

Sun™ Cluster Software and Network Appliance Storage Interoperability

A Joint Solution for Oracle RAC NAS and SAN Systems



Highlights

- Investment protection in NetApp NAS and SAN storage arrays
- Expanded choice of well-tested storage for Sun™ Cluster software deployments
- High quality through rigorous testing
- High availability with quality stamp from both Sun and NetApp
- Joint interoperability matrix with NetApp storage, providing architecture clarity at a component level
- Cooperative support for deployment and service



Sun™ Cluster software is the industry's premier availability platform for improving the predictability and resilience of business-critical applications. The software and associated flexible configurations are designed and tested to deliver on the high availability demands of a 24 x 7 global economy. In order to meet these stringent demands for high availability in a heterogeneous data infrastructure, Sun establishes a direct relationship with industry storage vendors through the Sun Cluster Open Storage Program. It provides customers with an expanded choice of industry storage arrays that are interoperable with Sun Cluster software. Customers can protect their storage investments, while leveraging all of the software functionality and associated benefits from Sun Cluster software.

The Sun Cluster Open Storage Program

To help certify storage arrays with Sun Cluster software and the Solaris™ Operating System I/O stack, this business program manages the relationship with industry vendors. The program's key objective is to offer joint interoperability, high-availability solutions from Sun and its storage partners for customers preferring a non Sun storage partner for their data infrastructures. Sun and Network Appliance (NetApp) support services cooperatively assist customers with post-deployment interoperability issues.

The program is managed through a company-wide business office at Sun, enabling storage partners to discuss various Sun solutions within the context of Sun Cluster software. This program helps Sun and NetApp deliver on the specifics of customer and market demands with higher quality and confidence. It clearly establishes the commitment from Sun and NetApp for well-tested, well-supported Sun Cluster software configurations.

In addition, the program provides a framework for the two companies to discuss joint configurations, exchange quality and testing methodologies, and resolve interoperability issues for the success of their joint customers.

Sun offers the Sun Cluster Automated Test Environment (SCATE) to NetApp, and audits test results before announcing the interoperability of joint configurations. The joint interoperability matrix is instrumental in architecting a high-availability solution with clarity and confidence.

Sun and NetApp solution

Oracle RAC

Sun Cluster software is a leading platform for Oracle® Real Application Clusters (RAC) on the Solaris OS. The software offers various choices to customers for deploying Oracle RAC technology on interconnect technology, file systems, and volume managers. Sun and NetApp offer a joint solution for Oracle RAC customers who need to implement file systems for their Oracle databases on network-attached storage (NAS) devices.

Storage Area Network (SAN)

With Sun Certification for NetApp Fibre Channel storage, Solaris OS customers using NetApp storage powered by Data ONTAP can double their storage utilization, automatically manage fine-grained data, and reduce storage management costs while reaping the high-availability benefits associated with Sun Cluster Software.

“Network Appliance is a natural fit for the Sun Cluster Open Storage Program. Through the program, NetApp unified storage systems provide enterprise customers with increased choice and investment protection for their Sun Cluster environments.”

Patrick Rogers

Vice President of Marketing, Network Appliance, Inc.

“In today’s diverse IT climate, customers want increased choice in configurations without compromising on availability and quality. With the Sun Cluster Open Storage Program, customers now enjoy a wider choice of storage arrays that seamlessly interoperate with Sun Cluster. The program enforces high quality and joint support, giving customers the assurance that their Sun Cluster deployments will continue to deliver unmatched levels of high availability.”

Tom Goguen

Vice President, Systems Software Product Marketing, Sun Microsystems, Inc.

Continuously expanding choice

In addition to validating configurations, the program helps ensure a continuous partner engagement focusing on the success of customers using non Sun storage vendors with Sun Cluster software. The process includes analysis for future business requirements that can then become the criteria used by Sun and the storage vendor to determine the next set of configurations that are evaluated, tested, and validated with Sun Cluster software. The process also expedites Sun Cluster software support for new features in hardware and software from both Sun and other storage vendors.

A higher degree of confidence

Sun offers a spectrum of services to help customers deploy highly available, mission-critical applications. As part of the Sun Cluster Open Storage Program, certified and tested configurations are cooperatively supported by Sun and the associated storage vendor via the nonprofit Technical Support Alliance Network (TSANet), an industry standard, vendor-neutral, worldwide support alliance community that allows for cooperative support between its members in facilitating call transfers. Customers deploying configurations in the interoperability matrix can do so with a higher degree of confidence, knowing both Sun and the storage vendor are cooperating to resolve issues.

Conclusion

With the Sun Cluster Open Storage Program, customers can choose to implement non Sun arrays in a Sun Cluster environment with the same outstanding quality, predictability, and support as deployments with Sun storage

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products. It is clear that Sun’s investment in overall quality and support of Sun Cluster software can be a competitive differentiator for customers deploying high-availability environments to support demanding service levels.

Interoperability Matrix with NetApp Storage

Please refer to the Interoperability Matrix for Sun Cluster software and NetApp arrays at www.sun.com/cluster/software/osp/netapp_interop.html. SunSpectrum™ Gold or Platinum service is required. Please contact a Sun Sales Representative for the latest update.

Get the details

To learn more about the Sun Cluster Open Storage Program, please visit www.sun.com/clusters/osp.