Faster and Better: Veritas NetBackup and FlashArray//C

Shrink data protection windows and defeat malware with SafeMode.

Most business-critical applications run on high-performance all-flash storage arrays. The same forces that drive businesses to demand high performance from their applications apply to data protection operations. In fact, the stakes are even higher. Denial of service attacks, ransomware, and even cloud service availability drive requirements for data protection to enable business continuity with the least amount of downtime possible. IT professionals need fast data protection before challenges to application availability appear. When disaster strikes, business demands that applications return to operation as quickly as possible. Pure Storage® and Veritas have partnered to make it simple to combine the blinding speed of Pure's FlashArray//C storage appliance with Veritas NetBackup to deliver the optimal business continuity solution possible.

Faster is Better

When ransomware strikes, an application disaster occurs, or a hardware failure forces data recovery, knowing that you have a backup in place builds confidence in keeping your business moving forward. But having to wait hours, days, or—let's face it—weeks in some cases for a backup to restore can cause significant pain to the operation of the business. Missed orders, dissatisfied customers, delays in manufacturing, or even losing business are the reality when you're down. With the impact to the business mounting, every second counts.

With FlashArray//C and NetBackup, recovering your data is lightning fast. So how fast is the FlashArray//C and NetBackup solution? In our labs, we've seen 80% improvement of restore performance for parallel restores, and 40% improvement during backups in our validation of this solution, when compared to fast-spinning media. For both backup and

Highlight One

- Throughput scaled 2.3x as streams increased from 1 to 100 for faster backups.

- Up to 26x throughput increase as streams increased from 1 to 60 for restores.

Increased Throughput Scaling

- Mixed workload restores had throughput scaling nearly 21x as streams increased from 1 to 60.

recovery operations, NetBackup's ability to process in parallel and the native block/file storage capabilities of FlashArray//C deliver the performance your business needs.

Simple Architecture, Simple Scale

Pure and Veritas have partnered for years, and we share a commitment to protecting and enabling the most demanding applications. We believe that IT is challenging enough without adding a different point solution for every use case. Instead, we build solutions that help IT professionals benefit from consistent policies and practices. To realize these commitments, the NetBackup Faster//Better solution is designed with enough flexibility that allows it to drop right into common IT practices, but specific enough to ensure that consistently faster results are delivered.

Our solution includes a deployment guide that takes the guesswork out of implementing a faster//better data protection solution. We've modeled a simple but powerful configuration to demonstrate how customers can protect their business. The solution has been configured and tested using block protocols and proven successful allocations of storage ensuring that IT professionals quickly benefit from a faster//better data protection solution. While we've made it easy, the solution preserves the flexibility of using Fibre Channel or 10GbE Ethernet for the interconnect. A variety of IT practices are easily accommodated, ensuring that data protection fits right into existing IT operations.
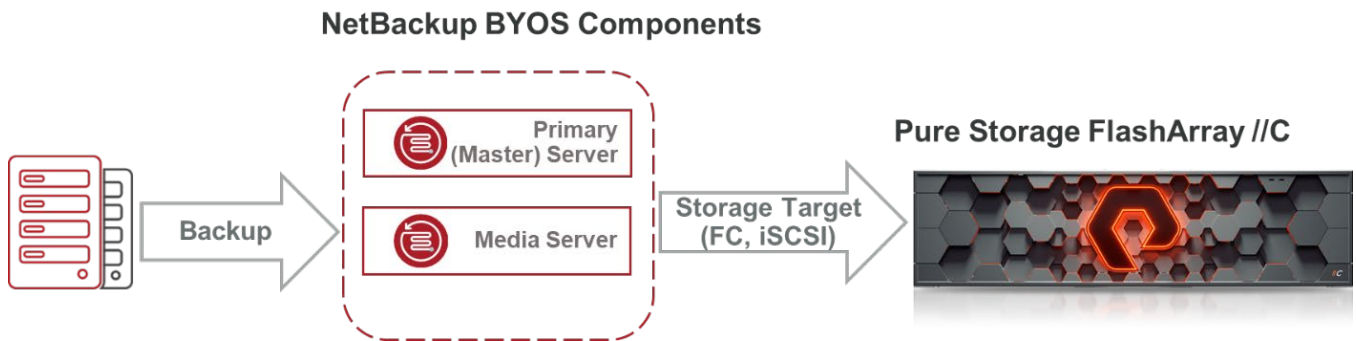

Figure 1: FlashArray//C and NetBackup architecture

Pure FlashArray//C goes beyond typical SSD architectures. The all-QLC FlashArray//C is so cost-effective for capacity-oriented workloads that you can say goodbye to hard disk drives and hybrid arrays. FlashArray//C delivers 99.9999% availability with effective capacity up to 7.3PB in 9U. Built on DirectFlash, FlashArray//C can speak directly to the raw NAND data storage using the NVMe-oF protocol. Overcoming the limitations of legacy storage solutions and protocols, FlashArray//C outpaces other solutions in serial and parallel workloads. Veritas can deliver a fault-tolerant configuration of NetBackup to safeguard your data even with failures or outages in your infrastructure. As a result, the Veritas/Pure solutions are always very fast and optimized to scale to protect all your workloads.

Ransomware Protection

With FlashBlade® and FlashArray™ from Pure Storage, you can experience a new approach to mitigating and remediating ransomware attacks. SafeMode™, a built-in feature of the Purity operating environment that powers FlashBlade and FlashArray, enables you to create read-only snapshots of backup data and associated metadata catalogs after you've performed a full backup with Veritas data protection software.

With Safemode enabled, snapshots cannot be altered, encrypted, or deleted—whether it's unintentional, by a rogue employee, or through a hacker's programmatic approach. To manually access or eradicate snapshots, only authorized personnel in conjunction with Pure Support can delete or alter snapshots, providing a virtual air gap that is automated and simple to set up. If your environment suffers an outage, whether from a ransomware attack or another type of disaster scenario, your authorized administrator will contact Pure Customer Support where access will be authenticated. Once verified, you can recover your snapshots to get your data back online quickly and safely.

With Veritas NetBackup and FlashArray//C, your business can rest easy knowing you have the right tools in place to deliver the best results to your customers. No more missed orders, dissatisfied customers, and lost business due to long restore operations or outages due to ransomware.

Additional Resources

- Discover FlashArray//C and Veritas NetBackup.
- Learn more about Pure SafeMode.