

SOLUTION BRIEF

FalconStor Data Migration

Easy to use, low-impact host-free data migration across different vendor storage devices

Highlights

FalconStor data migration delivers the following benefits:

- > Migrates disk array data with no application downtime
- > Works across heterogeneous disk systems, including those from EMC, IBM, HP, HDS, Sun, Pillar, and others
- > Agentless solution does not depend on host operating system
- > Zero impact to host server processing
- > Can be deployed as a single-use data migration project or integrated permanently in SAN infrastructure
- > Supports both Fibre Channel (FC) and iSCSI host connectivity

Migrating SAN-based data to different storage systems is an ongoing IT challenge. Disk array tools are normally incompatible across different vendor systems. Host-based tools are intrusive and impact application processing. Moving data using backup and restore from tape is slow and cumbersome and does not scale well. The result is that data migration projects tend to be time-consuming and costly, requiring extensive application downtime.

Many factors drive the need to migrate data. Storage systems may be upgraded for better performance and capacity, or replaced when they come off lease. Applications may need to move from test or development to production systems. Disk distribution, RAID groups, and so on are reorganized periodically as performance or protection needs change over time.

The bottom line is that data migration is not a one-time challenge, but a recurring effort that consumes IT time, resources, and budgets. FalconStor Software provides the tools that simplify data migration by providing low-impact, host-free movement of data across the SAN.

How FalconStor Data Migration works

FalconStor[®] Network Storage Server (NSS) is a SAN-based storage virtualization platform that provides easy-to-use data migration capabilities. To enable migration, a FalconStor NSS server is inserted into a SAN fabric. There is no need to re-cable the environment; you only need to re-zone the SAN in order for the FalconStor NSS server to see the storage.

Using a unique, patented technology called the Storage Service Enabler (SSE), the FalconStor NSS server can connect to the existing storage LUNs without the need to modify the native data format. Once the system is in place, any new storage array that is connected to the SAN is also zoned to the FalconStor NSS device.

With the new storage in place, the existing data LUNs are mirrored to the new array. It doesn't matter if the new array is from a different vendor, uses different drive sizes, or uses different RAID configurations. FalconStor NSS provides block-level, synchronous mirroring between the two storage frames. There is no need for application downtime during this process. Extremely granular controls over quality of service (QoS), input/output (I/O) throughput, and so on ensure that primary application processing is not adversely impacted during the mirroring process.

Once the mirror is fully synchronized, the mirror priority is reversed through a simple push of a button. In other words, the original storage is re-defined as the mirror, while the new storage is defined as the primary. At this point, the mirror can be broken, leaving the application running entirely on the new storage. Data processing continues uninterrupted throughout this process.

“Once the primary array and the backup LUNs were synchronized ... all we did was flip the switch from the primary to the backup, and the backup became the primary.”

— Jalil Falsafi, Director of IT,
Future Electronics (Storage Magazine,
November 2008)

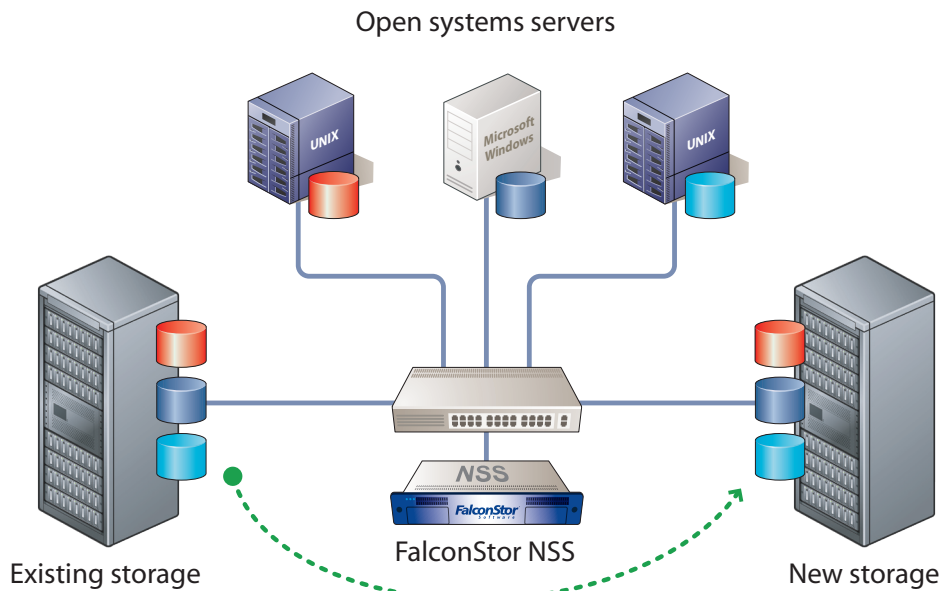
Advantages of FalconStor Data Migration

Migrating data with FalconStor NSS is easy, fast, reliable, and non-disruptive to operations. Because it is entirely storage-based, it is independent of host applications or operating systems, so it works with all your servers, both now and in the future. Offering a TOTALLY Open™ solution architecture, FalconStor NSS supports whatever disk systems you have deployed or choose to purchase in the future, freeing you from disk vendor lock-in or reliance on array-based tools that cannot cross vendor boundaries.

Most importantly, FalconStor patented technology does not affect or reformat your data in any way. The migrated data is a precise, block-for-block mirror of the original, relieving concerns about data viability.

In addition to migration, the FalconStor NSS solution provides numerous other data management features, including snapshots, data replication, and storage virtualization. FalconStor NSS is a complete storage toolkit that simplifies all your data migration and management needs.

FalconStor NSS migrates SAN data between different storage arrays while applications continue to run



About FalconStor

FalconStor Software, Inc. (NASDAQ: FALC), the only provider of TOTALLY Open™ Data Protection solutions, delivers the most comprehensive suite of products for data protection and storage virtualization. Based on the award-winning IPStor® platform, products include the industry-leading Virtual Tape Library (VTL) with deduplication, Continuous Data Protector (CDP), and Network Storage Server (NSS), and are enabled with WAN-optimized replication for disaster recovery and remote office protection. Our solutions are available from major OEMs and solution providers and are deployed by thousands of customers worldwide, from small businesses to Fortune 1000 enterprises.

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