

Demartek Lab Notes – August 2011



Demartek
Real-world, Hands-on
Research & Analysis

Lab Notes

August 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 work with several hardware and software technologies including virtualization, SSDs, and more, and we now have a new method available to sign-up for this newsletter.

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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 Lab Tips - Time-related Scripting Functions](#)

We do a fair amount of scripting in our validation and performance testing, and we often require time-related functions for our batch files on our Windows machines. These time-related functions can be divided into three categories:

- Display the date and/or time
- Delay execution (wait) for a specified period of time
- Synchronize the clocks between machines



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[Demartek Broadcom BCM957712-S Adapter Video](#)

Demartek evaluated the Broadcom BCM957712-S 10GbE adapter that supports FCoE with full hardware offload and iSCSI with full hardware offload. We were able to achieve approximately 1.7 million IOPS for FCoE random reads and more than 1 million IOPS for iSCSI random reads using the Broadcom BCM957712-S adapter. Broadcom has demonstrated very strong performance and good CPU efficiency when compared to both full-hardware-offload adapters and non-hardware-offload adapters.

Demartek Deployment Guides

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](#), and [Yahoo](#).

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.

Upcoming **Demartek Deployment Guides** will cover **SSDs, SAS, 16Gb Fibre Channel** and **FCoE**. Contact us if you would like to participate or have particular configurations you would like to see tested.

Upcoming Speaking Engagements

Storage Decisions New York - September 19-20, 2011

Dennis Martin, President of Demartek, will present two sessions at the Storage Decisions Conference in New York. These sessions are:

- [Efficient Storage: Automated Storage Tiering](#)
- [Making the Case for Solid-State Storage](#)



Storage Networking World USA Fall 2011 - October 10-13, 2011

Dennis Martin, President of Demartek, will present one session and will moderate a panel at the Storage Networking World (SNW) Conference in Orlando, Florida.

- Monday, October 10, 9:20 a.m. - 10:05 a.m.: [I/O Virtualization - The Next Virtualization Frontier](#)
- Monday, October 10, 1:00 p.m. - 1:45 p.m.: [Advancements in Fibre Channel](#)

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Storage Networking World Europe - November 2-3, 2011









Dennis Martin, President of Demartek, will present two sessions and will moderate a panel at the Storage Networking World (SNW) Conference in Frankfurt, Germany.

- Wednesday, November 2: [I/O Virtualization - The Next Virtualization Frontier](#)
- Wednesday, November 2: [Unified Storage Networking](#)
- Thursday, November 3: [Panel Discussion: FCoE - Fibre Channel over Ethernet](#)

Demartek Videos

We continue to build our library of video highlights of our public evaluations and projects. Look for the **Demartek Video Library** Logo on Demartek.com pages to find our videos!



<p>New!</p>  <p>Demartek Evaluation of Broadcom BCM957712-S 10GbE FCoE/iSCSI Offload Adapter</p>	 <p>Demartek - The iSCSI Initiator</p>	 <p>Demartek - The iSCSI Initiator (Outtakes)</p>
 <p>Demartek HP-QLogic SSCM Software Evaluation</p>	 <p>Demartek LSI FastPath Performance Evaluation in a Web Server Environment</p>	 <p>Demartek LSI WarpDrive Web Server Performance</p>
 <p>Demartek Evaluation of Emulex OneCommand Manager Software</p>	 <p>Demartek LSI CacheCade Performance Evaluation in a Web Server Environment</p>	

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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 August 15:



1. [Demartek Presents Robocopy at March 2011 RMWTUG Meeting](#)
2. [Demartek Storage Networking Interface Comparison](#)
3. [Demartek Evaluation of Broadcom BCM957712-S 10 Gb Ethernet/FCoE/iSCSI Offload Adapter](#)
4. [Demartek Publishes Exchange Server 2003 vs 2007 vs 2010 I/O Comparison Summary](#)
5. [Demartek iSCSI Deployment Guide 2011](#)
6. [Demartek Publishes Evaluation of LSI WarpDrive Performance](#)
7. [Demartek SSD Zone](#)
8. [Demartek Publishes Evaluation of LSI MegaRAID CacheCade Performance](#)
9. [Demartek Lab Tips - Time Related Scripting Functions](#)
10. [Demartek Newsletter](#)

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

Solid State Storage

I spoke at the Flash Memory Summit 2011 in Santa Clara, California last week. I saw many examples of all of the form factors, such as disk drive format, PCIe cards, and DIMM form factor.

There are well over 100 vendors providing SSDs and related products. We are gearing up for an extended period of SSD testing and validation. We are looking at all the form factors and will be addressing caching vs. tiering. Things are getting exciting!

Dennis Martin
Demartek