Tyrone®

Case Study:

Production House reaps on Cost Savings with Tyrone Unified Storage

A well-known TV content provider sought a storage solution for their production house; while everyone offered SAN solutions which was beyond their budget, Netweb Technologies' Tyrone Opslag FS2 NAS solution turned out to fulfill their requirements in a cost effective manner

CHALLENGE:

- Sought a cost effective storage solution that would meet their requirements in terms of performance and scalability.

- Needed a high performance storage solution that could deliver high sustained bandwidth of 600 MBps required for high quality HD content.

- Sought a solution that would be easy to deploy and has simple networking infrastructure.

SOLUTION:

- Opslag FS2, a unified storage solution from Tyrone Systems was deployed.

- The solution met all the requirements of a very cost efficient manner.

BUSINESS RESULTS:

- With this deployment the production house has benefited from cost savings not only from storage solution but also in terms of simplified networking infrastructure required by Opslag FS2.

- The production house can now easily scale up their bandwidth as well as connected users along with storage capacity as and when the need arises in future, as Opslag FS2 provides them full scalability options.

- Savings in terms of licenses, as Opslag FS2 is one time purchase model, and isn't bounded by licenses fees for any future upgrades or storage expansion.

DEPLOYMENT ENVIRONMENT:

- One Opslag FS2 unified storage box configured on NAS platform was deployed.

- As Opslag FS2 has twelve 1 Gbps ports on the box itself, so 10 users are directly connected to the box eliminating the need for switch for routing and thus simplifying the network infrastructure and resulting in cost savings.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Customer Name:

A well-known production and post-production studio

Industry:

Production and Post-Production Studio

Corporate Office:

Hyderabad, India

TYRONE OPSLAG FS2 UNIFIED STORAGE

- FS2 is a unified storage solution that offers high performance, high availability and flexibility through multiple configuration options as the storage box supports variety of protocols and interconnects.

For complete information on Tyrone Opslag FS2 unified storage,

visit http://www.tyronesystems.com/unifiedstorage.html

The production house has ventured into the Telugu Television recently and is generating fiction and non-fiction content for the Telugu TV channels.

Challenges:

This is about a production as well as post production house; which has TV serials and reality TV shows that are being aired by Telugu TV channels. They shoot the content for these TV serials and shows, and at their own post production house they edit and finalize the content which later can be aired directly by the respective TV channels. As most of the content being generated is for the TV channels, i.e. broadcasting industry, so the video content that the studio is working on is of High Definition (HD) format to generate the content that can be aired by TV channels. The final output video can be in HD as well as SD format depending on TV channel's requirement. As the video content is of HD and 2K format, the requirements for bandwidth are very high. The editors who work on the video use Final Cut Pro video-editing software from Apple, which can work on multiple video streams simultaneously. As the video files are of very large sizes, the editing machines are connected directly to a central storage to edit the video files. Therefore, very high bandwidth and throughputs are required to stream the video from the storage to the editing machines.

Generally, SAN is the preferred solution for storage for production and post production houses; but the challenge for the production house was that they were not in position to incur the costs of SAN deployment. For their small setup where there were just 10 users (editors) connected to the storage box, the cost of investing on SAN deployment was not feasible. And in case of NAS deployment, even though they could get a very high average bandwidth, but there would always have been troughs and crests in the performance graph. And for a scenario, where the primary content is video; even a small crest would have meant drop in video frames. Hence, a typical NAS deployment was also not recommended. Keeping these issues in mind, management of the production house wanted to invest on a storage solution which could meet their following requirements:-

- **Cost Effective yet High Performance:** Being a production house working on HD and 2K format video content, it was imperative that the company needed a storage solution that could deliver sustained high bandwidth. They wanted a storage solution which could deliver sustained bandwidth of 600 MBps, but should be a very cost effective solution.
- **Scalable:** : At the moment the production house has limited users connected to the storage box, and the band requirement is also fixed; but they wanted a solution that could be scalable if the requirements in future increase. They sought easy to scale and expand storage solution.

Solution:

For their requirements, the production house was being offered SAN solution which was escalating their budget beyond reach. When they approached Netweb Technologies, they were offered a solution which not only met their requirements, but also proved to be very cost effective as compared to expensive SAN solutions. Netweb Technologies offered their flagship product Tyrone Opslag FS2, a unified storage solution. Opslag FS2 was configured as NAS platform and offered to them, and the breadth of features provided by Opslag FS2 met all their requirements. Below are some of the reasons why Tyrone Opslag FS2 unified storage solution

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was a cost effective solution for the production house:-

- Opslag FS2 was configured as NAS and designed to provide a sustained throughput of 600 MBps, as per the requirements set by the production house. This NAS deployment was cost effective over SAN deployment, and also saved them from additional costs of meta-data server and annual SAN File System licenses had they opted for SAN solution.

- Opslag FS2 has twelve 1 Gbps ports which delivers high throughputs. The 10 editors of the production house work on Mac editing machines which are directly connected to the box thus eliminating any requirement of switch for routing and resulting in a simplified network cabling architecture. Whereas for a SAN setup, a very different and costly networking would have been required. This has helped the production house to save on costs both in terms of networking and hardware, i.e. switch's cost.

- SAN setup requires a SAN File System license for every user which is a lifelong recurring cost. With Opslag FS2 they are offered unlimited licenses with no need to renew them on any periodic basis

- Opslag FS2 is a very flexible and scalable solution. It provides upgradability options to the production house in following ways:-

  - **Users:** If the production house employs more users, then with an additional switch in between, the number of users connected to the storage box can be increased. Right now two additional users can readily be connected to the box as only ten out of twelve 1 Gbps ports of the box is in use

  - **Bandwidth:** This too comes at additional cost of incorporating a switch in between. Mostly the editing machines used in production houses have dual gigabit ports; if not then with HBA adapters we can put additional gigabit ports onto the editing machines. Then with teaming the two ports each at machine and at the switch, we can get additional bandwidth of 120+ MBps.

  - **Capacity:** If they need additional storage capacity; with JBOD support they can extend the box storage capacity with additional box expansion going up to 256 additional HDDs.

Benefits:

The comprehensive features of Opslag FS2 have made it a low cost of ownership device for the production house. With all their requirements being met, they has been utilizing the benefits of Opslag FS2 since its deployment

- **Cost:**

  - This NAS deployment is delivering the performance throughput usually delivered by SAN solutions; therefore the production house has saved tremendously on this deployment and additionally on networking and licensing costs as well.

- **Scalability:**

  - The production house wanted to have a storage solution that could meet their future requirements for storage expansion as well as for scalability. Opslag FS2 caters to these demands and provides flexibility for multiple configurations options through its in-built support for multiple interconnect technology and protocolstechnology and protocols.

- **High Performance:**

  - Tyrone Opslag FS2 is a completely integrated solution whereby the hardware

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and the software stacks are highly optimized for each other; which helps Netweb Technologies to design their NAS solution to deliver high bandwidth which can cater to their requirements

* Disclaimer for Case Study

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