

# Ready for a world-class solution to traditional storage problems?

Take a look at the many benefits of Software Defined Storage.

White Paper by



## Why Software Defined Storage is a world-class choice.

Data storage is something that enterprise-level companies and even small- to mid-sized businesses have to manage on an ongoing basis. There is a plethora of data storage approaches and solutions available on the market. Following is a closer look at one of the best data storage options in the world right now — Software Defined Storage (SDS).

### Designed for High Performance

SDS is a type of data storage architecture in which the data storage software is separated from the hardware. It's an alternative to traditional data storage architectures such as network-attached storage (NAS) and storage area network (SAN). As a software-based approach, SDS is designed to be a high-performance and optimized platform. It's similar to object storage and is an efficient and future-proof solution. Organizations don't have to worry about the infrastructure in their applications because SDS is compatible with any industry standard or x86 system.

### Highlights of the Benefits of SDS

**Flexibility.** SDS eliminates dependence on proprietary hardware, providing maximum flexibility.

**Scalability.** It allows for extremely efficient scaling when more data storage is required. Hypothetically, infinite scaling is possible. This is because SDS is not limited to a network with a limited amount of nodes. So, no matter how large the data storage need, SDS can handle it.

**Cost-efficiency.** It's cost-efficient because it enables companies to scale out instead of scaling up. SDS provides the power to adjust capacity and performance independently.

When SDS is done correctly, it increases performance, availability and efficiency.

**Automation.** SDS can make automatic adjustments based on day-to-day capacity needs. New connections, new hardware and administrator intervention aren't needed to make storage adjustments. This saves money and time and makes the entire data storage process far more efficient. Data storage automation is a tremendous advantage for companies.

**Adaptability.** SDS can be used with a wide variety of data sources to build a storage infrastructure. All of the following data storage items can be networked through SDS, which gives companies the power to build unified storage platforms:

- ▶ External disk systems
- ▶ Flash and disk resources
- ▶ Object platforms
- ▶ Cloud-based resources
- ▶ Virtual servers and more.

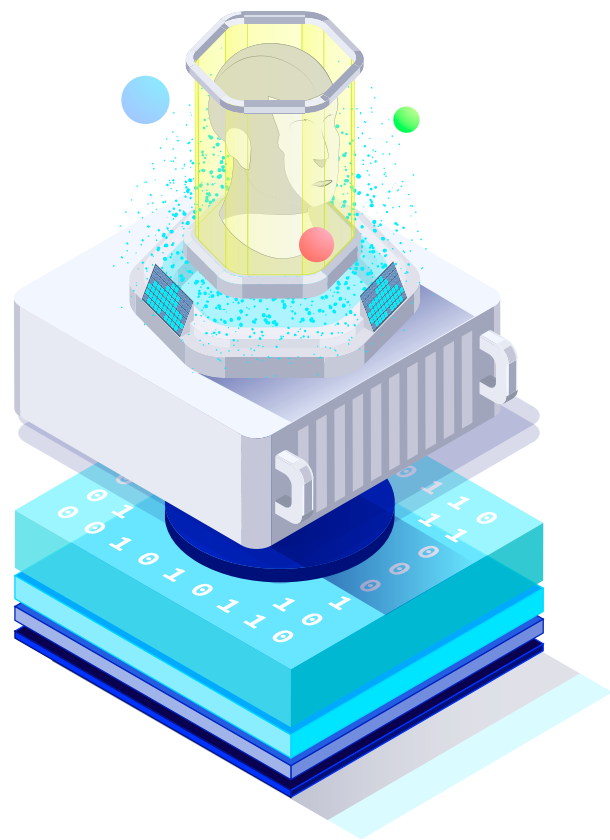
## SDS eliminates traditional storage.

SDS is designed to be the solution to traditional data storage problems. With traditional data storage, a bundle of industry-standard hardware and proprietary software must be purchased. This results in a lack of flexibility and efficiency.

Unlike traditional data storage methods, SDS abstracts the data storage resources from the underlying hardware. In other words, SDS prevents organizations from being forced to rely on the proprietary software and specific hardware that a data storage company may offer. Instead, SDS works as a layer of technology that enables data storage to occur on a wide variety of hardware sources, in addition to other sources such as cloud platforms.

SDS frees companies from traditional data storage constraints by allowing them to store data in many different places. This makes file storage significantly easier and more efficient for companies that need to store large quantities of data. When SDS is done correctly, it increases performance, availability and efficiency. It also saves money, time and stress, and frees up administrative resources that can be put to use elsewhere. Further, SDS makes governance, security and data protection much easier to control and implement while facilitating SLAs and QoS.

Virtual SAN, also known as vSAN, is an enterprise-class storage virtualization software that many companies rely on for SDS. Combined with vSphere, it allows you to manage compute and storage with a single platform, further reducing the cost and complexity of traditional storage and providing an easy path to future-ready, hyperconverged infrastructure and hybrid cloud. Any company that wants to be on the cutting edge of data storage technology should implement software-defined storage.





## SDS Use Cases

### Challenging Environments

SDS is ideal for challenging environments like first responder events, environmental disasters, and tactical and mobile situations. SDS is much more agile and swift than traditional data storage methods and is significantly cheaper than SAN and NAS options, so it's a far better option in challenging environments and situations where speed, flexibility and swiftness are key.

SDS solves the challenges of accessing critical data to ensure the best response for the direst of needs by having a cloud storage option that you can access remotely, reliably and at 10x the speed of traditional storage.



### Modernization Situations for Infrastructure

SDS is a great option for any company or organization trying to modernize its data storage systems. SDS is more cost-efficient and reliable, and safer and easier to use. It's ideal for traditional granular scaling, can be automated, and still has the benefits of having cloud-agility. With the ever-evolving and increasingly unstructured amount of data in today's business world, having an SDS solution un-complicate things is paramount. It's little wonder that it's quickly becoming the industry standard for data storage.

SDS solves the challenges of future-proofing your infrastructure by working in tandem with the cloud. Upgrading infrastructure, scaling up, and adding more storage is simple when you have software managing all of your data.

## SDS Use Cases

### Remote Office/Branch Office (ROBO)

SDS enables companies to get more out of existing servers. By consolidating the data in a centralized location, the data is readily available. This is especially helpful for users in ROBO locations that need to access the data as if it was right next to them. Because users are all presented with the same common view into the storage, it doesn't matter where they are geographically located.

SDS solves the challenges of ROBO deployment by eliminating the need for duplication of infrastructure, decreasing the time of data transfer, being a more scalable option, and having a simplistic data storage environment.

**Data storage no longer has to be inefficient, tedious and overly expensive as the now-archaic traditional approach.**



### Implementations for Hybrid Clouds

SDS makes it possible to manage the data stored on-premise and on company servers in addition to data stored on hosted private clouds. This provides the best of both worlds by creating a hybrid solution. Thanks to the simplicity and ease of SDS, there is no variation in reporting, tools or training when making the switch.

SDS makes it so that all of the data is accessible within one environment, and there are no extra complexities of trying to access different data stores with different storage systems. Everything is easy and efficient. SDS solves the challenges of hybrid cloud environments by eliminating the complexity of scaling. SDS allows for quick storage expansion by decoupling the storage software from its hardware. This also helps with compatibility, as all of the storage software is run and maintained by the SDS solution.

## The importance of having a reliable SDS provider.

SDS has many outstanding benefits, but it's crucial to have a reliable SDS provider. With so many different technologies, having a trusted, high-quality provider can ensure everything works together seamlessly. After you've created a great app or extremely important files, the last thing you want to happen is for your data to be corrupted, stolen or damaged. A top-notch SDS provider will make sure that never happens and your data is secure at all times. The SDS provider will also make it easy for you to automate all the processes related to data storage. And, your reliable SDS provider will be able to keep your data storage systems up and running 24/7 with no downtime, providing complete peace of mind.

### Make Your Move to SDS

More and more amounts of data are being produced every year, and that data is becoming increasingly important for companies, so it's crucial to have a 100% reliable solution. If your company wants to streamline its data storage, cut costs, modernize or just improve data storage in general, seriously consider switching to SDS. Many companies that start using SDS never go back to traditional data storage because they enjoy SDS so much more. Being able to manage data storage across many different data mediums from one software platform is incredible. Data storage no longer has to be inefficient, tedious and overly expensive as the now-archaic traditional approach. When you take a close look at SDS, there are simply too many benefits to ignore.





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