Demartek Lab Notes – November 2011

Welcome

Welcome to the **Demartek Lab Notes**, our monthly newsletter. This newsletter contains a few links to our recent lab evaluations, articles, and upcoming speaking engagements. We continue to be busy here in the lab working with a variety of exciting technologies. In this newsletter, we also announce the winner of our first SSD Giveaway.

Newsletter Sign-Up

If you received this email as a forward, it's easy to sign up for your own free copy of **Demartek Lab Notes**. Visit **Demartek.com/Newsletter** or text DEMARTEKLABNOTES to 22828 to join!

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Demartek News

Demartek Expert Q&A: Five Questions on FCoE
Dennis Martin, Demartek President, was interviewed by **SearchDataCenter** as part of their *Expert Q&A series*. In this discussion, Dennis reviewed Fibre Channel over Ethernet (FCoE) technology.

Demartek News

Demartek Makes the Case for SSDs at the RMWTUG October 2011 Meeting
In this session, Dennis Martin, President of Demartek, discussed where SSD can have the most impact on a storage environment, including the various implementations alternatives. He also explained the device choices and data placement choices you need to make when considering SSD deployments. Included in the presentation were results from various SSD lab tests conducted at the Demartek lab.

Demartek Low Latency Evaluation of Fibre Channel, iSCSI and SAS Host Interfaces
IT professionals see Solid State Disk (SSD) products as a means to obtain higher performance and better response times. Having higher IOPS and shorter latencies than

HDD, SSDs are being deployed in external storage arrays in conjunction with, or replacing HDDs. While high IOPS is frequently the metric for assessing drive and array performance, in many cases latency is equally as important. For example, in an OLTP application, short response times are critical. A transaction may require many successive queries to a database, where each query depends on answers returned from the previous query. User response times are entirely dependent on how quickly storage can return answers to the queries.

Demartek Publishes Article on Storage Networking Alternatives
Storage networking rarely gets much attention, and it's frequently overshadowed by the server and storage gear it links together. But there's renewed interest in storage networking as new or enhanced technologies begin to show up in our data centers. Sure, there's lots to talk about with new server technologies, virtualization, operating systems and apps, but all those technologies ultimately require a place to store their data, so they rely on storage networking technologies to handle the task.

Demartek Storage Networking Interface Comparison - **Update**
Demartek has updated its Storage Interface Comparison reference document with information about PCI Express, also known as PCIe. The new section provides a brief history and a PCIe Data Rate Table, as well as information on PCIe cables and connectors.

Demartek SSD Giveaway Winner

Congratulations to Nilesh Naik of Merck & Co., the winner of the **October Demartek SSD drawing**! Nilesh will soon be receiving the OCZ Enterprise Deneva 2, 240GB 2.5-inch SSD. This SSD is a 6Gb/s SATA device factory rated at 500MB/s throughput, up to 85,000 4K random write IOPS and has a three-year warranty. A big thank you to OCZ for providing this SSD for our promotion--we're sure Nilesh will enjoy using it!

We are planning to do another drawing in the near future, so keep an eye on the Demartek website for upcoming giveaways!

SSD Deployment Guide to be Published in January 2012

It's not too late to participate in the next *Demartek Deployment Guide*! We are now starting to work on the *SSD Deployment Guide* to be published in January 2012.

For participating vendors there will be a special, vendor-specific section of this guide that will provide in-depth content such as management, performance, ease of use, and other topics. Vendors who are interested in having their own optional section in the *SSD Deployment Guide* are encouraged to contact Demartek right away so arrangements can be made to include your information in this guide.

The *Demartek Deployment Guides* are a series of technical deployment guides designed to provide practical guidance for planning and deploying various computing technologies. These guides are intended for managers and technical professionals within IT departments of all sizes and for technical sales engineers at VARs and System Integrators.

The *Demartek Deployment Guides* are free for download from the Demartek website and are fully searchable by all the major Internet search engines. For example, enter "*iSCSI deployment guide*" in your favorite search engine, such as Google, Bing, or Yahoo. You can also view the *Demartek iSCSI Deployment Guide 2011* directly.

The *Demartek Deployment Guides* provide basic information about the current technology, show how to deploy the technology in physical and virtual server environments, discuss best practices, and include separate sections for vendors of

these technology products and solutions. Depending on the development cycle for the particular technology, roadmap items may also be included to help IT practitioners plan for the future.

Additional upcoming **Demartek Deployment Guides** will cover **SAS**, **16Gb Fibre Channel** and **FCoE**. Contact us if you would like to participate or have particular questions about these technologies that you would like to see addressed.

Top Ten Most Popular Demartek Pages and Reports

We have a feature on our website that lists the top ten most popular pages and reports for the last four weeks, updating every Monday morning. Here's how it looked on November 7:

1. **Demartek Storage Networking Interface Comparison**
2. **Demartek Presents Robocopy at March 2011 RMWTUG Meeting**
3. **Demartek Publishes Exchange Server 2003 vs 2007 vs 2010 I/O Comparison Summary**
4. **Demartek Low Latency Evaluation of Fibre Channel, iSCSI and SAS Host Interfaces**
5. **Demartek iSCSI Deployment Guide 2011**
6. **Demartek Makes the Case for SSDs at the October 2011 RMWTUG Meeting**
7. **Demartek SSD Zone**
8. **Demartek SSD Giveaway**
9. **Demartek Publishes Evaluation of LSI WarpDrive Performance**
10. **Demartek Evaluation of Broadcom BCM957712-S Ethernet/FCoE/iSCSI Offload Adapter**

Be sure to check back every Monday to see which reports have been the most popular!

Public and Private Testing

We conduct both public and private testing of various hardware and software technologies. The public tests are posted to our website, while the private tests are not. If you're interested in either type of technology testing or have specific configurations that you would like to test, send me an email or call our office at (303) 940-7575.

Thanks,

Dennis Martin