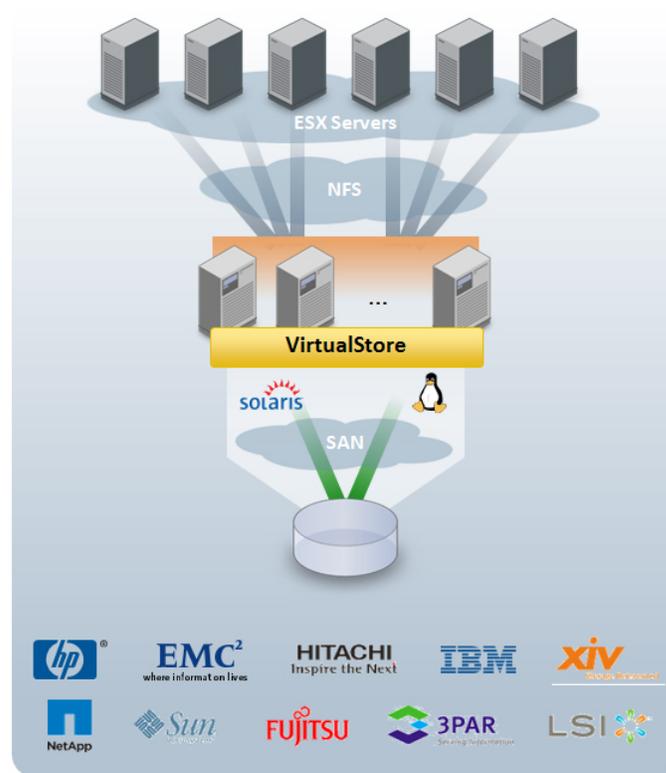# Symantec™ VirtualStore

Scalable, clustered NAS solution for VMware virtual machine management

Overview

Running mission-critical applications on virtual machines in production environments has become more mainstream as server virtualization has gained momentum. However, as easy as it can be to deploy virtual machines ad hoc, the challenge most organizations are now facing is around storage utilization and performance in virtual infrastructures. Virtual machine sprawl introduces its own set of challenges. Increase in storage consumption will have a dramatic impact on already level IT budgets. Deploying virtual machines is not as efficient when deployed in the thousands. And from the end-user's perspective, when a large number of users log into their desktops simultaneously, performance can suffer dramatically.

The return on investment on your server virtualization initiatives may be lost if your storage network and configuration is not optimal.

Symantec™ VirtualStore is a highly scalable, clustered NAS solution for VMware virtual machine management. Based on the industry-leading Veritas Storage Foundation™ Cluster File System from Symantec, VirtualStore solves the storage challenges of virtual infrastructures with features that provide rapid provisioning of servers and virtual desktops, and efficient cloning and boot up of virtual machines, all through VMware vCenter™, their management console.

Highlights

VirtualStore enables you to fully benefit from your virtualization investments with a solution that allows you to scale servers and storage independently as your business requires, efficiently provision virtual machines faster, and deliver advanced storage optimization capability in your VMware environments:

- **Advanced Storage Virtualization**. VirtualStore is a highly scalable, clustered NAS solution that reduces storage costs associated with virtual machine sprawl and improves the performance of virtual infrastructures with built-in acceleration for serving up VMware virtual machines.

- **Space-efficient Virtual Machine Provisioning**. Built-in cloning and provisioning functionality captures space-optimized snapshots of virtual machines for significant storage savings.

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- **Single Management Console.** Integration with VMware vCenter™provides end-to-end virtual machine management from a central location.
- **Enhanced End-user Virtual Desktop Experience**. Patented solution for caching virtual images addresses the challenge of multiple users booting up their virtual machines simultaneously.

Advanced Storage Optimization

For a more cost-effective and easily scalable solution, the current data center trend is a shift to NAS-based storage solutions for hosting virtual machines images.Although traditional NAS solutions have enough storage to host thousands of virtual machine images, they will never reach that level due to the bottleneck at the controller level. VirtualStore allows you to modularly scale your VMware server capacity and storage capacity independently. As you need more VMware servers or desktop images or storage capacity, you can simply grow your VirtualStore cluster with commodity hardware.

VirtualStore is a software solution that allows you to use any storage vendor and leverage commodity x86 servers. You can even expand on your existing SAN storage investments. With built-in functionality from Veritas Storage Foundation™, you get the benefit of Tier 1 storage optimization technologies. Furthermore, VirtualStore works with VMware vMotion™, which means you can easily move your virtual machines from one storage pool to another without disruption.

Space-efficient Virtual Machine Provisioning

Virtual machine images consume storage; and when deploying images for every single virtual machine created, the storage consumption costs can become a deterrent. VirtualStore resolves storage challenges associated with deploying large numbers of virtual machine images. VirtualStore's space-efficient boot image management takes file-level snapshots, to reduce storage as well as

improve virtual machine deployment. VirtualStore's advanced plugins for VMware vCenter™ allows you to use a single golden template from which to provision hundreds of virtual machines, with significant storage savings for each new virtual machine created.

Enhanced End-user Virtual Desktop Experience

Apart from helping reduce the storage costs associated with virtual machines, and virtual desktops in particular, another problem associated with VDI environments is the user experience. As more number of virtual desktops are added, the amount of storage I/O greatly increases. This can cause performance bottlenecks which directly translate to poor user experience; often referred to as boot-storm, login-storm or anti-virus (AV) update problems. Symantec VirtualStore uses an efficient FileSnap technology along with patented cache optimization solutions to pack more virtual machines into a single NAS head while delivering the response times desktop users are used to.

Single Management Console

VirtualStore is integrated with VMware vCenter™ to provide end-to-end virtual machine management, from a single console. This means that virtual machine administrators can use vCenter, a tool they are already comfortable with, without having to learn additional management tools.

Supported Operating Systems

- Solaris™ 5.9, 5.10
- Solaris™ x64 5.10
- Red Hat® Linux 5.3

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