

Faster, More Reliable Storage For Backup & Data Recovery

Servosity Boosts Its Backup Solutions With Aberdeen's AberSAN ZXP

THROUGH ITS BACKUP and disaster recovery offerings, solution provider Servosity provides a very important service for managed service providers and IT resellers. The company's backup services are deployed using cloud infrastructure, which requires servers and storage that can handle the mission-critical data collection and protection needs of multiple clients. For Servosity, reliable storage is a No. 1 concern, and the company was in need of a solution that could solve a number of difficult problems.

"We had some very tough challenges," says Damien Stevens, founder and CEO of Servosity (www.servosity.com). "We needed 24/7/365 operations with no maintenance windows or unplanned downtime [and] unlimited growth capabilities, and we needed the speed of SAS drives and the sophistication of an Enterprise SAN—and we needed all that for far less the cost of an enterprise SAN or even SAS drives. We needed SAS performance and reliability on a SATA budget."

Choosing The Right Solution

Servosity knew it wanted to take advantage of Nexenta's NexentaStor NAS/SAN software platform, but it also knew it would need the right hardware to run it. That's why Servosity opted for two of Aberdeen's AberSAN ZXP High Availability ZFS SAN units and one 45-bay JBOD in order to handle the NexentaStor XZFS file system with 144TB of licensing. Servosity chose Aberdeen's



Aberdeen AberSAN ZXP High Availability ZFS SAN



The AberSAN is a highly customizable and versatile storage solution that incorporates Intel® Xeon® 5600/5500 Series processors and is designed to be both scalable and safe. Aberdeen offers a variety of configuration options and will work with companies to fine-tune the solution to meet their specific needs. The AberSAN uses a ZFS file system to avoid traditional data corruption issues and prevent stored information from being irreparably damaged or lost.

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one of the few vendors that can custom-build a hardware solution designed specifically for NexentaStor. It's the perfect marriage of hardware and software."

Aberdeen's AberSAN ZXP product is designed to be highly scalable and has a variety of other customizable options. For instance, the base solution is a 2U

Implementation & Results

Stevens admits that Servosity had some unique needs from the start and that it would be difficult to match them, so he knew there would be challenges along the way. "With some of these technologies, we've been a very early adopter," Stevens

says. Because of this, Servosity went through an extensive testing phase to find the right balance of hardware and software to get the performance it needed. He says Servosity wouldn't have been able to create the perfect solution to its problem without the constant support of Aberdeen, which included the company sending evaluation

units to Servosity and providing advice and expertise that aided the company in building the perfect solution for its needs. "With a sophisticated system spanning multiple data centers and huge amounts of storage, there's much more to it than buying a product," Stevens says. "The difference for us has been Aberdeen and Nexenta working together with our engineers to custom-build and then custom-tune a system that meets our needs and has exceeded our expectations."

Once the entire system was installed, Servosity started seeing the benefits. Stevens says that traditional systems such as the one the company installed are often at risk for "silent data corruption," which happens naturally over time with a constant flow of data. To prevent this, ZFS systems self-heal when a disk presents corrupt data, which protects against hardware failure and prevents the hardware from corrupting the data, according to Stevens. In addition to preventing data corruption, Servosity is pleased that the system can use solid-state drives to cache for SATA and SAS drives to make the system faster for a lower cost.

Using Aberdeen's Products Now & In The Future

Overall, Servosity is extremely happy with its decision to invest in Aberdeen's AberSAN solution and plans on using Aberdeen's products in the future. In fact, Stevens says that Servosity's projections "show a need for 400% of our current infrastructure in the next 12 months." To help meet the demand, Servosity will continue to use Aberdeen for its highly customizable and scalable Nexenta products in order to help the company continue to grow. P

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- Servosity's Damien Stevens

AberSAN solution for its versatility as well as its ability to work well with the NexentaStor platform.

"The ZFS file system is stable, scalable, and fast," Stevens says. "On top of that, Nexenta's NexentaStor commercial offering adds additional features as well as enterprise support, and Aberdeen is

head unit, but there are options for 3U and 4U JBOD expansions, as well. There are also multiple power supply, OS, and storage options so companies can build the right model for their needs. It's this customization that allowed Servosity to deploy these products and know they would perform as expected.

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