

StorTrends Solutions for Capacity Growth

Capacity Growth and Planning remain a top priority for IT professionals. On average, data capacity needs in businesses are growing as much as 40-60 percent per year. Organizations today must have data warehouses that are adaptable and expandable as well as an ongoing plan to meet its growing needs.

Historically, capacity needs were based on the size and timeframe of system expansions. However, the more dynamic an environment, the less you can rely on the past to predict future needs. It is extremely important for organizations to plan for growth. Current systems that do not have the ability to expand will usually require a system replacement.

Expandable

One of the most effective ways to ensure that an environment is ready for capacity growth is to have a scalable SAN or NAS appliance. If a storage appliance is scalable then a seamless JBOD expansion will allow the user to grow the storage capacity as needed. Purchasing a StorTrends scalable unit will save significant costs on the initial purchase as you will not need to purchase more capacity than is needed. When more capacity is required a JBOD, utilizing SAS connectivity, can be added with no required down time.

Manageable

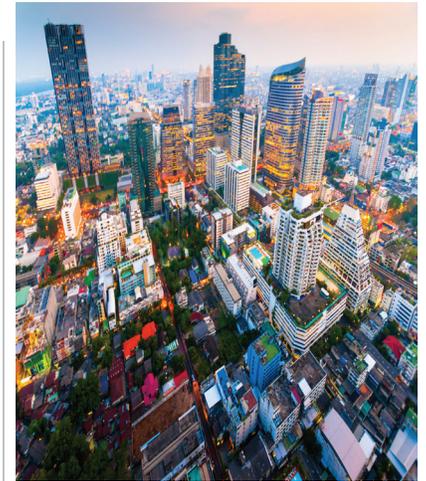
One question IT professionals always encounter when evaluating storage solutions is, "How much capacity do I need?" It is essential that the user prepare for the worst case scenario when it comes to capacity growth. Storage is a major investment and the last thing an IT professional wants is to have to upgrade before a product's EOL due to a lack of growth forecasting. IT professionals need to look at their current annual growth and project that over the next 3-5 years, always remembering to compound that growth.

Drives

An environment's storage capacity is ultimately going to depend on the types of drives that are purchased. It is important to select drives that meet performance requirements as well as capacity requirements. The lower performing disks (SATA) may have the highest capacity capabilities but they may not be able to meet the performance needs of the environment. Many companies today are choosing hybrid solutions (SSD & NL SAS in one appliance) to fulfill the need for performance and capacity in the same unit.

RAID

When purchasing a storage solution, the RAID that resides within the array will play a significant role in determining the capacity capabilities as different RAID sets take up different amounts of capacity. Research the different RAID



Key Benefits:

- Avoid forklift upgrades
- Expand live without downtime or disruption
- Extend the life of your data storage appliance

"StorTrends JBODs give GEP ample room to grow within its current configuration. Forklift upgrades won't be necessary as the business and data scale. As the customer base grows, and as GEP rolls out our new software modules and applications, the GEP IT team can simply add more JBODs to the existing footprint to grow capacity to plus 256 TBs if needed."

- Ganesh Chalke, Technology Infrastructure Manager, Global eProcure

types thoroughly before purchasing your unit to determine the redundancy that you're comfortable with. StorTrends offers several different types of RAID, so finding the one that is right for your environment is easily achievable. It is critical to remember that no RAID solution is an adequate substitute for a proactive Disaster Recovery plan.

There are many factors that go into capacity growth, but preparing for growth does not have to be a daunting task. Know your environment and have a growth plan in place. StorTrends solutions are expandable, reliable and highly available and are a flawless solution for growing databases.

"The StorTrends sales and support team actually came on site and looked at what we had prior to discussing anything else. I asked a question about issues we were having and what we need to do to fix our problem. The StorTrends solutions engineer pulled out a calculator and showed me the performance problems with one of our databases and what we needed to do to fix our problem. That's one of the reasons why we decided to go with StorTrends."

- Jerrod McKee, Systems Engineer,
McLeod Addictive Disease Center

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