Data Dynamics

Global Pharma Successfully Migrates to Clustered Data ONTAP with StorageX

Quick Look:

Industry	Opportunity	Solution	Value Added
Pharmaceutical	Customer chose NetApp Clustered Data ONTAP as their next generation NAS platform but had concerns about how they will migrate, the risk involved, the outage time for cutovers, and ensuring that the security permissions for users migrate successfully across platforms.	NetApp brought in StorageX 7.6 as the preferred solution and showcased the value that StorageX can provide to automate the migration from the customer's legacy infrastructure to Clustered Data ONTAP.	StorageX 7.6 delivered: • Minimal disruption to business operations for cutover. • Security Management on File Systems. • Restructuring and optimization as part of transition. • Standardization across global data centers.

The pharmaceutical industry invests between 14%-19% of their budget into research and development on average. The R&D process creates massive amounts of data that gets stored primarily in unstructured storage, i.e. not in a relational database. In addition, companies must manage end-user generated data such as PDF and Word files. This results in pharmaceutical companies having petabytes of unstructured data spread across hundreds of millions of file systems.

Opportunity
One of the largest pharmaceutical companies in the world with over 135,000 employees, hundreds of millions of files, and petabytes of data, was looking to change their platform from their legacy vendor to NetApp's Clustered Data ONTAP. The customer was concerned with the disruption the migration would have on its end users and NetApp's ability to ensure the migration completed in a timely manner with zero risk. The initial data set was a little over 500TB spread across millions of files.

Solution
NetApp's sales team selected StorageX 7.6 as the migration software of choice. StorageX provided a single pane for managing the migration and ensuring a consistent delivery across several global customer sites. With API integration into both the source and target infrastructures, StorageX was able to provision the storage on the new Clustered Data ONTAP, create the same directory structures, and migrate the data. StorageX supported both CIFS and NFS based protocols and ensured that the permissions on the source were copied successfully on the new clustered Data ONTAP target.

Value Added
Reduced Outage Window
The number one challenge to any migration is user impact. During data migrations, user downtime is the largest

indirect cost to a company and is a huge impediment to productivity. StorageX helps reduce downtime by performing migrations 5 to 7 times faster than other host based copying tools. This substantially reduces the outage windows required for business units.

Security

Enterprise environments require a paramount focus on security and access management for data. As part of a migration, StorageX ensures that all access control lists are copied from the source. This was a critical aspect for the success of the customer due to the sensitive nature of the data being migrated.

Subvolume Level Movement

Since the customer was migrating from non-NetApp systems to Clustered Data ONTAP, the migration had to be done at a share or export level. Traditional volume-level copying, such as through SnapMirrors, is not capable of performing such a migration. With StorageX, however, the customer was able to move data at a subvolume level and do so across thousands of directories.

Consistency

The customer has data centers across the globe and this migration involved moving data in several of those data centers. By utilizing StorageX, the customer was able to centralize the management of the migration to key geographies and drive consistency in the end state of their infrastructure by leveraging the same policy structure regardless of geo-location.

Solution Components

StorageX Licensed Features

- ☒ Migration
- ☒ Replication
- ☒ Discovery
- ☒ Reporting
- ☐ Disaster Recovery
- ☐ Namespace

Managed Resources

- ☐ Microsoft Windows Server
- ☒ EMC Isilon
- ☒ EMC VNX
- ☐ EMC VNXe
- ☐ NetApp 7
- ☒ NetApp 8 in 7 Mode
- ☒ NetApp 8 in Cluster Mode
- ☐ Red Hat Enterprise Linux