Demartek Lab Notes – April 2012

April 2012

Demartek News

Demartek Evaluation of LSI Nytro XD Caching Solution

LSI commissioned Demartek to evaluate its Nytro™ XD Application Acceleration Solution, a product that caches storage area network (SAN) or direct attached storage (DAS) storage on server-side Nytro WarpDrive™ PCI-Express®-connected flash card. The purpose of this test was to measure performance and latency improvements using two database workloads on an enterprise database software platform.

Demartek Adds IOmeter 2010 to Benchmark Output File Formats

We added IOmeter output results to our Benchmark Output File Formats page. IOmeter 2010 can produce three different types of output files. These are: Pseudorandom, Full Random, and Repeating. There are two sample images of each output type, taken from different locations within the file.

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Careers at Demartek

Demartek Career Opportunities

Demartek has an immediate opening for a full-time Storage Analyst. This position requires a blend of technical and writing experience to help complete white papers on tests run in the Demartek lab. View the full job description on the **Careers Page** on the Demartek website.

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Meet Demartek's Newest Employee

Add another name to the roster! Demartek recently expanded to accommodate another employee, Michael Turnbull. Michael joined the company in March as an Executive Assistant with the always entertaining job of project coordinator as well as updating the Demartek website. In addition to these responsibilites, he is in charge of not only filming Demartek Videos but also what you're reading here…the newsletter. Graduating in 2009 with a degree in Graphic Design, Michael is committed to adapting his eye for design to the Demartek brand identity. We are thrilled to have Michael on our team and are excited about his growth potential at Demartek.

Demartek SSD Giveaway Update

At the end of last month (March 29) we drew a name from our list of eligible newsletter subscribers to win our SSD - a **SMART Modular XceedIOPS 100GB SATA SSD**, which features enterprise MLC (eMLC) flash. Unfortunately, the winner never responded to our efforts to give him/her the **FREE** SSD. In an effort to get this amazing product into one of our loyal subscriber's hands, we will be drawing a new winner on Friday, April 20. Please make sure that your email will allow mail from info@demartek.com and remember that all newsletter subscribers are eligible.*

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

The **Demartek SSD Deployment Guide** is now available! This guide is designed for managers and technical professionals within IT departments who are exploring the possible benefits of SSD technology or who are looking for actual deployment examples of SSD storage solutions. The Demartek SSD Deployment Guide is designed to provide basic information about SSDs and practical guidance for planning and deploying SSD technology and products. The primary focus of this guide is for enterprise SSD technologies, although this guide also discusses consumer SSD technologies.

The Demartek SSD Deployment Guide covers NAND flash characteristics, including SLC, MLC, endurance, and performance. SSD form factors and data placement strategies are also discussed.

Products from four vendors are participating in the Demartek SSD Deployment Guide including FlashSoft (part of SanDisk), Nimbus Data, OCZ Enterprise, and SMART Storage Systems.

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The highlight video of the Demartek SSD Deployment Guide will be released on the **Demartek YouTube Channel** in May. This is the second in our series of Demartek Deployment Guides, the first being the **Demartek iSCSI Deployment Guide**, which was published in 2011.

Upcoming Speaking Engagements

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. Sep. 13 - San Diego, CA
- Tue. Oct. 16 - Washington, DC

Click Here to get the complete agenda and registration information for these free half-day TechTarget Solid State Storage Seminars. Stay up to date with the latest **Demartek Twitter** news for this seminar by following **#SSDseminar**.

Demartek Presents Reaping the Rewards of SAS Deployments
Dennis Martin be speaking at the SCSI Trade Association (STA) Technology Showcase on May 9, 2012 in Santa Clara, California. He will explore how SAS is maturing in the datacenter. He will discuss SAS as a disk drive interface, as a host interface to modern storage systems, and in a small shared storage environment. He will also explain how SAS compares to other storage interfaces, and how this technology fits into IT departments and enterprises of all sizes. In addition, he will discuss the current 6Gb/s SAS interface and the roadmap for 12Gb/s SAS, along with newer cabling options and more.

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 April 16:

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**
6. **Demartek SSD Zone**
7. **Demartek Presents Solid State Storage Half-day Seminars 2012**
8. **Demartek News and Reports**

9. **Demartek Evaluation of Broadcom BCM957810 10Gb Adapter**
10. **Demartek EMC VFCache Evaluation**

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

A Word from the President

We have been very busy in the lab lately, but I do get out of the lab occasionally. I look forward to seeing you at one of the upcoming events such as the **STA Showcase: Taming the Data Beast** in Santa Clara, CA (May 9) or one of the other upcoming technology events.

We continue to test quite a bit of exciting technology. Look for some upcoming 16 Gbps Fibre Channel reports and more SSD-related reports soon.

We look forward to talking to you soon!

Dennis Martin, President, Demartek

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