

Solution Brief:

iSCSI Boot from SAN – Microsoft® Windows®

Familiar, Easy Operation, with Advanced Management Features

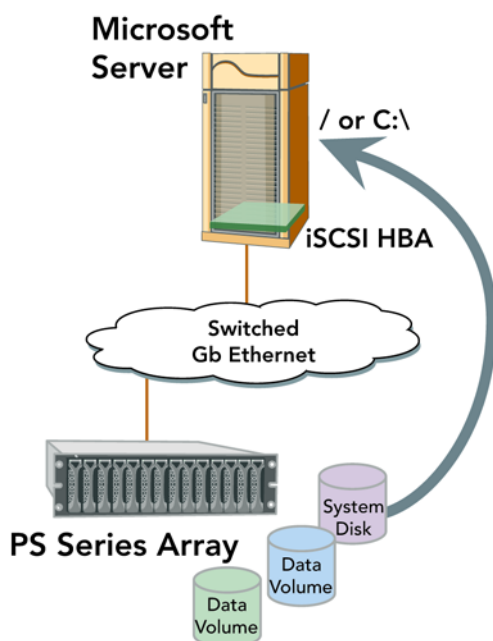
Through a combined EqualLogic and HBA partner solution you can now boot Windows 2000 and Windows Server™ 2003 servers directly from the network using iSCSI and the PS Series array.

You gain the simple, natural operation of the traditional boot process, with the hardware cost reductions and scaling benefits of network boot – but without the pains of either. All you need is an iSCSI HBA, supported on a standard server platform, to enable the boot process over the network. EqualLogic PS Series arrays support several iSCSI HBAs, including the Adaptec 7211 and the QLogic SanBlade 4010.

With the PS Series array, iSCSI Boot from SAN enhances your Windows server's reliability and performance, leveraging the SAN to improve data protection. In addition, the PS Series array delivers centralized storage management and advanced features such as disk image cloning, snapshots, and disaster replication.

Now you can manage Windows 2000 Server and Windows Server 2003 boot images consistently and efficiently – as a result, you can easily repurpose servers and improve business continuity. If a server malfunctions, simply boot another server using the original boot image – and you're back in operation immediately. This method is simple, straight forward, and efficient, whether you have a few or hundreds of servers.

With the PS Series array and iSCSI Boot from SAN in your Windows environment you can consolidate and more effectively manage your storage resources.



Benefits of using iSCSI Boot from SAN in your Windows environment include:

- **Server Consolidation**
Booting from an iSCSI SAN alleviates the need for each server to boot from its own direct-attached disk. Since each server can now boot from an image of the operating system on the PS Series array, you can deploy diskless servers that consume less facility space, require less power, and are less expensive to manage.
- **Centralized Management**
Since operating system images are stored on the PS Series array, all data on your servers is RAID protected, and operating using fully redundant and hot serviceable hardware.

- **Simplified Recovery from Server Failures**
If a server fails, you can avoid the lengthy restore process (re-installing the operating system and restoring a backup copy of the data from tape to a spare server). Instead, simply boot the spare server from the iSCSI SAN and quickly access the data – production operations resume with maximum efficiency. In addition, PS Series Snapshots can be used to create point-in-time copies of the server's boot volume, allowing quick recovery of the operating system.
- **Rapid Disaster Recovery**
Server boot volumes and production data stored on PS Series arrays can be replicated to a secure offsite facility for reliable disaster recovery. The Auto-Replication feature allows you to replicate data from one PS Series Group to another, typically at a remote location. If a disaster destroys server functionality at the primary site, the remote site can simply take over, minimizing downtime.
- **Rapid Redeployment for Temporary Server Loads**
Businesses that experience temporary high production workloads can take advantage of iSCSI Boot from SAN technology to clone the boot image and distribute that image to multiple servers for rapid deployment. Such servers may only need to be in production for hours or days, and can be readily removed when the production need has been met. The ease of deploying boot images makes such temporary implementations cost effective.

Booting your Microsoft Windows server environment from the PS Series array provides enhanced storage management benefits: improved server uptime, online servicing and management of storage on the SAN, and automatic, online expansion and load balancing. In addition, snapshots and disaster replication ease backup and improve data protection. Boot from SAN supports server consolidation and centralized management to simplify operations and lower costs, and recovery operations are simple and fast, returning you to production quickly. Boot from SAN supports rapid server deployment to support temporary work load increases. All these enhanced data services help your IT operation to function more efficiently and productively.

Simplifying Networked Storage

EqualLogic PS Series solutions deliver the benefits of storage consolidation in an intelligent, enterprise-class storage system that is easy to install, manage and grow. Visit our web site at www.equallogic.com and let us show you what *simplifying networked storage* can mean for your business.

To learn more about
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