

# IBM Storwize family: The right choice for SAP environments

*Optimized and efficient storage for businesses of all sizes*



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## Highlights

- Deploy an efficient and effective virtual storage environment to improve resource utilization
  - Optimize SAP performance with IBM Easy Tier
  - Improve storage efficiency and reduce cost with IBM thin provisioning and IBM Real-time Compression<sup>1</sup>
  - Protect your valuable data with a comprehensive set of capabilities
  - Leverage an integrated, tested and proven solution for demanding SAP environments
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A robust and adaptive IT infrastructure is paramount to getting the most out of your current and future SAP application environment and is critical for the ongoing success of any business. A key factor in maximizing the value of your SAP deployment is choosing a storage solution that delivers optimal performance and availability while increasing efficiency and creating a virtual storage environment to improve the productivity of your SAP applications. That is why SAP users are taking advantage of IBM® Storwize® family storage systems, which are designed to help organizations get the most value from the information they have in their core SAP systems.

## SAP Landscape

Typically, a SAP environment consists of multiple business applications using SAP NetWeaver and other SAP components that are hosted on information databases. As your SAP landscape grows and morphs to support more and more business-critical processes and business events, your storage infrastructure must be able to facilitate changes such as adding capacity, managing data migrations and backing up and protecting data. Today's business climate demands higher efficiency and continuous access from the supporting SAP infrastructure while retaining the ability to rapidly respond to changing business needs.

## Delivering proven storage solutions

Together with SAP, IBM has identified key SAP technology areas which easily work in conjunction with the Storwize family storage systems and can help improve the performance of SAP IT environments. The Storwize family supports SAP applications and platforms, including SAP NetWeaver, SAP Business Suite, SAP Business All-in-One, SAP Business ByDesign, SAP Business One and many more.

## Driving efficient use of resources

The growth of data has demanded a constant pursuit of increased storage efficiency. Storwize family technologies deliver effortless efficiency for SAP applications and include:

- High performance thin provisioning enables applications to consume only the space used not the total space allocated yet supports the most demanding applications



- IBM Easy Tier® is designed to help improve performance and optimize costs, with up to three times better performance using only five percent flash storage capacity<sup>2</sup>
- IBM Real-time Compression™ is designed to improve efficiency by compressing data as much as 80 percent enabling up to five times as much active data to be stored in the same physical disk space.<sup>3</sup>

## Balancing performance and cost

The Storwize family uses flash storage in solid state drives (SSDs) along with built-in self-optimizing technology to analyze data access patterns and automatically adapt to balance performance and cost. Easy Tier automatically and dynamically moves the appropriate data—such as SAP data that is frequently accessed—to fast, high-performing SSDs based on ongoing performance monitoring. This enables you to ensure that less frequently accessed SAP data remains on less costly traditional hard disk drives.

## Virtualizing storage for improved economics

A key capability of the Storwize family is storage virtualization. Virtualization enables consolidation, higher utilization, online data migration and easier storage provisioning—which results in improved data center economics for SAP deployments. The Storwize family systems virtualize internal storage as well as IBM and third-party external storage area network (SAN)-attached storage. Consolidating and virtualizing external storage with the Storwize family helps improve administrator productivity and boost storage utilization, while also extending the value of existing storage assets.

## Enabling essential data protection

The IBM Tivoli® software portfolio, in conjunction with the Storwize family, offers comprehensive data protection for SAP deployments. IBM FlashCopy® replication, available with the Storwize family, supports faster and more efficient data copies for online backup, testing or data mining. Tivoli Storage Manager and Tivoli Storage FlashCopy Manager are designed to automate backup and recovery policies to help promote business continuity and simplify storage management. FlashCopy Manager works in conjunction with the Storwize family FlashCopy function and offers application-aware capabilities including backup, restore and cloning for SAP.

## Why IBM?

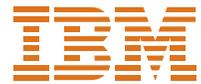
IBM and SAP have maintained an extremely close and collaborative relationship for over 40 years. With years of hands-on experience and unparalleled knowledge of SAP applications and industry processes, IBM is uniquely positioned to help you optimize storage for your SAP applications to achieve competitive advantage. Optimizing, simplifying and aligning your information infrastructure with your SAP deployment can improve operations today while enabling you to focus on the value of information—and provide savings to help with future growth.

## For more information

To learn more about the IBM Storwize family, please contact your IBM representative or IBM Business Partner, or visit: [ibm.com/storwize](http://ibm.com/storwize)

For a list of high-quality solutions with IBM partner independent software vendors (ISVs), including access to solution briefs and white papers, visit:

[ibm.com/systems/storage/solutions/isv](http://ibm.com/systems/storage/solutions/isv)



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<sup>1</sup> IBM Real-time Compression is available on selected Storwize family models.

<sup>2</sup> IBM lab measurements – August 2010.

<sup>3</sup> IBM lab measurements – April 2012.



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