

# Can Flash Be Mainstream Enterprise Storage – *Now?*

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# Once Upon a Time... There Were Hard Disk Drives

And Life was Good...

Right cost

Readily available





# Once Upon a Time... There Were Hard Disk Drives

...sort of...

- Low performance
- High power consumption



### What to do...

RAID-1

Short Stroking

15,000 RPMs

2.5" Drives Performance

Power consumption

Cost!



### **Enter NAND Flash**

- 10x cost (ouch!)







# **Evolution of NAND Adoption**









	SSD	Card	Appliance	Primary
Purpose	<ul><li>HDD replacement</li><li>Plug and play</li></ul>	<ul><li>Server cache</li></ul>	<ul><li>High performance</li><li>Special uses</li></ul>	<ul><li>Shareable</li><li>Scalable</li><li>Affordable</li></ul>
Issues	<ul><li>Encumbered by HDD protocols</li></ul>	<ul><li>Direct</li><li>Attached</li><li>Storage</li></ul>	<ul><li>Doesn't scale</li><li>Expensive to manage</li></ul>	■ Built from ground-up



## **But Traction is Limited...**

High End

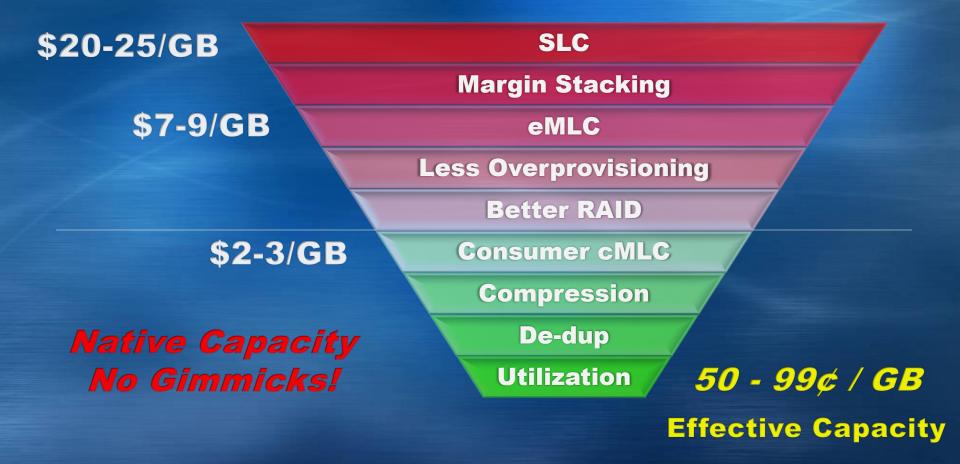
Mainstream Enterprise Storage of Enterprise Storage

< .3%

**Entry Level** 



### ...Because of End-User Cost





# Flash Storage Systems Must Break \$3/GB Native & \$1/GB Effective for Mainstream Enterprise Adoption

SLC

Margin Stacking

eMLC

Less Overprovisioning

Better RAID

Consumer cMLC

Compression

De-dup

Utilization

High End

High End

High End

Enterprise

Storage

Entry Level



#### 19/20 nm MLC Flash breaks the cost barrier

Optimized for low cost: < 60¢/GB</p>

#### But what about endurance?

- Degrades rapidly with geometry
- Consumer flash few thousand writes

Enterprise requires 100x more write endurance



# Exceeding Enterprise Reliability & Endurance with Consumer MLC

**SYSTEM** 

RAID

CONTROLLER

**FLASH** 

Must optimize <u>every</u> layer of the stack.



## 100X Life Amplification

**SYSTEM** 

**RAID** 

CONTROLLER

**FLASH** 

- Minimize writes
- New RAID
- New DSP
- New ECC
- Device physics manipulation
- Adaptive reads and writes



## Reliability

**SYSTEM** 

**RAID** 

CONTROLLER

**FLASH** 

- Hot spare storage node
- Tolerate simultaneous block failures
- Adaptive retries



## Are we there yet?

Cost?

**Endurance?** 

Reliability?

V

/





# But what about the network?

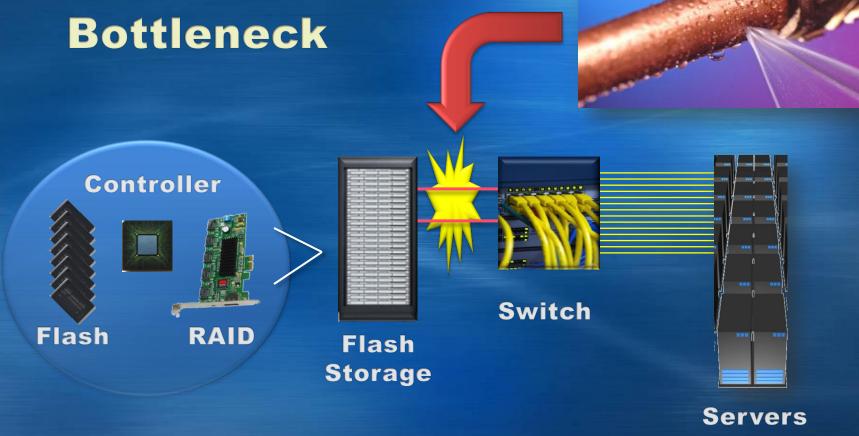


Flash storage system can easily saturate 10G Ethernet and FibreChannel networks

For flash, the network = not-work

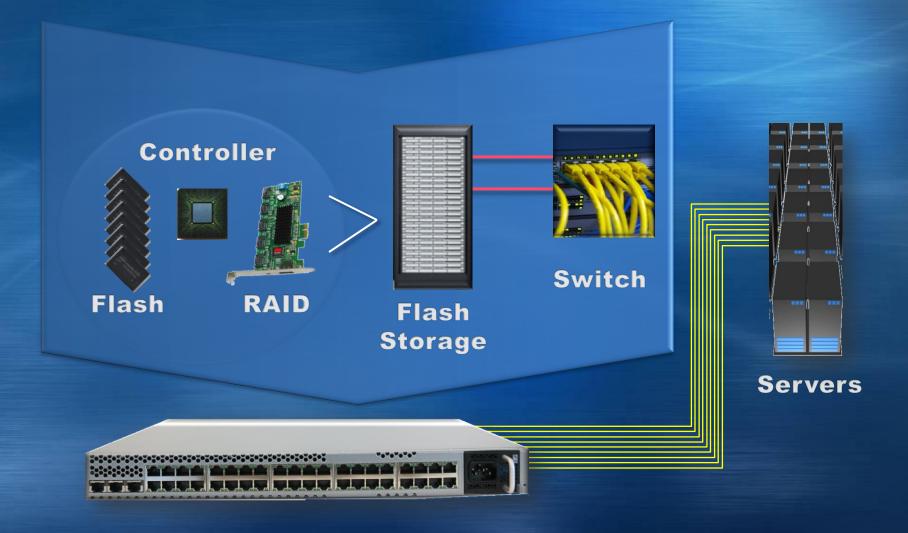


# Network





### Solved!



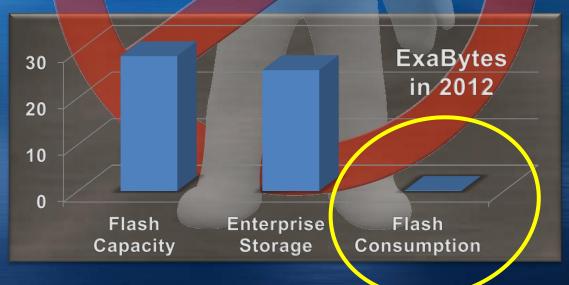


# Debunking the myths....

19/20 nm cMLC isn't reliable for enterprise

Flash can never get to HDD price parity

Not enough Flash to support Enterprise market





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