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# Introduction

In this assignment, six Vendors that offer Software-Defined Storage will be discussed, as well as their key advantages in terms of security, speed, and cost. There will also be a discussion on the process of how a traditional enterprise can adopt Software-Defined Storage as an innovative solution for storage, and what the tradeoffs will be of doing so.

# Software-Defined Storage

In 2013 Software-Defined Storage (SDS) was proposed to be a new category that falls under storage software products (Carlson et al., 2014). SDS can function as a standalone technology, or as an element in a Software-Defined Data Centre.

SDS is a ‘marketing’ word that is a follow-on term used for Software Defined Networking, that is used to describe an approach that is used in network technology to abstract different elements of networking to create a virtualized layer or abstraction layer in software. Whereas SDS represent a new evolution to the way that the industry stores data and how that data is deployed and managed in the future (Carlson et al., 2014).

Following will be a discussion on the Vendors that offer Software-Defined Storage, and what sets them apart (Technavio, 2015).

# HP

HP has been providing Software-Defined Storage and has had a Software-Defined Data Centre since the concept started. This is also one of the only vendors that is capable of delivering all elements that is part of software-defined data centre, these elements include networking, compute, management, and storage. They can also offer a complete SDS vision strategy based on openness simplicity, and efficiency. Where storage availability is their top priority.

They are also considered cheap as their enterprise feature set that can deliver the performance and capability of that of a traditional SAN. In terms of security, they provide a low cost on their data protection while delivering an efficient, fast, and scalable backup of all your data that requires no dedicated hardware.

# IBM

IBM specialises in the new era of cloud applications and environments, this includes mobile, social, and analytics. They also focus on cost-effectively optimizing their storage environments and finding new opportunities to lower their customers budgets.

For a company they are the perfect solution to increase efficiency and agility as their Spectrum Storage enhances the efficiency and speed of storage and allows for a simple way to migrate new workloads.

# NetApp Inc.

This Vendor establishes a market that is sizeable in terms of SDS space. NetApp offers cluster Data ONTAP PS, NetApp FlexArray, NetApp OnCommand and NetApp FAS series.

They also have multiple hardware options that include hardware deployment support with a wide variety of enterprise platforms.

# VMware Inc.

# Coraid

# DataCore

# References

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