Industry Trends Perspective Update Newsletter
Information Technology and Data infrastructure
Cloud Virtual Physical Software Defined

Volume 17, Issue VII (Pre VMworld 2017)

Hello and welcome to the August 2017 issue of the Server StorageIO update newsletter.

Its end of summer season here in north america which means wrapping up holidays, vacations, back to school shopping (and going to school), as well as the start of the fall IT technology conference season. VMworld 2017 USA is this week in Las Vegas and there will be several announcements coming out of that event. Given all of the activity so far this month, I'm going to cover the VMworld and related topics in a special early September issue of this newsletter.

Speaking of VMworld 2017, if you are going to be there in Las Vegas, stop by the book store located in the community village area on Tuesday at 1PM I will be doing a book signing, meet and greet, stop by and say hello.

Thanks to all who participated in the recent thevPad top 100 vBloggers event, I am honored to have StorageIOblog listed in the top 100 vBlogs. Also congratulations to new and returning fellow Microsoft MVPs and VMware vExperts. There is a lot going on in the industry, lets get to it in this Server StorageIO Data Infrastructure Update Newsletter.

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Enjoy this edition of the Server StorageIO update newsletter (pre VMworld edition).

Cheers GS

Data Infrastructure and IT Industry Activity Trends

Acronis announced True Image 2018 for home based data protection (backup), while Crashplan aka code42 announced they were getting out of the consumer, small office home office (SOHO) backup and data protection space to focus on the enterprise.

Cisco bought software defined storage converged infrastructure software vendor Springpath for about $320M USD. Cisco and Swiftstack (object storage software) also announced interoperability news with the UCS S32600 storage server platform.
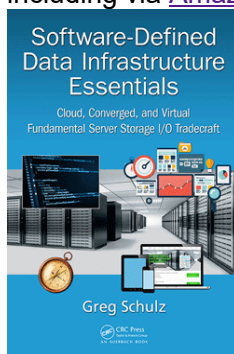
GPU vendor NVIDIA announced Quadro Virtual Data Center workstation technology. Meanwhile ioFABRIC announced their new Vicinity 3.0 software defined management solution. Microsemi (remember PMC Sierra) announced release of its Flashtec PCIe controllers to help speed adoption deployment of SSDs including NVMe based.

Microsoft bought Cycle Computing to enhance Azure services, while also making Azure Blob storage tiering available as part of an ongoing public preview. For those not aware, Azure Blob is similar to what other services call objects. Get in on the public preview here. For those who live in a hybrid world where your environment and experience include both Windows and Linux,

check out Windows Services for Linux here. With this service which can install onto an Windows 10 system along side Win32 (e.g. it co-exists, its not a virtual machine), you can choose from the Windows Store which Linux distro you want (e.g. Centos, Ubuntu, etc).

Need to learn, refresh or simply gain a better understanding of Microsoft PowerShell for software defined management of Windows, Azure and other environments? Check out this great post from Microsoft Blogs.

For those who work in a Windows or Azure environment, here are some useful icons for Powerpoint, Visio, PNG and SVG from Microsoft. With Microsoft Ignite coming up in September, watch for some interesting update enhancements to Windows Server from a server storage I/O perspective.

NextPlatform.com has an interesting article on Exascale Timeline for Storage and I/O systems worth a read. Panzura global name space and scale out software defined storage management software announced mobile client file sharing. After dropping their own cloud business, Verizon is now a virtual network services partner with Amazon.

Over at all flash array (AFA) SSD vendor Pure, revenues are growing closer to an annual $1B USD rate despite loss per share, Pure also announced a change in leadership with current CEO Scott Dietzen stepping aside for Charles Giancarlo to take the lead spot.

VMware has been talking about the continued increase in customer adoption and deployment of VSAN now they are showing they eat their own dog food. Check out this post here from VMware that shows how many and what size VSAN clusters they are using for various internal operations. Also on the VMware storage front, learn more about enhancements for large and small file allocation blocks with vSphere VMFS6.

With all of the pre and post VMworld related announcements, remember to check out the tools available over at the VMware flings site including vSphere HTML5 Web Client, HCIBench, vRealize Operations Export, VisualEsxtop, ESXi Embedded Host Client, VMware OS Optimization Tool and many others. Watch for VMworld coverage in the September newsletter along with posts at www.storageioblog.com.

Check out other industry news, comments, trends perspectives here.

Server StorageIO Commentary in the news

Recent Server StorageIO industry trends perspectives commentary in the news.

Via EnterpriseStorageForum: Comments on Who Will Rule the Storage World?
Via InfoGoto: Comments on Google Cloud Platform Gaining Data Storage Momentum
Via InfoGoto: Comments on Singapore High Rise Data Centers
Via InfoGoto: Comments on New Tape Storage Capacity

View more Server, Storage and I/O trends and perspectives comments here

Server StorageIOblog Posts

Recent and popular Server StorageIOblog posts include:

- **NVMe Wont Replace Flash By Itself They Complement Each Other**
  There has been some recent industry marketing buzz generated by a startup to get some attention by claiming via a study sponsored by including the startup that Non-Volatile Memory (NVM) Express (NVMe) will replace flash storage. Granted, many IT customers as well as vendors are still confused by NVMe thinking it is a storage medium as opposed to an interface used for accessing fast storage devices such as nand flash among other solid state devices (SSDs). Part of that confusion can be tied to common SSD based devices rely on NVM that are persistent memory retaining data when powered off (unlike the memory in your computer).

- **Like IT Data Centers Do You Take Trade Show Exhibit Infrastructure For Granted?**
  Think about this for a moment; do you assume that Information Technology (IT) and Cloud based data centers along with their associated Data Infrastructure supporting various applications will be accessible when needed. Likewise, when you go to a trade show, conference, symposium, user group or another conclave is it assumed that the trade show, exposition (expo), exhibits, booths, stands or demo areas will be ready, waiting and accessible? In case you did not hear, things heated up at the recent Flash Memory Summit (FMS) in Santa Clara where a small fire in one of the exhibt booths prevented the expo hall from opening during the event.

- **Microsoft Azure Software Defined Data Infrastructure Reference Resources**
  Need to learn more about Microsoft Azure Cloud Software Defined Data Infrastructure topics including reference architecture among other resources for various application workloads? Microsoft Azure has an architecture and resources page (here) that includes various application workload reference tools.

- **Chelsio Storage over IP and other Networks Enable Data Infrastructures**
  Chelsio and Storage over IP (SoIP) continue to enable Data Infrastructures from legacy to software defined virtual, container, cloud as well as converged.

- **Announcing Software Defined Data Infrastructure Essentials Book by Greg Schulz**
  Software Defined Data Infrastructure (SDDI) Essentials is now generally available at various global venues in hardcopy, hardback print as well as various electronic versions including via Amazon and CRC Press among others.

- Server StorageIO Industry Trends Perspectives Report WekaIO Matrix
- Like Data They Protect For Now Quantum Revenues Continue To Grow
- Travel Fun Crossword Puzzle For VMworld 2017 Las Vegas
- Hot Popular New Trending Data Infrastructure Vendors To Watch

In Case You Missed It #ICYMI

- If Answer is NVMe, what are the questions?
- Get in the NVMe SSD game (if you are not already)
- GDPR (General Data Protection Regulation) Resources Are You Ready?

- Intel Announces New Xeon Processors for Software Defined Data Infrastructures
- Who Will Be At Top Of Storage World Next Decade?
- July 2017 Server StorageIO Data Infrastructures Update Newsletter

View other recent as well as past StorageIOblog posts here

Server StorageIO Data Infrastructure Tips and Articles

Recent Server StorageIO industry trends perspectives commentary in the news.

Via NetworkWorld: Do you have an IT trade craft skills gap?

View more Server, Storage and I/O trends and perspectives comments here

Events and Activities

Recent and upcoming event activities.

Sep. 21, 2017 - MSP CMG - Minneapolis MN
Sep. 20, 2017 - Redmond Data Protection and Backup - Webinar
Sep. 14, 2017 - Fujifilm IT Executive Summit - Seattle WA
Sep. 12, 2017 - SNIA Software Developers Conference (SDC) - Santa Clara CA
Sep. 7, 2017 - WiPro - Planning Your Software Defined Journey - New York City
August 29, 2017 - VMworld - Las Vegas

See more webinars and activities on the Server StorageIO Events page here.

Server StorageIO Industry Resources and Links

Useful links and pages:
Microsoft TechNet - Various Microsoft related from Azure to Docker to Windows
storageio.com/links - Various industry links (over 1,000 with more to be added soon)
objectstoragecenter.com - Cloud and object storage topics, tips and news items
OpenStack.org - Various OpenStack related items
storageio.com/protect - Various data protection items and topics
thenvmeplace.com - Focus on NVMe trends and technologies
thessdplace.com - NVM and Solid State Disk topics, tips and techniques
storageio.com/converge - Various CI, HCI and related SDS topics
storageio.com/performance - Various server, storage and I/O benchmark and tools
VMware Technical Network - Various VMware related items

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