

# Demartek Lab Notes – March 2012



## Lab Notes

March 2012

### Welcome



Welcome to the **Demartek Lab Notes**, our monthly newsletter.

**March** is all about the "wearin' o' the green" and we're green year-round at Demartek due to a large green screen in our offices. This is where we record our Demartek videos - the green screen allows our editors to fill in all the graphics you see in the background.

Check out the four new videos we've posted in just the last month on our [Demartek YouTube channel!](#)

### 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](http://Demartek.com/Newsletter) or text DEMARTEKLABNOTES to 22828 to join!

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### Demartek News

#### [Demartek Evaluation of Broadcom BCM957810 10Gb Adapter](#)

As the deployment of bandwidth-intensive applications such as public and private cloud computing continue to increase, IT administrators are turning to 10 Gigabit Ethernet (10GbE) technology for cost-effective and flexible methods of addressing growing network traffic demands. A key component of the 10GbE network is the network adapter with network protocol processing offload capabilities for greater host processor utilization. 10GbE networking adapters by Broadcom allow servers to fully leverage the available 10GbE bandwidth, while reducing processor utilization. As a result, 10GbE end-to-end performance is comparable to more specialized and costlier cloud based data center server to fabric interconnects. With 10GbE, organizations can expand application capabilities, increase scalability and improve responsiveness to address dynamic



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business environments.

## **Demartek Evaluation of SMART Storage Systems XceedStor 500S SSD**

SSD technology is transforming the computing environment and enterprise SSDs are bringing high performance storage to the datacenter environment.

SMART Storage Systems commissioned Demartek to evaluate its XceedStor 500S server-grade SSDs in its lab and compare these SSDs to an Intel 320 SSD.

The SMART Storage Systems XceedStor 500s SSD performed very well in our tests, showing that they take advantage of data optimization for various applications as well as provide excellent performance.

## **Demartek SSD Giveaway**

Demartek is giving away a second SSD - a **SMART Modular XceedIOPS 100GB SATA SSD**, which features enterprise MLC (eMLC) flash. We will randomly draw a name from our newsletter subscribers for a new SSD giveaway on March 29, 2012. (This drawing has been delayed from its originally published date of February 29.)

Please watch [our website](#) for additional details.

This drawing is open to residents of the United States only. Employees of Demartek, their immediate family members, and any previous drawing winners are not eligible for this drawing.

## **The Demartek SSD Deployment Guide will be out soon!**



We are in the final stages of completing the **Demartek SSD Deployment Guide**. This is the second in our series of **Demartek Deployment Guides**, the first being the **Demartek iSCSI Deployment Guide**, which was published in 2011.

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. The vendors participating in the **Demartek SSD Deployment Guide** include Flashsoft (part of SanDisk), Nimbus, OCZ, and SMART.

The video of the **Demartek SSD Deployment Guide** will be released on the [Demartek YouTube Channel](#) in early April.

## **Upcoming Speaking Engagements**

### **Demartek to Present at SNW USA in April 2012**

Dennis Martin, President of Demartek, will present three sessions and moderate in a panel session at the **Storage Networking World Conference (SNW)** in Dallas, Texas in April 2012.



- Monday, April 2, 9:20 a.m.: **Analyst Perspective and Test Lab Report: 16Gb Fibre Channel Performance and Recommendations**
- Tuesday, April 3, 11:40 a.m.: **Analyst Perspective: Fibre Channel and Fibre Channel over Ethernet Solutions for today and tomorrow - A Panel Discussion**
- Tuesday, April 3, 2:10 p.m.: **Analyst Perspective and Test Lab Report: Using File Server Protocols for Block-Based Storage Workloads**

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## [Demartek Presents Solid State Storage Half-day Seminars](#)

In a relatively short time, solid-state storage has become a viable alternative for enterprise storage applications. It offers far superior performance over magnetic media while using much less power and creating little heat. Solid-state storage is, however, still considerably more expensive than spinning disk, so a cost-effective approach to implementation is required. In this free, multi-city, half-day seminar, Dennis Martin, President of Demartek, will cover the key solid-state technologies and the specs that users need to know, along with the various implementation alternatives.

Remaining Cities and Dates for these 2012 Half-day Seminars are:

- Thu. Apr. 5 - Toronto, ON
- Tue. Apr. 17 - Denver, CO
- Thu. Sep. 13 - San Diego, CA
- Thu. Sep. 20 - London, UK
- Tue. Oct. 16 - Washington, DC

Click the link to get the complete agenda and registration information for these **[free, half-day TechTarget Solid State Storage Seminars](#)**. Stay current with the latest news for this seminar by following the Twitter hashtag **[#SSDseminar](#)**.

## **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 March 12:



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 Presents Solid State Storage Half-day Seminars 2012](#)**
5. **[Demartek Low Latency Evaluation of Fibre Channel, iSCSI and SAS Host Interfaces](#)**
6. **[Demartek iSCSI Deployment Guide 2011](#)**
7. **[Demartek Publishes EMC VFCache Evaluation](#)**
8. **[Demartek SSD Zone](#)**
9. **[Demartek FCoE Zone](#)**
10. **[Demartek Lab Validation Testing](#)**

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

## **Demartek Events during April**

I'm hoping to see many of you at the **[Storage Networking World Conference \(SNW\)](#)** in Dallas next month or at one of the April **[SSD half-day Seminars](#)** in Toronto (April 5) or in Denver (April 17). Since our office is located in the Denver area, our entire technical staff is planning to attend the Denver seminar.

We look forward to talking to you soon!

Dennis Martin  
President, Demartek