Fortify your Linux investment with IBM TotalStorage

A guide to selecting IBM storage products for Linux-based environments

Business Value

Getting a great return on your investment and lowest possible total cost of ownership has never been more important. Linux has much to offer today's business environment, with its open standards and the potential for reduced TCO. But perhaps even more important than cost is reliability. You can replace a building or a machine, but replacing your data is a whole different matter. If you lose your data, you could lose your business.

You have come to depend on the reliability of IBM storage—our products are known for their high quality and are great companions to Linux. Let IBM storage products fortify your Linux investment. As part of a well-designed, Linux-based e-business infrastructure, IBM TotalStorage products can help you cut costs, consolidate infrastructure and position you for the new on demand world—with the strength you need to manage your data.

With IBM's commitment to open standards and support for Linux, you can feel confident in choosing some of the most reliable and flexible products to meet your Linux e-business needs. By providing Linux-ready storage products, IBM can help you extend the deployment of Linux at the core of your enterprise-wide processes with confidence.

From the IBM TotalStorage Enterprise Storage Server® to FAStT® disk servers, networked storage, tape and storage management software, the Linux option adds to the palette of choices you already have with IBM.

Let us give you some examples of how IBM TotalStorage products can fortify your Linux infrastructure.

Linux workload consolidation

Workload consolidation is about reducing the cost of your IT infrastructure. IBM products—server, storage, software—can support multiple, independent workloads on large, centrally managed platforms. This can help you reduce the cost of ownership, utilize resources more efficiently and simplify administration and management. As you consolidate your storage, you will need to rely on a robust set of products to avoid data loss or corruption, besides looking for a comprehensive data protection solution.

From a storage perspective, workload consolidation is an ideal scenario for taking advantage of high-end disk products like the IBM TotalStorage Enterprise Storage Server (ESS) with its extensive scalability, redundant component design and advanced copy services. High-end mid-range disk products such as the FAStT server family can also be good storage options for workload consolidation in medium-sized business and departmental settings. IBM tape devices can provide needed support for data protection and disaster recovery in these environments.

For example, an IBM ESS and Tivoli® Storage Manager can be deployed to help reduce maintenance costs and improve application availability. Critical information can be mirrored synchronously using Peer-to-Peer Remote Copy (PPRC) to another ESS. The ESS capacity can be shared among several open system environments.

Linux solutions

IBM has been working with a variety of Independent Software Vendors (ISVs) to integrate their solutions with IBM products through IBM Linux Leader Business Partners, helping

you to find lower cost solutions from a variety of vendors.

From a storage perspective, ISV partners may take advantage of the wide range of IBM mid-range disk and networked storage solutions. These can be installed to complement to your Linux server infrastructure at attractive start-up prices and with technology designed to scale to meet your specific requirements.

The IBM TotalStorage Proven™ program provides you with extra assurance with certified ISV solutions that are ready-to-run and easy to install.

Support of key industry solutions goes hand in hand with the IBM storage objective of providing a full range of infrastructure for small, medium and enterprise application needs. For instance, as you move your ERP or CRM applications to Linux, you can deploy IBM TotalStorage products to provide data protection through disk backup using Hierarchical Storage Management (HSM) along with the IBM Enterprise Storage Server for data volumes over 2 TB.

Linux clusters

Clustering supports high performance computing at a low cost. Key offerings from IBM include the scalable Linux 1350 cluster, based on rack-mounted server hardware and cluster management software infrastructure.

Pre-loaded, integrated and pre-tested IBM middleware is combined with server and storage products so you can choose a platform that is reliable, easy to deploy, manage and scale.

Innovative companies in the life sciences and digital media fields are choosing a combination of Linux clusters and IBM FAStT servers to support their operations. IBM storage can provide powerful, cost effective and complete solutions to address IT needs, adding a strong component to the IT infrastructure.

For instance, IBM direct-attached storage is already available as an option for cluster offerings. Other storage products such as tape or storage area networks can be deployed in clustered environments for a well-designed Linux infrastructure that allows for scalability and data protection.

Characteristics of IBM Storage for Linux	What it does	What it means to you
Built on open standards—demonstrates IBM's intention to support Linux on all its products	Allows IBM to bring full array of products to Linux environment	Supports flexibility of choice in selecting most appropriate storage for your needs, limiting investment in proprietary infrastructures
Pre-tested, documented and supported Linux storage configurations—disk, tape and networked storage	Expedites implementation of IT infrastructures with excellent reliability and support	Takes "guesswork" out of storage choice and gives you the reliability you need for your Linux workloads
Wide variety of Linux distribution and storage attachment choices	Protects IT infrastructure investments	Provides freedom of choice for your preferred Linux distribution, and gives you flexibility as your storage needs change

The IBM advantage

IBM has one of the broadest storage portfolio in the industry—disk, tape, networked storage and storage software. IBM's vision of autonomic storage, our support of open technologies and our ability to deliver integrated solutions gives you a range of storage choices to meet your business needs, now and as you grow. Most IBM storage products have been enabled for Linux since 2001, and IBM plans to continue to enhance its Linux support across its entire storage product line, including many of our advanced functions.

Additional Information

For more information, please visit **ibm.com**/storage/linux. Or contact an IBM representative.

@server/Linux Line	IBM TotalStorage Product on Linux
xSeries	ESS delivers excellent value on infrastructure, technical workloads FAStT delivers competitive pricing with scalability SAN Volume Controller can reduce complexity and costs of managing Linux-based storage networks
zSeries	ESS is designed to deliver mission-critical reliability with high level of quality of service for infrastructure consolidation and support of variety of workloads such as databases and business process Tape products can support a business continuance strategy along with Linux-enabled storage management products
iSeries	ESS is designed to deliver reduced IT costs while supporting on demand business models
pSeries	ESS delivers performance for compute-intensive applications in mixed UNIX/Linux server environments

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