Solution Brief

Universal Storage for Animation & VFX





Render at the Speed of Flash, Spend at the Cost of an Archive

Animation and VFX studios use rendering tools to shape today's most compelling content. I/O performance can directly correlate to the speed of content production by making both server farms and creatives more efficient with their time. Fast forward to today...and rendering workflows are now being exposed to new machine learning and deep learning frameworks to automate much of the creative process by programmatically learning from artistic behaviors. To train these new models, organizations are finding that they need to provide high speed access to their content archives for high-throughput computation... a challenge for organizations who have kept their largest data sets on the slowest storage.

With VAST Data, animations studios and FX shops can finally afford flash for all of their render data. Once flash can be affordable for the pipeline, render farms can deliver at up to 10 times faster performance than HDD-based scale-out storage.

The Pyramid is Dead

Large render farms have historically employed a number of storage systems and tiering strategies to balance cost and performance. As the transactional I/O workloads in render farms has outstripped the capability traditional scale-out NAS systems, studios have even band-aided these shortcomings by deploying exotic solutions such as file system caching appliances.

The complications of legacy NAS are on a collision course with AI and streaming requirements in modern rendering environments. To solve this problem, a new approach to storage architecture is required.

Why VAST?

VAST is trusted by leading visual effects studios to drive ultra-high performance with QoS at the price of HDD-based systems.

All-Flash Peformance

Maximize render performance across any data set, eliminate the complexity of file system caching solutions.

Hard Disk Cost Efficiency

New storage concepts combine flash performance with the cost of HDDs.

Multi-Tenant, Multi-Protocol

One exabyte-scale system can support many users and protocols, while providing dedicated quality of service for specific applications.

About Us

VAST is the data platform for simplicity at scale. VAST engineered the first new scale-out architecture in 20 years to take you beyond the conventional limits of scale, resilience and cost.



Looking to simplify your data center and unlock insights from all of your data? Contact us at

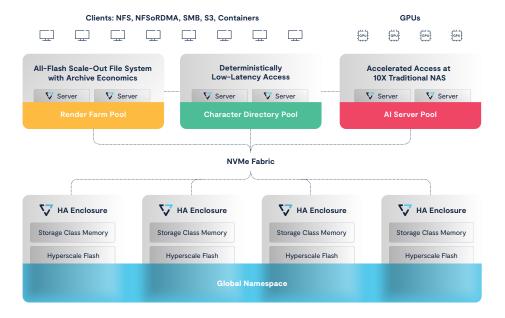
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The Better Option: VAST Universal Storage

VAST Data breaks the decades-old tradeoff between storage performance and capacity with a new storage architecture that enables unlimited processing on affordable flash, at up to exabyte scale. VAST's DASE architecture allows studios to scale performance and capacity independently by disaggregating the capacity provided by QLC flash from the performance provided by the stateless VAST Servers. With Universal Storage, digital artists have greater access to assets, rendering pipelines run faster, and the entire studio works more efficiently. Studios can also dedicate front-end servers—and the performance they provide—to their most critical projects.

Universal Storage Animation & VFX Sample Architecture

Dedicated Server Pools For Application QoS · Scale Perforance & Capacity Independently



Trusted by Industry Leaders

VAST is trusted by leading companies around the world to leverage a single radically affordable all-flash innovative platform.















All-Flash Storage Infrastructure

Render up to 10 times faster when all of your data is on flash.



Revolutionary Data Reduction for Rendering Data

Similarity-Based Data Reduction routinely delivers reduction of 2.5:1 in render pipelines.



NAS Simplicity

One scale-out namespace eliminates the need for client agents, tiering appliances, and other complications.



Multi-Tenant Infrastructure

VAST server pooling capability provides dedicated QoS for competing projects. Dedicate front-end servers and the performance they provide to the most critical projects.



Archive Economics

QLC flash protection, low-overhead erasure codes, and revolutionary data reduction deliver all-flash performance at the cost of hard drives and 1/10th the cost of other flash approaches.



Accelerated Storage for Al, Machine Learning, and Deep Learning

Saturate any GPU server with VAST's simple, accelerated NAS offering.



