WHITE PAPER | Virtualization – Did You Overlook Storage?

"With the spotlight on server, desktop and application virtualization, it is easy to forget that your approach to data storage must also change."

Success Hinges On It

Just think how isolated disk bottlenecks and minor drive outages that once affected only a few applications or a handful of users will now impact many more. Or maybe it wasn't apparent that before virtual machines, desktops and applications can be dynamically provisioned, migrated and trusted to automatically fail over, a robust shared storage infrastructure must be in place.

Such alarming news may lead you to shop around for a good, dual-redundant SAN-in-a-box. But first stop to consider the two lessons that virtualization has taught you:

a) Regardless of who makes the equipment, hardware introduces numerous physical, geographical and device-specific restrictions that get in the way of doing business.

b) Software can emulate hardware and improve on it to eliminate many of its limitations.

With that in mind, take a good hard look at the makeup of your existing storage and any likely purchases. Can you spot the mechanical and packaging characteristics that will inevitably slow down, interrupt and endanger your computer operations?

Virtual Infrastructure Projects are **3-Dimensional**

Desktop Virtualization

Server Virtualization

Storage Virtualization

DataCore™ SOFTWARE

Virtualize Your Storage Benefits:

- Highest Availability

- Fastest Performance

- Fullest Utilization

- Greatest ROI

- Lowest TCO

Storage Virtualization Required

That's where DataCore storage virtualization software comes into play. With continuous enhancements over the past 10 years, it is the underpinning for thousands of virtual and physical IT environments around the globe.

Our comprehensive software makes it practical for organizations large or small to fully leverage their existing storage assets in the following ways:

- Centrally pool all disk resources over scalable physical or virtual SANs
- Configure fault-tolerant shared disks across physically separate arrays
- Automatically provision just enough disk space, just-in-time
- Transparently migrate data between different storage devices
- Non-disruptively expand & upgrade
- Carry out online disk-to-disk backups
- Maintain up-to-date disaster recovery images at a remote site
- Speed up storage performance through external caching

DataCore effectively caches I/Os on separate servers sized to your requirements. In smaller environments with surplus processing resources, it runs as a separate virtual machine, creating a virtual SAN from internal disk drives. The product operates across like equipment or dissimilar devices with equal ease.

For example, you can remotely replicate from your local premium storage devices to a less capable and lower cost unit at your disaster recovery site. And you can take snapshots of active production volumes onto your less capable test drives.

Moreover, our external approach presents well behaved virtual disks to Windows, Unix, Linux, NetWare, MacOS and all the popular hypervisors including VMware, Citrix and Microsoft variants, without application or file system dependencies.

Get the Most from Your Assets

By consolidating and automating these essential data protection measures and storage management practices, DataCore software gets the fullest utilization, highest availability and fastest performance from your storage assets. As importantly, the software accommodates your future hardware changes and dynamic virtual environments without incurring repeated major capital expenditures or retraining.

NETWORKcomputing
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★ WINNER ★
STORAGE PRODUCT OF THE YEAR

For more information on storage virtualization, please visit:
www.datacore.com

DataCore™
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