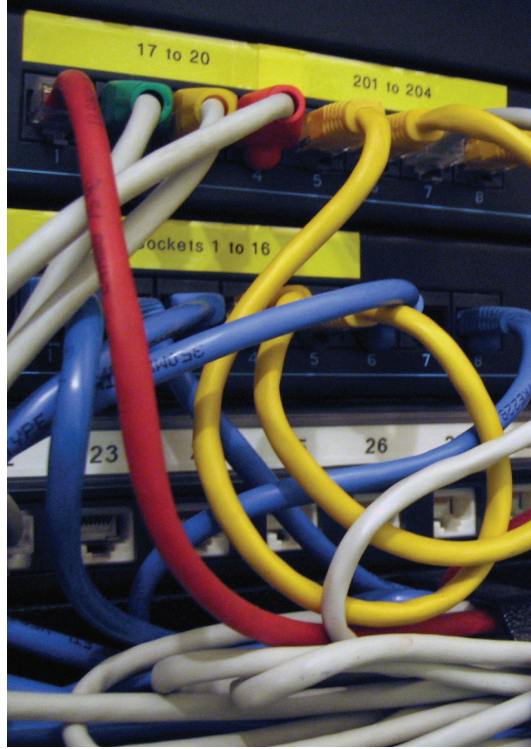# ToggleBox reaches higher performance and decreases TCO with StorPool Storage

Increase performance, improve service quality, reduce downtime and cost (TCO)

StorPool
DISTRIBUTED STORAGE

About ToggleBox

Togglebox is a provider of customizable cloud hosting for businesses seeking the highest level of customer service without overpaying for it. Cloud hosting, private cloud servers, smart servers and hybrid cloud servers are among their services. ToggleBox's virtual data centers and easy-to-use dashboards give their customers the freedom to constantly monitor usage, customize their plans and stay away from unaffordable bills. The company is also known for its high-speed hosting services, its professional support and the constant pursuit of excellence and innovation.

Business Impact:

• The intelligent technology of StorPool helped ToggleBox increase service performance, quality and uptime, while reducing cost.

• ToggleBox optimized costs across the entire IT stack- compute, network, storage and operational expenses.

• The new software-defined storage solution reduced complexity - it is easy to set-up, integrate and use. No additional staff is required.

"StorPool is a revolutionary concept in the storage market. Existing software SANs are not keeping up with the shift to all flash storage. Being able to have much of the functionality and performance of higher priced solutions such as SolidFire for white box pricing is phenomenal."

Matt Ayres, Owner ToggleBox

Challenge

ToggleBox has always offered first-class services to their customers. In order to keep their competitiveness they constantly innovate and implement technologies which help them outperform the competitors. The company turned to StorPool Storage in order to deliver better performance to its customers while decreasing the TCO.

Solution

StorPool Storage is the leading distributed block-storage software. StorPool was chosen among other alternatives such as traditional SANs and all-flash arrays. It uses standard servers to build a fast and reliable shared storage layer. The lack of vendor lock in, the reduced cost of the overall solution, the solid boost in performance and uptime is what made StorPool the solution of choice. StorPool's scale-out model allows ToggleBox to start small and add capacity and performance on the fly by adding more drives and servers.

Distributed Storage Configuration with StorPool

The distributed storage system of Togglebox consists of a cluster of 40 client nodes and 3 server nodes running the StorPool software. The network is redundant 10Gbit standard Ethernet. Each node has 55TB of raw capacity and is equipped with a mixture of 7 SSDs and 11 HDDs.

Performance

ToggleBox has tested many storage systems before choosing StorPool. Matt Ayres, CEO says performance I/O bottleneck is finally resolved by migrating to StorPool. When it comes to random writes and cached reads, the results do not vary that much. But when it comes to uncached reads the overall performances is significantly faster. "Public cloud storage varies greatly so hybrid solutions did not perform as good as they could. Due to our traffic we need to add storage+CPU+network at the same time. CPU upgrades were very high compared to the actual cost.", Matt adds.

ToggleBox chose StorPool after extensive research on the available alternatives on the market. The decision was based on a careful consideration of reliability, performance, efficiency, scalability, simplicity and cost. StorPool proved to be on top of the list. The hybrid system of SSDs and hard disks is fast still reasonable in price. "StorPool has a unique technology - it is simple, fast and powerful", Matt says. Intelligent enterprise-grade storage features like thin provisioning, snapshots and clones, Quality of Service (QoS) and hybrid storage (particular mix of SSDs and HDDs) allow StorPool to replace high-end traditional SAN and all-flash / all-SSD arrays with a breeze.

According to Matt the two key takeaways from using StorPool are: "StorPool does work and customers are using it in production with success."

COMPANY
ToggleBox

INDUSTRY
Cloud hosting

CORPORATE HEADQUARTERS
Plymouth Meeting, PA, USA

WEBSITE
www.togglebox.com

IT STACK
- Linux
- StorPool Storage
- OnApp Cloud Management

STORAGE SOLUTION
- StorPool "SSD Hybrid" (SSDs + HDDs)
- 7 SSDs + 11 HDDs per node
- 2 redundant networks, 10 GE each
- Total Raw Capacity - 160+ TB on the 3 server nodes
- Total Raw Capacity on New Servers about to be incorporated = 229 TBs
- 700MB/s read and 300MB/s writes
- <1 ms latency in read and write
- 65k IOPS reads, 50k IOPS writes per node
- 0 additional staff needed to operate StorPool

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