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Go further, faster



Solution > **Application**

# StorNext and NetApp Solutions for Media Applications

## KEY BENEFITS

### Unify heterogeneous workflows

- Deliver higher quality content in less time
- Create a centralized storage repository that can be shared
- Optimize performance

### Enterprise-level resiliency

- StorNext™ eliminates single points of failure
- NetApp® storage delivers proven reliability
- StorNext and NetApp data protection options keep data safe

### Reduce costs

- Eliminate wasteful copies
- Possible to cut power, space, and AC requirement by 50%<sup>1</sup>
- Move data to the right storage tier automatically with StorNext
- Consolidate all storage tiers onto a single platform with NetApp

## THE CHALLENGE

Keeping ahead of explosive content growth while improving data availability and minimizing cost is becoming an imperative in broadcast, media, and entertainment companies. Increasingly, the traditional approach to file-based workflow results in too many copies of the same digital assets scattered across the company—plus more copies shared with partners. Such copies quickly become impossible to manage, waste huge amounts of storage, and waste the time of your creative staff. As media formats have evolved—for instance, from 2K to 4K and beyond for digital video—file sizes have ballooned and available storage on specialized processing systems is simply being overwhelmed by new content.

To address these problems, many media companies are exploring the idea of a centralized, shared repository to consolidate storage, eliminate unnecessary redundancy, and simplify management. But how do you build a centralized repository that can provide storage for all your diverse systems and deliver a level of performance that won't bottleneck critical activities?

If you consolidate storage, how can you be sure that critical files are always protected and always accessible? Failures are all too common with much of the specialized media equipment available. If central storage doesn't deliver enterprise-level reliability, your whole operation could be affected.

## THE SOLUTION

By combining the benefits of Quantum StorNext data management software and NetApp storage systems, you can create a centralized data repository that addresses all of your storage challenges.

The Quantum StorNext File System delivers heterogeneous, high-speed data sharing to eliminate copying and accelerate project completion. The Quantum StorNext Storage Manager provides both intelligent archiving and data protection, so that data is always stored on the most cost-effective storage tier.

NetApp delivers unprecedented reliability and availability that complement Quantum StorNext, plus innovative features that boost storage efficiency



“The Quantum StorNext and NetApp solution partnership gives more choices to customers. They get the best-of-breed technologies to address their most demanding file sharing and multitiered file movement issues for rich media content. StorNext provides customers the ability to scale their I/O performance across multiple NetApp storage systems while also providing the ability to transparently move files across storage tiers. This complements the enterprise-class storage resiliency, data protection, and storage efficiency features of NetApp’s unified storage solutions.”

Shawn Klein

Director, Software Partner Development, Quantum

so you use less storage. NetApp unified storage supports all popular connection options as well as different tiers of storage—a single NetApp storage system addresses all your storage needs.

Quantum StorNext and NetApp create a single, centralized, easy-to-manage storage environment that drives the cost of maintaining your media assets down while delivering the performance, connectivity, availability, and features you need to succeed.

#### THE STORNEXT ADVANTAGE

##### **StorNext File System: High-performance workflow for SAN and LAN**

The StorNext File System eliminates the bottlenecks associated with manual data copies to dramatically streamline your workflow and improve productivity. More work gets done in less time, and your team can tackle larger, more complex projects.

StorNext gives your entire creative staff concurrent, high-speed access to a common content pool. The StorNext high-performance shared file system allows data sharing by both SAN- and LAN-based systems, independent of operating system. (Windows®, Linux®, UNIX®, and Xsan® are all supported.)

Your SAN-based servers have highly scalable, high-speed, direct access to files; LAN-based systems use the Distributed LAN Client for near line-rate access to the same storage via gateway systems that also provide load balancing and transparent failover. Because all your systems have direct access to the same data, local file copies aren’t necessary.

##### **StorNext Storage Manager: Intelligent archiving**

StorNext Storage Manager leverages the power of multi-tier archiving to let you easily and economically retain, protect, and reuse your digital assets. StorNext provides automated transparent movement of data between different

tiers based on your defined policies and file access requirements. Tiers can include performance disk, value disk, tape libraries, and network-attached resources.

By integrating with the virtualization capabilities of the StorNext File System, files are accessible to host applications no matter what storage tier they reside on. StorNext supports millions of files and petabytes of data, so you can be confident that your archive will be able to scale to meet future needs, without large investments in new capacity.

Using either NetApp deduplication or the embedded deduplication functionality of the StorNext File System, you can minimize the storage capacity required for files. Archiving functions are enhanced with additional management features to provide secure on-site and off-site retention for the life of the data. Integrity checks, file replication, point-in-time file copies, and vaulting provide protection, while remote monitoring and alerting help verify system health.

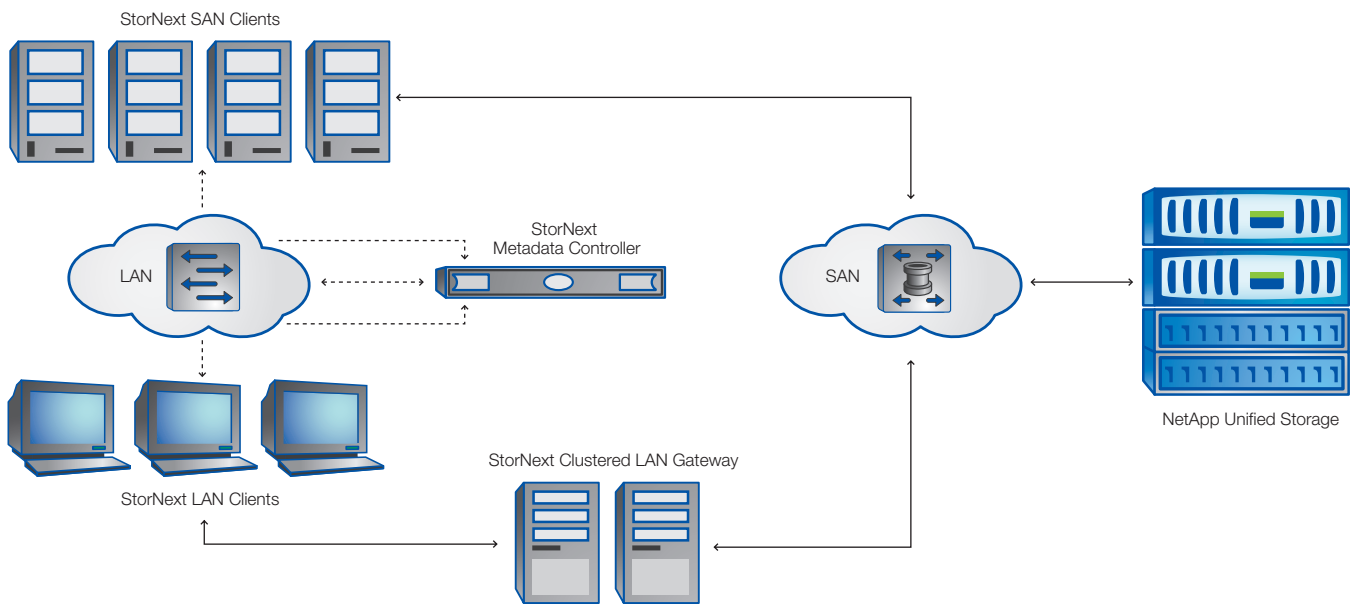


Figure 1) A typical StorNext and NetApp configuration. Clustered storage provides high availability. StorNext clients, both LAN and SAN, have shared access to the same centralized content pool at near wire speeds.

## NETAPP STORAGE DELIVERS MORE

### Unified storage meets all your storage needs

NetApp unified storage meets not only the unique storage requirements of StorNext, but all of your storage needs. Unified storage supports all popular storage protocols—NAS, SAN, and iSCSI—on a single storage platform. You can support StorNext File System configurations with either Fibre Channel SAN or iSCSI and simultaneously serve other SAN, iSCSI, or NAS volumes from the same system. NetApp FlexShare® makes it easy to give higher priority to the most important workloads for quality of service.

### Tiered storage—simplified

In a traditional tiered storage environment, you have a different type of storage platform—with different management interfaces, data protection mechanisms, and so on—for each tier of storage, adding cost and complexity. With unified storage, you can create different tiers of storage on a single storage platform: FC or SAS disk for

high performance, SATA disk for high capacity and reduced cost, and write-once, read-many (WORM) volumes for archiving. The performance of any tier can be further enhanced by using the NetApp Performance Acceleration Module II (PAM II). All the storage tiers that you need for use with StorNext Storage Manager or for other purposes can be co-resident on a single NetApp storage system.

Instead of getting locked into up-front tiering decisions, NetApp lets you provision storage as needed and make changes quickly, without downtime. NetApp Data Motion™ even lets you move data without disrupting running applications for nondisruptive upgrades and maximum uptime. The result is a cost-effective storage environment that is better able to meet your dynamic business requirements.

### Performance and reliability features to power StorNext

A shared file system or archiving system is only as fast—and only as reliable—as the storage beneath it. That's why

NetApp is the perfect storage platform for StorNext software. Whether you are encoding or editing on a StorNext volume, or rendering frames on an NFS volume, NetApp delivers the performance, reliability, and data protection features you need:

- NetApp flexible volume (FlexVol®) technology automatically distributes every storage volume across the maximum number of disk spindles for optimum performance.
- NetApp Performance Acceleration Module II (PAM II) offers an intelligent, flash-based extended read cache to further boost storage performance, increasing read response times by as much as 55%<sup>2</sup>.
- NetApp dual-parity RAID-DP® safeguards your data from double disk failures.
- Based on NetApp storage systems monitored between July 2006 and Jan 2008, greater than 99.999% uptime was achieved<sup>3</sup>.

### Maximum storage efficiency cuts cost

NetApp solutions save nearly 50% in operating costs versus other storage solutions by reducing power consumption, rack space, and management<sup>1</sup>. The key is a powerful set of storage efficiency technologies:

- RAID-DP offers up to 46% space savings versus data mirroring.
- NetApp deduplication works on primary, secondary, and archival storage, saving disk space by eliminating duplicate file blocks without affecting performance.
- With NetApp thin provisioning, your storage can be treated as a shared resource. Capacity is consumed only as it's needed, reducing your overall storage needs by 20% to 30%<sup>4</sup>.

NetApp solutions use 52% less power while generating 51% less heat, drastically cutting data center electricity and air conditioning costs. NetApp storage systems also require 50% less rack space than other solutions, all of which adds up to additional savings<sup>1</sup>.

### Maximize your success

NetApp Global Services has years of experience supporting NetApp technologies in some of the world's biggest media companies. Our support engineers understand the unique issues that you face and respond accordingly.

### GETTING STARTED WITH QUANTUM AND NETAPP

Is it time to supercharge your media storage environment? You can scale to new levels with the industry-leading performance and tiered data management of Quantum StorNext and the proven efficiency and reliability of NetApp. Find out more about Quantum StorNext at [www.quantum.com/stornext](http://www.quantum.com/stornext) and learn more about NetApp technologies for advanced storage environments at [www.netapp.com](http://www.netapp.com).



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NetApp creates innovative storage and data management solutions that deliver outstanding cost efficiency and accelerate performance breakthroughs. Discover our passion for helping companies around the world go further, faster at [www.netapp.com](http://www.netapp.com).

1. Source: "Making Green IT a Reality: Customer Perspectives on the Impact of Storage Vendor Decisions on Power, Cooling and Space in Enterprise Data Centers." Oliver Wyman Study, 2007.
2. Source: NetApp Technical Report TR3658.
3. Source: "FAS Storage Systems: Laying the Foundation for Application Availability." Brad Nisbet, IDC, February 2008.
4. Source: "Total Cost Comparison: IT Decision-Maker Perspectives on EMC®, HP®, and NetApp® Storage Solutions in Enterprise Database Environments." Oliver Wyman, April 2008.

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