



# Challenges, and Flash Solutions, Facing the Virtualized Enterprise Data Center

## Dr. Allon Cohen OCZ Technology Ltd.



# The Traditional Approach to Storage in Virtualized Environments







# The Problem



System performance has surpassed storage performance in virtualized environments

External storage has become the bottleneck

Too many Virtual Machines are vying for access to slow external storage

- Thousands of VMs on tens to hundreds of servers are all competing for data from few storage arrays
- Arrays are filled with slow HDDs that have trouble servicing simultaneous requests

# High latency exists in accessing external data

 Trips out to external storage devices for data comes with higher latency than internal storage





# Example – 60 Virtualized CPU Cores Waiting for Data from HDDs







- More HDDs in the SAN provide more IOPS, but
  - Drastically increase storage costs in Virtualized Environments
  - Unnecessarily Increase cooling/energy requirements
  - Do not provide a solution to the Internal Host Server bottleneck







#### The Solution – On Host Flash with Storage *Virtualization* and *Acceleration*



OCZ VXL Virtual Appliance with Z-Drive R4 resolves the Virtualization Bottleneck

- Storage Acceleration Enables up to 10X the number of VMs on the same physical host resulting in massive server cost savings
- Storage Virtualization Enables Keeping Server Virtualization's intended ease of deployment, maintenance, and management unchanged





# Flash Memory Unleashing the Power of Virtualization







# The Result: Satisfying the Data Center Business Requirements







#### VIRTUAL APPLIANCE ARCHITECTURE FOR ACCELERATION & VIRTUALIZATION





# VIRTUAL DATA CENTER FLASH STORAGE CHALLENGES

Acceleration is one of many enterprise data center requirements!



enterprise



### FLASH SOLUTION: MIRRORING BETWEEN FLASH Z-DRIVES & SAN SYSTEMS







# **FLASH** Solution: The All Silicon (SAN-less) **Data Center**

**Clustered Flash**enabled servers with H/A and Load Balancing

VXL Flash Virtualization mirrors data between Flash cards on Servers and manages Flash Storage H/A

Achieve Flash level performance and end-to-end H/A without requiring an external SAN





# FLASH SOLUTION: AGENTLESS ARCHITECTURE

No agent in guest OS allows supporting any Linux distribution... Any windows distribution... in fact any guest OS...









## Flash Memory AGENTLESS ARCHITECTURE



#### **VMware Hypervisor**







# FLASH Solution: Application-Optimized Caching

- Central Virtual Appliance provides a powerful architecture for
  - Application-specific caching
    - Dynamic Hot Zone Detection
    - Rule Base for Application Specific Data Access DNA
  - Predictive read/write IO pattern recognition
  - Dynamic run time adjustment
  - "Business Rule" cache warming









#### On Host Flash with Storage Virtualization: Creating The Lean, Mean and Green Data Center



#### **BEFORE**

**Flash** Memory

SUMMIT







# Thank You