

StoreAge multiCopy™ enables the creation of multiple, instantly available, independent physical copies of volumes, regardless of storage subsystems and SAN components.

multiCopy

DATASHEET

Highlights

- Creation of multiple, instantly available physical copies of data
- Quick copy Instantly available
- One-to-many copies
- Enables high performance LAN-free & server-free backup
- Enables rapid and reliable application testing
- Enables data protection policies
- Reduced TCO
- Centralized copy management

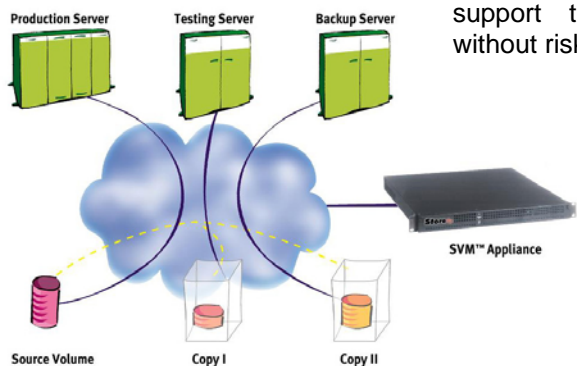


Product Description

In today's information age, the ability to copy and re-purpose data to support key business applications is a competitive advantage. Many mission critical business systems have become more tightly integrated through ERP, CRM and web enabled applications that depend on information currency and availability. The need for information delivery to multiple systems is time-sensitive and prompt availability of updated data might be crucial. Many revenue-generating applications and processes depend on such data to provide services. The ability to create many full copies of production volumes instantly and "on the fly" over any network bandwidth and structure, while not loading production servers, is an essential attribute of an infrastructure solution designed to scale with the needs of the business.

StoreAge's multiCopy™ is an innovative copy facility implemented in conjunction with StoreAge's SVM™ (Storage Virtualization Manager). multiCopy enables the creation of multiple physical copies of volumes, regardless of storage subsystems and SAN components. Each copy is independently accessible and instantly available. multiCopy allows production servers to access data while the copy operation is in process. multiCopy enables the copying and re-purposing of information, while leaving production servers available for productive work and uninvolved in data movement.

multiCopy allows organizations to eliminate their information and storage systems' bottlenecks, while enabling a variety of High Availability (HA) and high-performance capabilities such as LAN-free and server-free backup. A valuable business advantage is the ability to support application development processes and to support testing with real data, without risking data corruption.



P rinciples of Operation

multiCopy is a tool for creating multiple physical copies of a Source Volume.

The Storage Administrator or policy-based storage management software (via the GUI, SAN API and CLI) can perform two distinct layers of copy tasks: (a) Create a copy of a volume, or (b) Create a "group" of copies of the same volume. In this manner, several copies of the same Source Volume can exist at any time and be assigned to different servers for applications such as backup, testing and decision support. The copies are presented to applications as regular R/W volumes. The creation of multiple copies of a single Source Volume is an independent procedure. Each copy progresses independently according to the desired Quality of Service (QoS) level.

K ey Benefits

High Performance

Creating multiple copies of a volume on separate physical storage devices enables the increase of applications' performance by mounting the copies to a backup server or to a DB server. Those applications can now access another storage subsystem, resulting in much higher performance in terms of IO/Sec and MB/sec. Furthermore; multiCopy does not use any server resources and is executed exclusively by the SVM platform.

Data Protection

multiCopy enables the creation of multiple physical copies of the same source volume at different points in time. These copies provide for rapid recovery in case of failure, significantly enhancing business continuity.

Central Copy Management

Using the SVM's management capability, multiCopy provides a common methodology and tool for managing the copy processes across the entire SAN.

Reduced TCO

multiCopy can copy volumes across multiple storage subsystems from different suppliers, enabling organizations to apply the most cost-effective purchasing strategy over an extended period of time.

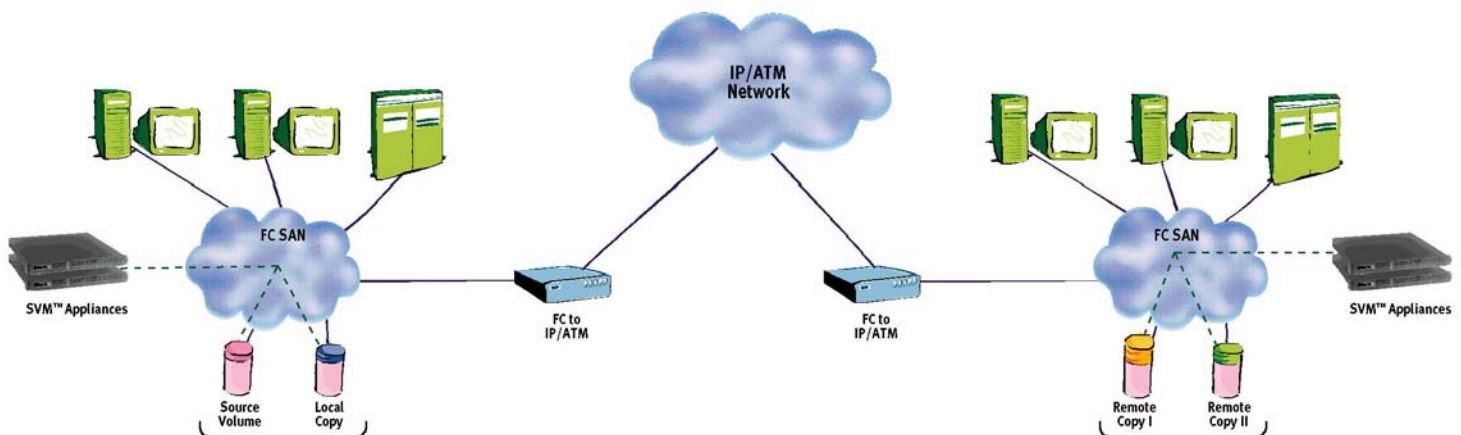
F eatures

Quick Copy for Instant Availability

Copies are instantly available for both Read and Write operations - even while being created. Applications can immediately start using the copies while multiCopy continues to move the data in the background with no need to wait for completion of the copy operation.

One-To-Many Copies

It is possible to create multiple independent copies of the same Source Volume, allowing each new volume to become part of an independent application. The actions of creating, pausing, resuming and mounting these volumes can be managed as a process for the entire target group or on a single-copy basis.



LAN Free, Local & Remote Copies

Defining Priorities Between Copies

Administrators can define priorities for the copy processes according to their needs, optimizing network load, significance of data and more.

Pause/Resume

A copy task can be paused and resumed according to the organization's needs and network load.

Typical Implementations

High Performance LAN-Free and Server-Free Backup

Administrators can create an independent physical copy, allocate it to a backup server and execute the organization's backup activities via that server. No LAN traffic is needed (LAN-Free Backup), the original application server is not involved (Server-Free Backup), and the backup server may access a separate storage system. In this way, the backup window is practically non-existent from the application standpoint, assuring continuous availability of the enterprise's on-line data.

Rapid and Reliable Application Testing

Using multiCopy, a variety of applications can be tested with real data, enabling rapid and reliable application or operating system release testing. This capability is enhanced even further when using StoreAge's multiView™ (a multiple-level snapshot application) in conjunction with multiCopy. Allocate the physical copy to a backup server and simply execute the organization's backup activities via that server. No LAN traffic is needed (LAN-Free Backup) and the original application server is not involved (Server-Free Backup). In this way, the backup window from the application standpoint is practically non-existent assuring continuous availability of the enterprise's on-line data.

Support for BLI (Block Level Incremental) Backup

BLI Backup is an incremental backup method that only backs-up changed data blocks, virtually eliminating the

database backup window. The ability to backup only the changed blocks is important. With a traditional file level incremental backup, an entire data file (which could be several gigabytes) must be backed up if only a single 2K block is changed. However, BLI Backup enables just the modified 2K block to be backed-up. BLI Backup offers several key benefits: 1) since only changed blocks are backed-up, tremendous time and media savings are possible, 2) since the backup window is very short, both system and network overhead is greatly reduced, thereby enhancing performance, 3) more frequent backups are possible, so each backup contains a more up-to-date image of data for improved recoverability; and finally, 4) BLI Backup enables faster database recovery from hot backup than traditional techniques.

Cascading Versions

It is possible to create multiple Point-in-Time images of the same volume, thus allowing cascading of many versions of the same data, each with its own lifecycle.

Rapid Application or OS Release Testing

Using multiView, a variety of applications can be tested with real data, enabling rapid, reliable application or OS release testing. There is no need to replicate the volume for such operations, potentially saving significant amounts of storage and copy time.

Perequisites

StoreAge SVM (Storage Virtualization Manager)

Platforms Supported

Microsoft Windows NT 4.0, 2000, 2003
 UNIX — Sun Solaris, HP-UX, IBM AIX
 Linux
 Novell Netware
 Other – Consult your StoreAge representative

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