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SCC and IBM Spectrum Virtualize

The IBM Spectrum Virtualize™ system combines software and hardware into a comprehensive, modular appliance that provides symmetric virtualization.

Symmetric virtualization is achieved by creating a pool of managed disks (MDisks) from the attached storage systems and optional SAS expansion enclosures. Volumes can be created in a pool for use by attached host systems. System administrators can view and access a common pool of storage on the storage area network (SAN). or local area network (LAN). This functionality helps administrators to use storage resources more efficiently and provides a common base for advanced functions.

A SAN is a high-speed Fibre Channel network that connects host systems and storage devices. A LAN is a high-speed Ethernet network that connects host systems and storage devices. In a SAN and LAN, a host system can be connected to a storage device across the network. The connections are made through units such as routers and switches. The area of the network that contains these units is known as the fabric of the network.

Features and Benefits:

Spectrum Virtualize reduces storage cost and adds flexibility by enabling:

- Improved storage utilization
- Improved application availability and simplified data migrations
- Simplified storage management
- Network-based replication and software architectural advantages

IBM Spectrum Virtualize software

IBM Spectrum Virtualize software is part of the IBM Spectrum Storage™ family.

IBM Spectrum Virtualize is a key member of the IBM Spectrum Storage portfolio. It is a highly flexible storage solution that enables rapid deployment of block storage services for new and traditional workloads, on-premises, off-premises and in a combination of both. Designed to help enable cloud environments, it is based on proven technology.

For more information about the IBM Spectrum Storage portfolio, Click HERE.

The software provides these functions for the host systems that attach to the system:

- Creates a single pool of storage
- Provides logical unit virtualization
- Manage logical volumes

The system also provides the following functions:

- Large scalable cache
- Copy Services:
  - IBM® FlashCopy® (point-in-time copy) function, including thin-provisioned FlashCopy to make multiple targets affordable
  - IBM HyperSwap® (active-active copy) function
  - Metro Mirror (synchronous copy)
  - Global Mirror (asynchronous copy)
  - Data migration
- Space management:
  - IBM Easy Tier® function to migrate the most frequently used data to higher-performance storage
  - Metering of service quality when combined with IBM Spectrum Control Base Edition . For information, refer to the IBM Spectrum Control Base Edition documentation.
  - Thin-provisioned logical volumes
  - Compressed volumes to consolidate storage

IBM is well positioned to help clients with their move towards a cloud or hybrid cloud strategy by leveraging their software defined storage offerings, IBM Spectrum Virtualize and IBM Spectrum Virtualize for Public Cloud.

IBM Spectrum Virtualize and IBM Spectrum Virtualize for Public Cloud frees clients from vendor lock in and provides a single common storage foundation that extends from on premises to public cloud. Not only does this allow for easier management and a consistent experience, it also allows clients to continue to use their storage vendor of choice within the data centre safe in the knowledge their data can be easily placed where it is needed.

IBM Spectrum Virtualize for Public Cloud leverages some of the same capabilities in the cloud as on premises with Data Reduction Pools (DRPs) using Deduplication and software compression. These features have shown up to 65% reduction in capacity utilization on Amazon Web Services (AWS) using compression while maintaining performance. Additionally, clients can reduce their paid capacity on public clouds using the Easy Tier function which can dynamically move workload from higher and faster storage tiers to lower and slower devices. Just use the performance you need, when you need it.

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All enquiries online@scc.com
Contact our team 0121 766 7000
Visit scc.com