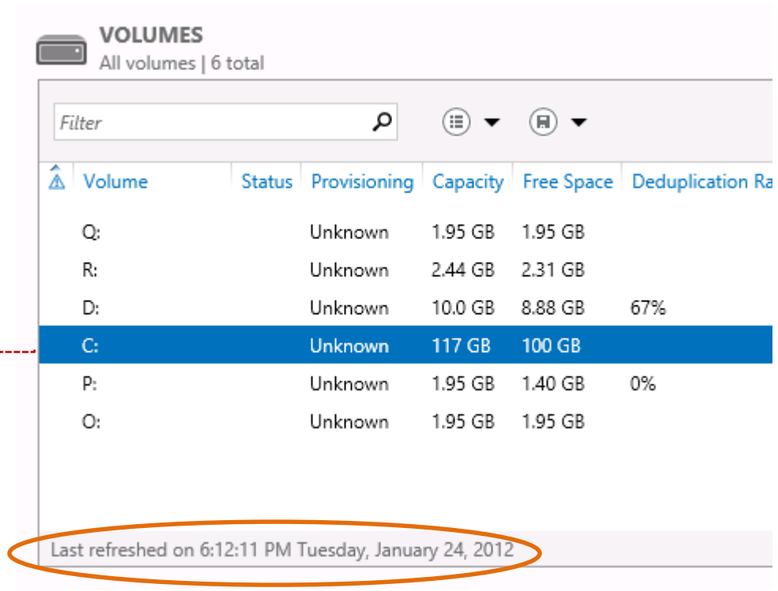
Charts provide immediate insights instead of presenting users with complex datasets. In a list view, the user can easily compare usage of different volumes at a glance and identify the ones that require immediate attention.

Tile details

Navigation links and refresh time stamp provide additional functionality.



Shares page



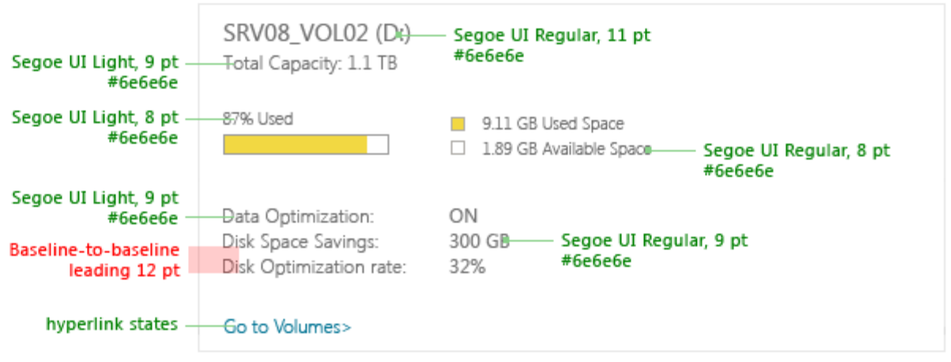
Volumes page

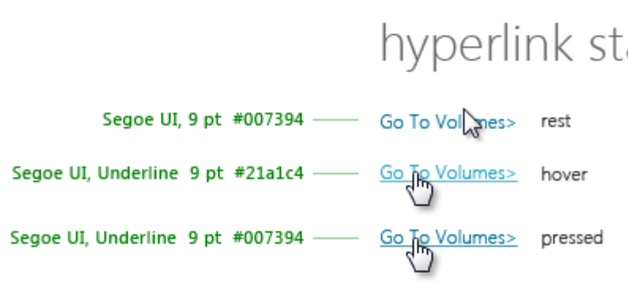
Child tiles in File services use a navigation link at the bottom of the tile to help people navigate between pages while retaining context.

As an example, on the *Shares* page the user can click the navigation link in the Volumes child tile to navigate to the *Volumes* page.

The selection in the Shares page is retained across the navigation to help orient the user on the landing page. This way, the user never loses context while moving from one page to another.

Parent tiles show a refresh timestamp at the bottom to indicate the last time a page was updated with data.


SRV08_VOL02 (D:)
Segoe UI Regular, 11 pt
#6e6e6e
Segoe UI Light, 9 pt
#6e6e6e
Total Capacity: 1.1 TB
Segoe UI Light, 8 pt
#6e6e6e
87% Used
9.11 GB Used Space
1.89 GB Available Space
Segoe UI Regular, 8 pt
#6e6e6e
Segoe UI Light, 9 pt
#6e6e6e
Data Optimization:
ON
Disk Space Savings:
300 GB
Segoe UI Regular, 9 pt
#6e6e6e
Baseline-to-baseline
leading 12 pt
Disk Optimization rate:
32%
hyperlink states
Go to Volumes>


hyperlink states
Segoe UI, 9 pt #007394
Go To Volumes>
rest
Segoe UI, Underline 9 pt #21a1c4
Go To Volumes>
hover
Segoe UI, Underline 9 pt #007394
Go To Volumes>
pressed