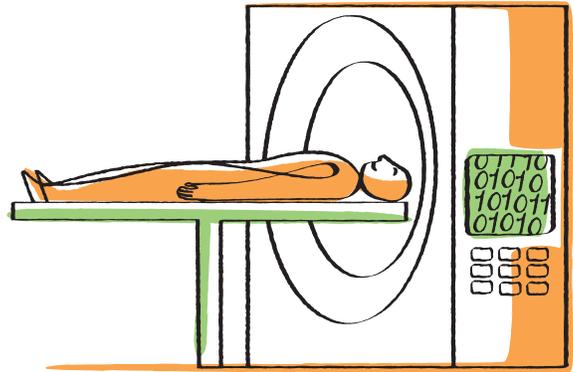




NetApp®



Healthcare Industry Solution Brief

NetApp StorageGRID: Manage Large Pools of Mission-Critical Patient Data Across Healthcare Facilities

KEY BENEFITS

Protects Assets

Minimizes risk of corrupted or lost healthcare data by preserving and protecting mission-critical fixed-content assets over their lifetime.

Lowers TCO

Lowers total cost of ownership (TCO) through better utilization of storage capacity.

Enables Scalability

Scales to support petabytes of data managed across multiple sites.

Reduces Compliance Costs

Reduces cost of compliance with data retention regulations.

Maximizes Productivity

Maximizes productivity by delivering business continuity in the event of storage, network, or hardware failure.

The Challenge

In healthcare, fixed-content data makes up approximately 75% of the very large amounts of new data stored. As a critical component of the electronic health record (EHR), fixed-content data must always be rapidly available to clinicians on demand.

Furthermore, healthcare organizations are embarking on initiatives to share data between departments and facilities. The goals of these initiatives are to improve the quality of patient care and increase the effectiveness of scarce human resources, such as radiologists and cardiologists. At the same time, compliance requirements specify long data retention periods and authenticity.

These demanding clinical and business requirements are driving information technology (IT) and picture archiving and communication system (PACS) administrators to implement cost-effective long-term storage strategies. One way that leading healthcare organizations are moving toward achieving these goals is to consolidate storage resources across multiple sites, rather than managing individual storage silos.

The NetApp Solution

For healthcare organizations that depend on access to patient-critical and mission-critical data and imaging studies, NetApp® StorageGRID® protects and preserves fixed-content assets over their lifetime. Through automation and intelligent data management, NetApp StorageGRID provides consistent, reliable access to data over many years. It does this by delivering superior data protection, business continuity, automated disaster recovery, and multisite access in disk and tape storage environments.

Accommodates Complex Environments

StorageGRID accommodates various operating systems and protocols. It consolidates globally distributed repositories of data from multiple departments, cost centers, and user groups into a single, global (object) namespace. StorageGRID provides standardized interfaces to diverse corporate data and enables intelligent data classification and access (through metadata-based management).

“Our private cloud, built with NetApp StorageGRID, supports four mission-critical systems, including our PACS, so our goal is zero downtime. During a recent flood, for example, we implemented our DR plan, evacuated our primary data center, successfully failed over to a tertiary data center 60 miles away—with no downtime.”

Antonio Banuelos

Senior Storage Administrator, Iowa Health System

Scalability

The NetApp StorageGRID solution is designed to manage petabyte-scale repositories of images, videos, and records for healthcare organizations. It can accommodate billions of medical records and images. StorageGRID provides tremendous scalability by eliminating the typical constraints of data containers in blocks and files, and it supports billions of objects and petabytes of capacity.

Minimized Risk

NetApp StorageGRID minimizes the risk of data loss and corruption. It helps you preserve and protect patient-critical fixed-content data over its entire lifecycle. Automated data integrity checks reduce the risk of data corruption by monitoring the authenticity of data over its lifetime. The system assigns unique digital fingerprints when data is entered. It then verifies these fingerprints each time data is retrieved, replicated, or moved between tiers or sites. In the background, the solution performs additional verification steps to protect the authenticity of data at rest. Through automated replication of data across sites and storage tiers, StorageGRID minimizes the risk of data loss and reduces error-prone backup and restore procedures.

Maximized Productivity

The StorageGRID high-availability architecture provides automated failover and recovery. This allows you to maintain continuity of business operations, even in the presence of faults. The solution enables fast, consistent, and reliable access to your stored data. In addition, StorageGRID insulates your applications from changes to the underlying infrastructure by delivering a single, virtualized storage system across tiers and sites. The solution further enhances productivity by giving you rapid access to archived data. Innovative features enable this access, including stream-based transport, prioritized data caching, and parallel loading.

Protection Against Obsolescence

NetApp StorageGRID helps protect your IT assets against hardware obsolescence. To do this, the system provides an automated hardware refresh that transparently moves data from obsolete components to new ones without affecting applications or users. This eliminates the maintenance costs associated with operating obsolete components, saving you money.

The lifetime of data is significantly greater than that of the hardware or media. Hence, automated hardware refresh reduces the risk of losing access to information due to failing or end-of-life hardware.

Reduced Cost of Compliance

StorageGRID can reduce your cost of compliance with retention regulations. The solution provides the capability to define a set of intelligent information lifecycle management (ILM) policies. These policies govern the retention, geographic location, and placement of data on the appropriate storage tier based on its relevance to the organization. Intelligent ILM automates and optimizes long-term retention of data. It helps you store assets at the right place, on the right media, at the right time based on the business needs of the organization.

Conservation of IT Resources

StorageGRID makes efficient use of your scarce IT resources. It automates many traditionally manual tasks and delivers centralized management and proactive fault detection.

“We rely on StorageGRID as the software platform to deliver multiple storage services for mission-critical operations at more than 18 locations across 6 states in the western United States.”

Liz Devereux

Director, IT Storage and Digital Imaging, Banner Health

This proactive approach to detecting issues before they affect users makes optimal use of IT resources in managing stored data. The fault tolerance of NetApp StorageGRID reduces pressure on your IT administrators because business operations continue while faults are addressed.

Why NetApp?

Today's leading healthcare provider and payer organizations rely on NetApp to help store patient data and medical images reliably, efficiently, and affordably. We help you deliver high-quality patient care by providing powerful, integrated hardware and software solutions that enable fast, cost-effective, scalable storage. Drawing upon our many years of experience, leading healthcare application providers collaborate closely with NetApp as certified solution partners.

Contact NetApp today to learn more about how we partner with leading healthcare innovators to help you better manage data and ultimately improve the efficiency and quality of patient care.

About NetApp

NetApp creates innovative storage and data management solutions that deliver outstanding cost efficiency and accelerate business breakthroughs. Discover our passion for helping companies around the world go further, faster at www.netapp.com.

Go further, faster®



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