

SOLUTION BRIEF

FalconStor VTL OpenStorage Option for Symantec NetBackup

Simplified, high-speed backup-to-disk with data deduplication reduces disaster recovery (DR) costs

Highlights

Tight integration with Symantec OpenStorage for NetBackup delivers the following benefits:

- > The industry's first FC target for Symantec OpenStorage delivers the fastest backup speeds
- > TOTALLY Open™ support for heterogeneous disk arrays, including arrays from EMC, Sun, HP, IBM, Pillar, Copan, SpectraLogic, and more
- > Data deduplication to reduce storage utilization and to optimize data transport over the WAN
- > Integrated copy-to-tape operations to meet physical tape requirements for archiving and compliance
- > Unique integrated backup server solution for simplified and secure remote and branch office protection

Symantec's OpenStorage (OST) is a new technology for Symantec NetBackup environments designed to simplify backup operations and reduce disaster recovery (DR) costs. FalconStor® Virtual Tape Library (VTL) OpenStorage Option is a plug-in component for NetBackup Media Servers that works with the OpenStorage API to integrate key FalconStor VTL functions with NetBackup operations.

Shrink backup windows with high-performance FC SAN support

Meeting the backup window remains one of the toughest IT challenges in the face of explosive data growth. Backup speed is one factor that can't be sacrificed. FalconStor VTL offers the industry's first Fibre Channel (FC) SAN target for OpenStorage, providing far faster backup rates than high-overhead CIFS and NFS-based interfaces. NetBackup media servers connect directly to the FC fabric over 2Gb or 4Gb ports and push data across the fabric to the FalconStor VTL with minimal server and network overhead.

TOTALLY Open storage support with data deduplication for efficient disk utilization

The TOTALLY Open™ nature of FalconStor VTL lets you connect it to any open storage disk array. NetBackup OpenStorage operations can proceed no matter which disk system you use, even if the disk vendor does not provide OpenStorage API support. In addition, FalconStor Software provides data deduplication services to any storage device. While deduplication ratios vary based on data types, typical ratios over time average 30-to-1, so that far more data can be stored on disk.

FalconStor VTL OpenStorage Option bridges the gap between disk and NetBackup, letting you mix storage arrays in the same environment, allowing you to use whatever devices meet your performance and budget needs. For example, you can use FC disks at your primary site, while using lower-cost SATA drives in your DR site.

The OpenStorage system further enhances disk utilization by making it easy to reclaim disk space that is no longer needed. Unlike a tape model, where all images on a tape must be expired before the tape can be deleted or scratched, OpenStorage lets you target individual backup images for deletion independently. Disk space utilization is readily displayed in the NetBackup console.

Optimized duplication/replication for DR

Proper DR procedures are critical to any data protection strategy, but DR can be costly and hard to manage. With FalconStor VTL, it's easy to replicate backup images to a DR site over IP or FC. Because data deduplication is integrated into the FalconStor VTL, the amount of data transferred is minimized, dramatically reducing bandwidth costs. Costs are further minimized by eliminating the need to transport physical tapes between locations.

From a management perspective, the tight integration between NetBackup OpenStorage and FalconStor VTL allows optimized duplication (data replication) and copying-to-tape operations to be run from the NetBackup console, keeping the NetBackup catalog consistent and conforming to backup lifecycle policies.

If tape is required, data can be copied from the FalconStor VTL to physical tape either at the primary site or at the recovery site. Security is enhanced by electronically vaulting the data to the tape storage location to eliminate the risk of losing tapes in transit. A number of high-profile incidents have demonstrated that tape loss or theft is a very real danger that can compromise data security and corporate reputations.

Branch/remote office hosted backup

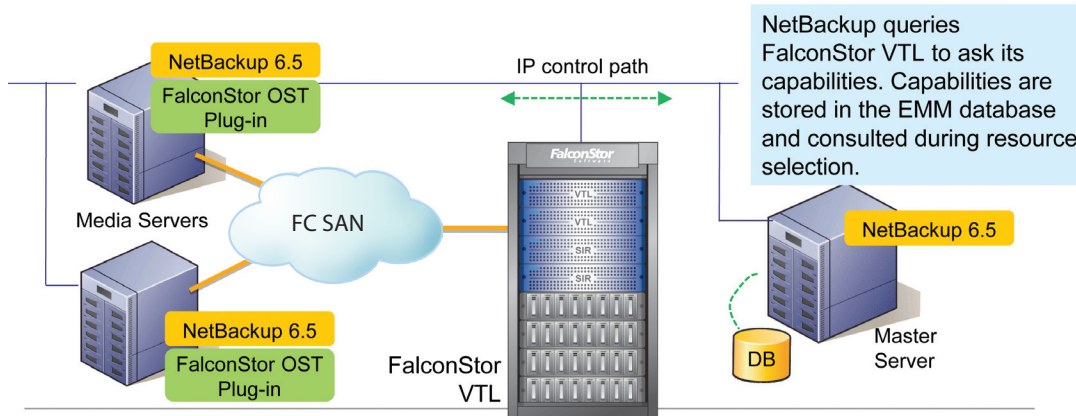
One of the most difficult backup challenges is protecting remote or branch office locations. Lack of trained IT personnel onsite often means tapes are not loaded or rotated properly and backups frequently fail; plus physical tape transport is expensive. Yet unique and critical corporate data is commonly found in remote locations. FalconStor VTL offers a unique integrated backup server. NetBackup software can be installed directly on the FalconStor VTL device,

providing a single-server solution. Local application and file data is backed up to the FalconStor VTL, which then globally deduplicates the information and electronically vaults it to a central location. Backup speed can more than double because the network path is shortened and everything can be driven through the NetBackup console to maintain operational consistency. Local restores come directly from the onsite FalconStor VTL device, eliminating the need for physical tape. Meanwhile, built-in deduplication means that many days' worth of data can be maintained. Support for iSCSI is built into FalconStor VTL for remote sites that do not have FC SANs.

Unique features, maximum benefits

FalconStor VTL combines unique features—FC SAN target, hosted backup software, TOTALLY Open disk array support—with OpenStorage integration to provide maximum benefits to NetBackup users. Data deduplication, replication, and tape copying operations are managed through the NetBackup console to simplify management and maintain catalog consistency. The FC backup targets provide the fastest speed to meet backup windows, while heterogeneous disk support lets you decide what disk systems best meet your needs, without vendor lock-in.

FalconStor data protection solutions in a Symantec NetBackup environment



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