

StoreAge multiView™ enables the creation of instantly available, low-capacity snapshots of SAN data, increasing the level of data protection, and allowing fast restoration of data.

multiView

DATASHEET

Highlights

- Instantly available, low-capacity, read/write snapshots
- Supports multiple read/write "Views" of the same Point-in-Time (PiT)
- Enables large numbers of snapshots for rapid, online recovery
- Enables Server-Free & LAN-Free Backup
- Enables rapid and reliable application or OS Release testing
- Highly scalable architecture
- Reduced TCO
- Cascading versions



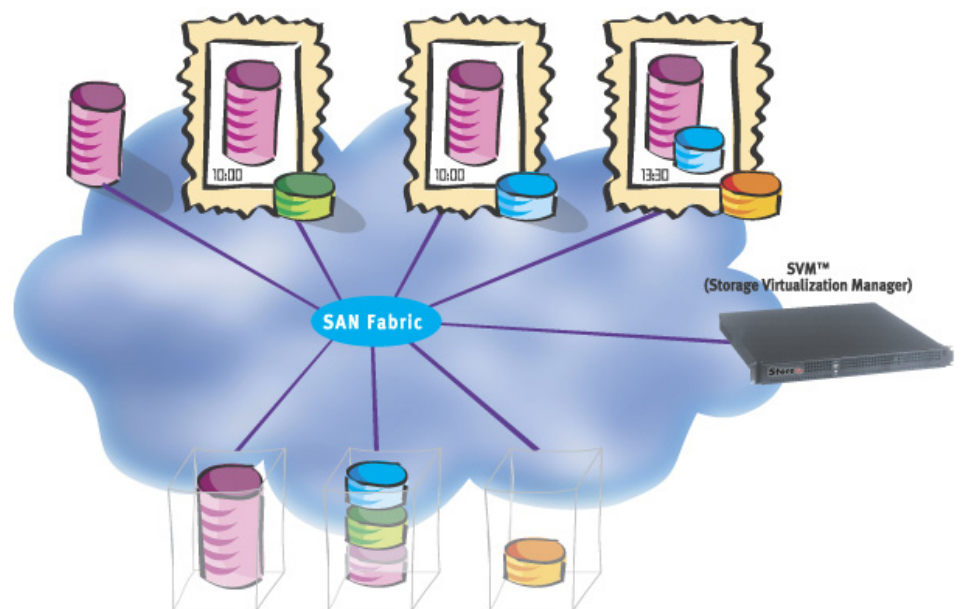
Product Description

Increasing productivity, while making possible the recovery of lost data in a more effective way, is of supreme importance to any organization. This is one of several reasons to employ the notion of "Point-in-Time snapshots" in a Storage Area Network. However, the ability to create many low-capacity Point-in-Time images "on the fly", while not replicating the whole contents of a volume, is also essential.

StoreAge's multiView is an innovative low-capacity snapshot facility that is implemented as part of StoreAge's SVM™ appliance (Storage Virtualization Manager).

multiView enables the creation of multiple Read/Write virtual low-capacity Point-in-Time images of volumes containing databases and file systems. Each copy has its own lifecycle independent from the original volume. multiView creates multiple "views" that can be used to make data available to any server, for any purpose.

With multiView and SVM, StoreAge enables a variety of High Availability (HA) and high performance capabilities such as rapid online restore, server-free and LAN-free backup as well as the ability to test new software and operating system versions on production data without risk.



Principles of Operation

multiView is capable of creating multiple Views of multiple Point-in-Time images of a Volume, which we'll call the "Original Volume".

The Storage Administrator or policy-based storage management software (via the GUI, SAN API and CLI) can perform two distinct tasks: (a) Create a virtual Point-in-Time "image" of a volume, and (b) create a "View" from each such Point-in-Time image. The two operations are independent and can be performed any number of times for any volume. In this manner, several Views can exist at any time from a single Point-in-Time image, and be assigned to different servers for applications such as backup, testing and decision support. Views are presented to applications as regular R/W Volumes. Multiple Views from a single Original Volume are totally independent and can be changed, expanded or deleted by their users regardless of other Views.

Point-in-Time images can only be deleted (at operator or program request) after all Views using this image have been deleted.

Key Benefits

Scalability

The number of Views that can be created from a given volume is unlimited, thus enabling the creation of Views of the online data for other purposes such as testing environments, decision support and data comparison.

Reduced TCO

There is no need to replicate data for each view, thus saving a significant amount of storage capacity.

Features

Views for R/W Actions

Each View may be used for both Read and Write operations. Applications using the views may change the View's data without affecting the content of the original volume or other Views.

Enabling Server-Free & LAN-Free Backup

The rapid View creation capability with no need for LAN traffic enables the administrator to create a View,

allocate it to backup server, and 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.

Prerequisites

StoreAge SVM (Storage Virtualization Manager)

Platforms Supported

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

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