

Case Studies

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Fast PC Networks Upgrades Its Data Center with UltraStor RS16 IP-4 on VMware

The Challenge

Fast PC Networks is an online backup and managed services company in which they help customers manage on-site business and hosted environment, and also serve as a solution provider to organizations supported by their engineering team.



Fast PC Networks was looking for a storage solution to run VMware on top of that for backup solutions, web hosting, e-mail and store data on SAN environment. Enhance Technology was offering a high quality and low cost storage system. But, before considering Enhance Technology's storage product, Fast PC Networks also researched and evaluated other vendors such as Dell/ EqualLogics. Robert Zarate, Lead Engineer and partner of Fast PC Networks says they use Enhance Technology's UltraStor RS16 IP-4 for their data center in Columbus, Ohio to support all of their products as a robust platform for storage.

High Performance, Fast Speed Backup Solution

Fast PC Networks was working on more advanced configuration on UltraStor RS16 IP-4 with VMware to support their products. They use Dell 2950 for system setup and for their operation system they use Windows 2008 and Linux for windows virtuals. Robert says that they use RAID 6 for all of their main servers. As far as implementation for RS16 IP-4, Fast PC Networks didn't have any problem, "the unit worked perfectly, the performance work perfectly as we planned it," John also says "the RS16 IP-4 is a low cost SAN with enterprise performance."

The iSCSI architecture gave Fast PC Networks the speed and performance it needed with reasonable price, they were impressed with the unit especially its speed.

"It has very fast speed as far as read and writes data. It writes the data faster than read"- Robert Zarate

Overall, Fast PC Networks was pleased to use RS16 IP-4. One thing that they like a lot is the WebGui and the LCD screen, "The LCD screen is very nice, you just click on it and put the IP address in there and you're done! You connect your IP address to the unit and you're ready to go", states Robert.

Now, Fast PC Networks is looking forward to the new dual controller model UltraStor ES3160 to be out in the market shortly. Robert says they are interested to test the unit in terms of speed and performance.

About John Tourloukis, Robert Zarate and Fast PC Networks

John Tourloukis and Robert Zarate are partners and run Fast PC Networks Company (www.fastpcnet.net). John Tourloukis is 16 years veteran of the industry; he worked with IBM global services, Bellsouth.net. Robert Zarate is the technical background engineer and has been working with IT for 20 years.

UltraStor RS16 IP-4 on VMware for Data Center



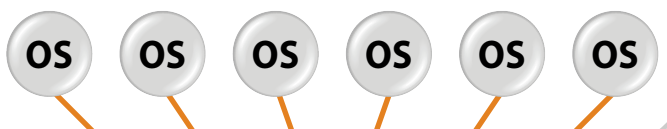
VMware ESX 4.0 vSphere 4
Next Generation Storage Virtualization



Windows Server 2008



Linux

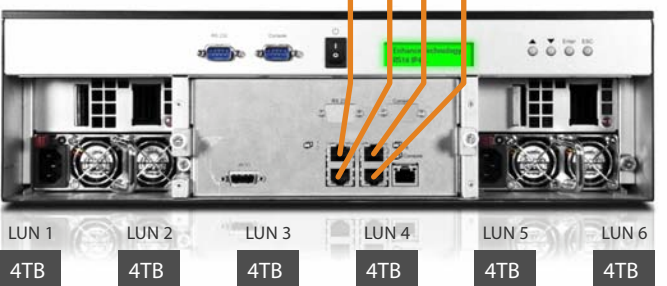


- Dell PowerEdge 2950 2U Rack Server
- Dual-core 64-bit Intel Xeon processor
- 1066MHz FSB with 32GB RAM
- TCP/IP Offload Engine (TOE)

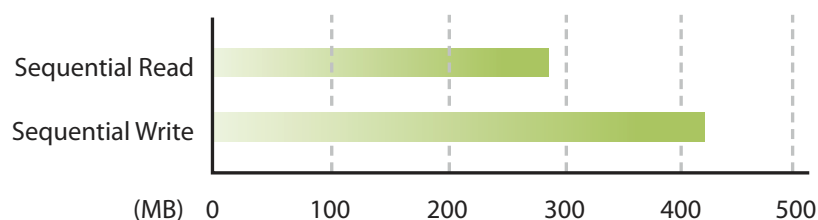


Intel Pro/1000 Gigabit Network Card and Broadcom Gigabit Ethernet

48-port Dell PowerConnect 6248 Ethernet Switch



UltraStor RS16 IP-4
Populated with Seagate 1.5TB SATA HDDs



"We evaluated several vendors and concluded that Enhance Technology's iSCSI system offered comparable performance to SANs costing almost twice as much," says John Tourloukis, Partner of Fast PC Networks. After contacting with Enhance Technology's sales rep and knowing the features that RS16 IP-4 offers on its performance and speed, Fast PC Networks purchased the unit.

"We chose this specific product because of its great performance versus other iSCSI SAN, and the throughput works really good at a tremendous saving"- John Tourloukis



Fast PC Networks was founded in 2001 and it changed the name to Fast PC Networks in 2004. Fast PC Networks is located in Houston Texas, and they are a disaster discovery and data center call location company. Fast PC Networks is a complete collocation and managed services solution provider. With experience working with several types of businesses across different industries, they have the knowledge and resources to get any job done right way. Fast PC Networks Ready Business and Data Center Solutions help reduce information technology complexity and costs. Partner with Fast PC Networks to manage on-site business & hosted environment and organization's solution will be supported by their experienced and certified engineering team.



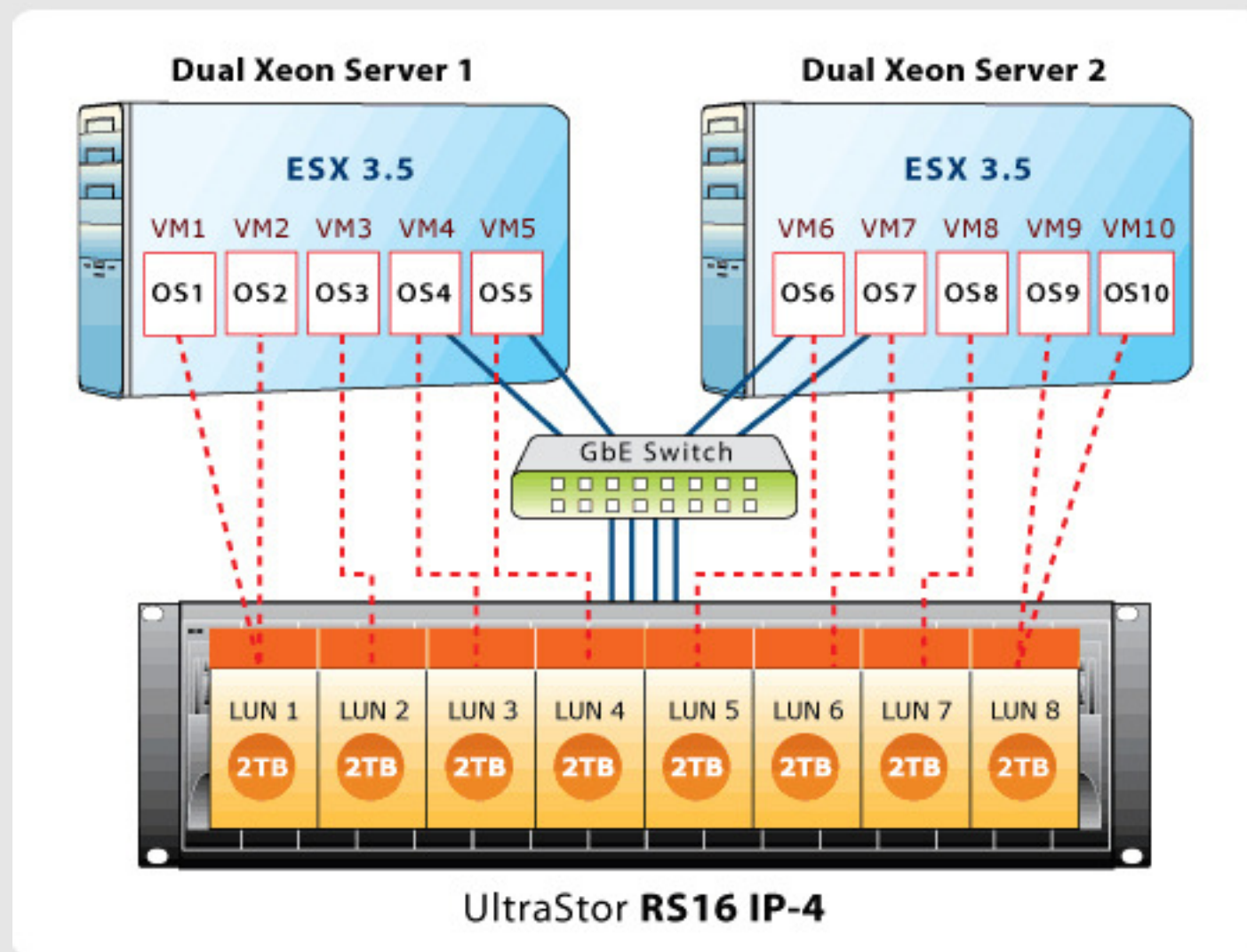
About UltraStor RS16 IP-4

Enhance Technology's UltraStor RS 16 IP-4 SAN Array feature industry-leading performance using Intel IOP platform with dual or quad channel GbE iSCSI ports generating up to 400MB/sec throughput. By connecting to one dedicated host system, the Enhance's UltraStor RS16 IP-4 allows multiple users to read and write from the storage using SAN Management software from other workstations connected to the ethernet network.



The UltraStor RS16 IP-4 GbE iSCSI storage solutions are verified by VMware ESX Servers for storage virtualization which let you aggregate memory, storage and networking resources into multiple virtual machines. The combination of VMware's storage virtualization and Enhance Technology's GbE iSCSI professional RAID protected storage systems allow users to make the best use of their existing storage to improve resource utilization. VMware allows IT customers various benefits such as less energy consumption, simplify management, and flexible & scalable network storage environment for enterprise & SMB.

Storage virtualization is part of the Enhance's ongoing efforts to go green, and the efficient setup of using VMware ESX server along with the Enhance's UltraStor IP Storage Arrays directly contribute to savings on IT operating cost. As the leader in server virtualization, VMware provides users for saving overall cost by its green nature with fewer servers required, reducing downtime and energy usage, while increasing flexibility and the efficiency of the storage subsystems. Working together with VMware, Enhance strives to achieve high power efficiency and performance while minimizing total operating costs and ownership.



Enhance VMware Storage Virtualization

UltraStor RS16 IP-4 Features & Benefits:

- 3U, 16 SAS/SATA disks external storage
- Multiple RAID configuration options
- Embedded hardware RAID controller
- One logical volume shared by as many as 16 hosts
- Windows MPIO Certified
- Hot swappable components
- Secure control panel with backlit LCD
- Host access control & CHAP

