

Case Studies

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University of Washington (UW) Aeronautics & Astronautics Department Takes Advantage of Enhance's UltraStor RS16FS Performance & ROI for File Backup



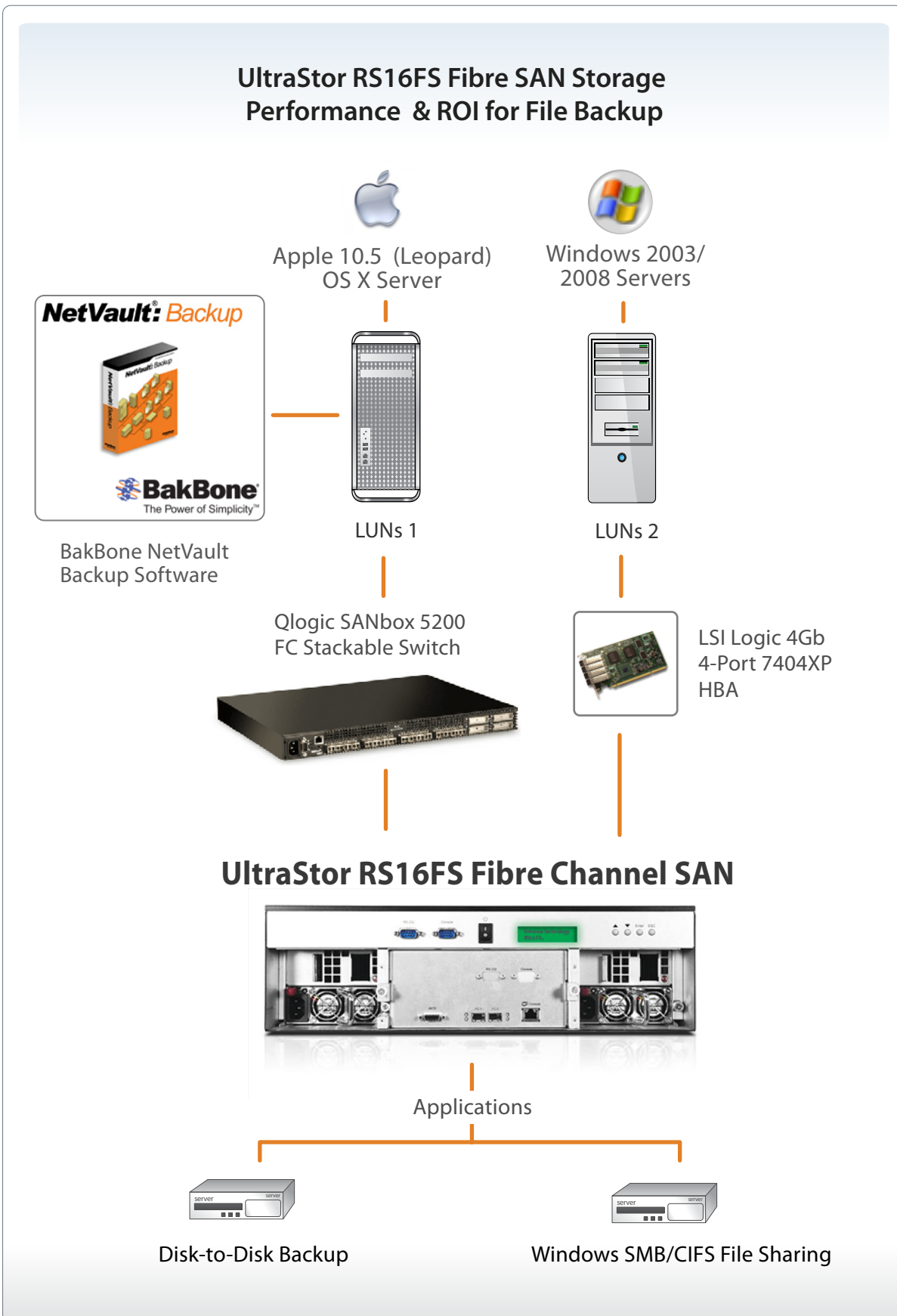
Situated near the hub of the world's largest aerospace company, Boeing, University of Washington's (UW) Aeronautics & Astronautics program is one of the leading programs in the United States, which trains and prepares new graduates to enter the aerospace industry.

The Challenge

UW Aeronautics & Astronautics was looking for a storage system to expand its file storage capacity on their existing 2GB/s fibre-channel storage area network (SAN). Their primary goal was the expansion of disk-to-disk backup capacity to 14TB while maintaining the option for future expansion of general purpose Windows SMB/CIF file storage as a secondary goal.



The Solution



After thorough research, Brian Levenson, the Senior Computer Specialist of UW Aeronautics & Astronautics, found Enhance Technology's UltraStor RS16FS Fibre Channel storage to be the perfect solution, which balanced their requirement for high performance at an affordable cost and fit the College of Engineering's existing infrastructure and limited IT budget.

"The UltraStor RS16FS's chassis and controllers appear to be well engineered, and the web-based configuration is straightforward," says Brian Levenson.



The UltraStor RS16FS was installed and configured on RAID LUN's within minutes", Mr. Levenson noted. "The rack installation was straightforward, and the rails are strong enough to support the fully populated chassis. Configuring a RAID 6 array and associated LUN's with the web-based tool was pretty much self explanatory. After the LUN's were attached, they were immediately recognized

by the Apple 10.5 (Leopard) OS X Server as local SCSI volumes and behaved as expected," added Levenson.

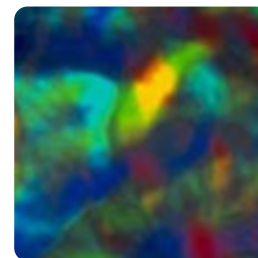
The UltraStor RS16FS has 4GB/s fibre-channel (FC) ports, one of which is connected to an existing 2GB/s Qlogic SANbox 5200 FC switch stack. The other one is connected to a LSI 7404 HBA on a Windows server. The backup host system is an Apple Intel OS X 10.5 (Leopard) Server, using Bakbone NetVault backup software.



The Results

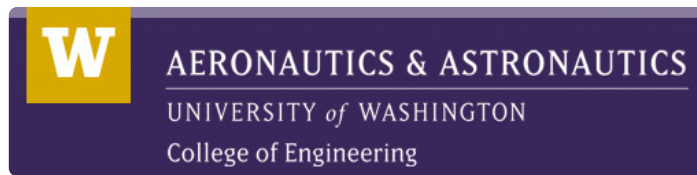
Mr. Levenson said "the unit has been running for several months without a single glitch", and he thanks Enhance Technology in providing excellent support including several Apple OS X Server installations.

For the benchmark, Mr. Levenson claims that they have consistently measured write throughput of 180MB/s when the RS16FS is connected via only a single FC port to their existing 2GB/s FC SAN, so the result is beyond their expectation especially compared to their old systems. They have not had a chance to run it on the 4G Fibre fabric connection, but they are eager to see the results.



"Mr. Levenson states "the key benefits of UltraStor RS16FS are high performance and high build quality at a relatively low cost. He notes, "we have had no need to consult with Enhance Technology for technical support because the installation is straightforward and management is simple and comprehensive."

About UW Aeronautics & Astronautics Department



The University of Washington's Department of Aeronautics and Astronautics offers the only aerospace degree program in the

Pacific Northwest, a region whose aerospace industry has been a major contributor to the technological development, economic vitality and the security of the United States. The Aeronautics & Astronautics Department has 18 faculty and 250 students.

Brian Levenson is the Senior Computer Specialist of University of Washington.

About UltraStor™ RS16FS

The RS16FS represents the pinnacle of hybrid I/O technology. UltraStor RS16FS opens the door to the world of high performance computing by accepting both high performance SAS disks and high capacity 3Gb SATA disks with next generation 4Gb Fibre Channel Dual-port (FD) host interfaces. Embedded with MPIO support for both Windows and Mac applications, the RS16FS addresses the challenges of high impact/high volume storage requirements, and drives data throughput over 600MB/sec offering possibilities for new level of applications. Being the most popular model within the advanced RS Series, RS16FS offers dynamic data expansion through daisy-chaining four (4+) more optional RS16JS JBOD units to form large RAID storage required by some data intensive applications, and continues the UltraStor tradition by delivering a solution that raises the bar in reliability, functionality, and performance.

UltraStor™ RS16FS Features & Benefits:

- Hybrid SAS & SATA disk based storage system
- Comprehensive RAID levels: 0, 1, 3, 5, 6, 10, 30, 50, 60
- Multiple RAID levels & stripe sizes per disk volume
- Supports on-line volume expansion & migration
- Storage expansion through RS16JS system
- Supports up to 2GB RAID controller cache memory
- MS MPIO Certified; Snapshot & RAID-6 supported
- Remote storage management through web GUI

