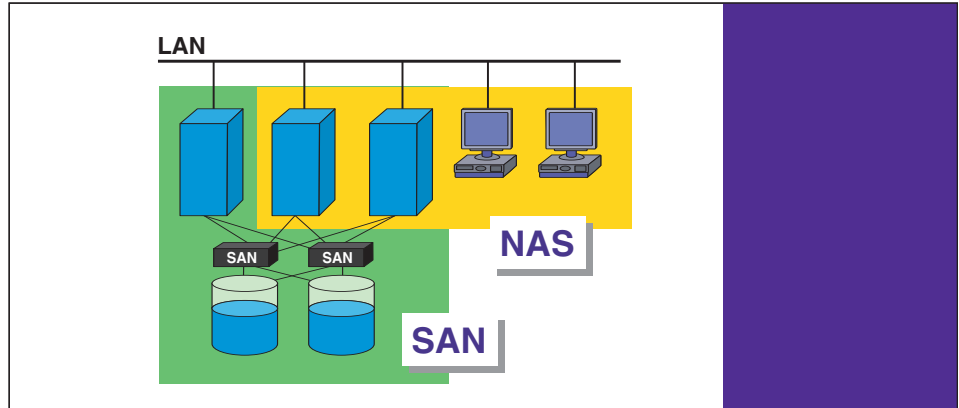


## Solutions Brief

# SGI® InfiniteStorage Solutions



## SGI® Intelligent Consolidation

In today's busy computing environments, keeping up with the demands of rapid data growth is an increasing challenge. To succeed, organizations must control costs both for storage equipment and on-going storage management while reducing or eliminating the risk of data loss and increasing operational productivity.

Industry analysts typically place the lifetime cost of managing a storage system at 8 to 10 times its acquisition cost, demonstrating that reducing management cost is essential to reducing storage total cost of ownership (TCO). Successful organizations have begun streamlining their storage operations by consolidating storage to reduce costs and increase storage resource utilization.

Of course, reducing storage cost is of little value if you are putting your data and productivity at increased risk. You must choose a consolidation solution that delivers the data integrity, security, availability, and performance necessary to protect

your valuable data assets and increase your total return on investment (ROI).

With Intelligent Consolidation, SGI is uniquely positioned to help you tackle your most critical storage challenges while increasing data integrity, security, and availability. SGI goes beyond the limits of traditional consolidation solutions with flexible, scalable solutions that improve productivity and deliver a sustainable advantage.

### Benefits of Intelligent Consolidation

SGI Intelligent Consolidation solutions are designed to deliver optimal efficiency for storing, organizing, accessing and managing data. SGI helps you design the right storage architecture to reduce storage complexity—streamlining management, increasing performance, improving availability, and reducing TCO. By eliminating the bottlenecks that limit other storage solutions, SGI allows you to take your

storage infrastructure to the next level, with unparalleled data performance that frees your organization to innovate and succeed.

### A Single Platform for NAS, SAN and SAN/NAS Gateways Delivers Superior Flexibility and Investment Protection

Where other vendors lock you into different point solutions for direct-attached storage (DAS), network attached storage (NAS), and storage area networks (SANs), SGI offers a single platform that can be deployed to meet DAS, NAS and SAN needs, reducing or eliminating the barriers to data sharing that previously existed between disparate storage pools. Reduced complexity simplifies the job of storage management, saving money, and increasing efficiency. With a single platform, you can migrate from one storage architecture to another—for instance from NAS to SAN—without having to change the layout or format of your critical data.



## Utilization and Management

### Cost Savings

SGI Intelligent Consolidation helps you control storage costs through:

- Improved disk utilization
- Reduced management costs

Our consolidated storage architecture results in better capacity planning, load balancing, and higher rates of resource utilization to reduce the amount of storage needed while reducing management costs versus multiple server-specific storage pools. Centralized backups further reduce management complexity.

### Unparalleled Scalability Sustains Benefits

SGI delivers integrated storage solutions that smoothly evolve to meet changing needs without requiring replacement. SGI solutions scale far beyond the limits of competing systems, allowing you to organize your data in the way that makes the most sense without artificial constraints imposed by hardware or software limitations. The scalability of SGI solutions reduces the risk involved in significant storage investments and ensures that your end-users can achieve unprecedented productivity.

### Transparent Data Sharing for Higher Productivity

Multiple, distributed storage pools often result in multiple copies of the same data, wasting valuable disk space, and potentially effecting data integrity and reducing productivity as end-users struggle to identify the latest version. Only SGI can integrate your NAS and SAN infrastructures with a single seamless solution. SGI® InfiniteStorage Shared FileSystem CXFS™ offers instant, no-copy data sharing across systems on a SAN regardless of operating system. With SGI® CXFS™ and NAS capabilities, all your systems access the same

data for maximum productivity and accelerated workflow. Servers share data at high speed across SANs, while network clients access the same data using familiar protocols such as NFS and CIFS.

### Data Lifecycle Management and Data Protection Options for Further Risk and Cost Reductions

SGI storage solutions integrate with SGI® InfiniteStorage Data Migration Facility DMF for data lifecycle management (DLM). With DLM, data is automatically migrated between pools of online, secondary, and tape storage based on rules that you define. SGI DLM solutions further decrease storage costs and can help ensure that regulatory requirements for data retention are met.

SGI also offers a complete line of data protection and business continuity software for use with its Intelligent Consolidation solutions. The synergy between Intelligent Consolidation and SGI DLM or Data Protection solutions yields even greater productivity gains for your IT staff and your end-users.

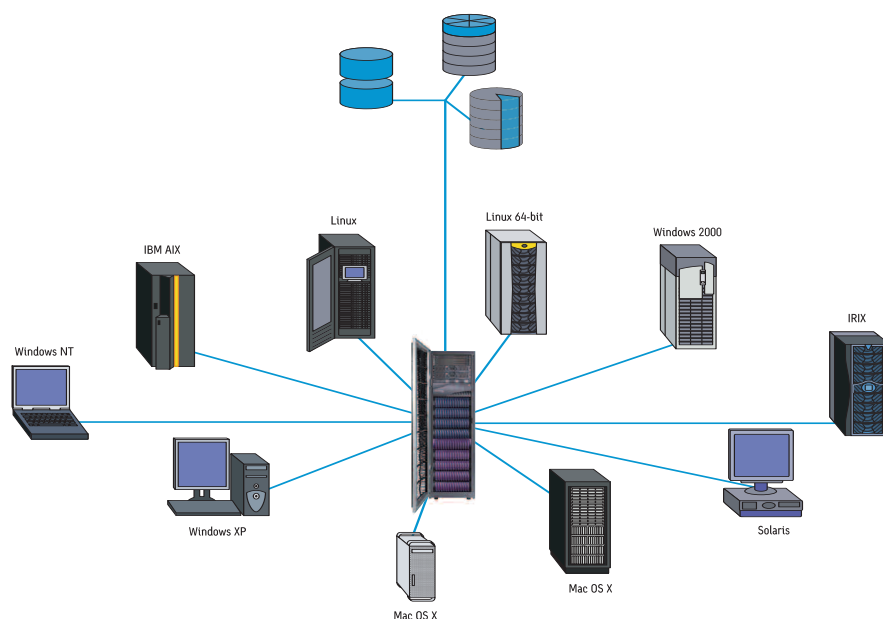
## Key Building Blocks

### SGI® InfiniteStorage FileSystem XFS®

XFS is a high performance, highly scalable file system that is at the core of all InfiniteStorage SAN and NAS Server solutions. A single XFS file system scales to accommodate up to 18 million terabytes with single files as large as 9 million terabytes and can deliver data throughput in excess of 7 gigabytes per second. Your data is never subject to the artificial constraints of other file systems, so you can organize it the way you want, whether you need a single massive filesystem or many small ones.

### SGI InfiniteStorage Shared FileSystem CXFS

CXFS builds on the inherent capabilities of XFS to create a shared file system that unlocks the true power of storage area networks. On a typical SAN, only one server has high-speed access to each data volume. If more servers need access, data must be copied. With CXFS, all servers on a SAN access the same data with unparalleled performance and reliability. Critical workflows proceed at SAN speed



CXFS Shared Filesystem provides instant, no-copy data sharing across all major operating systems



**SGI InfiniteStorage solutions platforms**

without the delays and wasted storage that result from copying data across slow networks. With SGI and CXFS, you can also migrate from a NAS to a SAN environment without restructuring your data.

Supported platforms include: SGI® IRIX®; Solaris™; Windows NT®, Windows® 2000 and Windows® XP; 32-bit Red Hat® Linux®; IBM® AIX®; 64-bit Linux® for SGI® Altix®.

### **SGI® InfiniteStorage Disk Arrays**

SGI offers a full line of storage systems including JBOD and RAID with Fibre Channel or Serial ATA (SATA) drives and advanced features that can be matched to your exact storage requirements.

### **SGI® InfiniteStorage NAS and SAN Solutions**

Architecting a complete storage solution can be difficult and time-consuming. Mistakes can be painful and have lasting impacts throughout your organization. SGI InfiniteStorage NAS and SAN solutions eliminate these difficulties.

SGI® InfiniteStorage NAS 2000, 3000 and Gateway

For high-performance networked storage, SGI InfiniteStorage NAS solutions deliver scalability and performance that other NAS appliances can't touch. InfiniteStorage NAS takes the place of multiple conventional NAS servers, avoiding the headaches created by proliferating servers.

SGI® InfiniteStorage SAN 2000, 3000 and Gateway

InfiniteStorage SAN solutions include everything you need to immediately realize the benefits of CXFS data sharing including a complete 2Gb-per-second SAN infrastructure and the most robust storage resource management (SRM) functionality available today.

InfiniteStorage SAN and NAS solutions are fully upgradeable. Any NAS or SAN system can be upgraded to incorporate both functions, so your investment is always protected. Solutions can be ordered pre-configured with options for high availability, network load balancing, backup, or data life-cycle management.

### **SGI® InfiniteStorage Resource Manager**

Managing a storage infrastructure with thousands of disks and tens or hundreds of terabytes is a daunting task. SGI InfiniteStorage Resource Manager provides comprehensive, standards-based management of SGI InfiniteStorage solutions.

### **Learn More**

- To find out more about SGI Intelligent Consolidation solutions, visit our website at <http://www.sgi.com/storage>.
- To see how data-intensive environments are reducing costs and increasing productivity up to 5x, see examples of customer implementations at: [www.sgi.com/products/storage/successes.html](http://www.sgi.com/products/storage/successes.html)
- To locate an SGI sales office near you, visit: <http://www.sgi.com/sales>.



Corporate Office  
1500 Crittenden Lane  
Mountain View, CA 94043  
(650) 960-1980  
[www.sgi.com](http://www.sgi.com)

North America +1 800.800.7441  
Latin America +55 11.5509.1455  
Europe +44 118.912.7500  
Japan +81 3.5488.1811  
Asia Pacific +1 650.933.3000