HP Delivers Innovations in Mission-critical Storage

HP StorageWorks P9500 Disk Array offers simplicity without compromise for mission-critical applications

Overview
The new HP StorageWorks P9500 Disk Array, the latest P-series solution in the HP StorageWorks portfolio, is designed to reduce data center complexity without sacrificing mission-critical performance or availability. Building on five generations of HP StorageWorks XP Disk Array success, the P9500 features standards-based hardware and new management innovations to provide improved levels of simplicity and efficiency.

New software features for the P9500 include HP P9000 Application Performance Extender (APEX) and HP P9000 Smart Tiers. These features enable clients to automate data tiering and enhance mission-critical application performance.

Simplified availability and management
The P9500 Disk Array is designed for 24/7 data availability, with the ability to add capacity and make system changes without incurring system downtime. Clients can simplify storage deployment by leveraging the industry’s first mission-critical storage hardware architecture to scale from five drives in a single cabinet to more than 2,000 drives in only six cabinets without disruption to the system’s availability.(1)

New management capabilities, including enhancements to the Remote Web Console, enable storage administrators to complete typical management tasks such as volume creation and allocation 40-60 percent faster.(2)

New economies for mission-critical infrastructures
Developed jointly by HP Labs, HP Business Critical Systems and HP StorageWorks, the new APEX software enables consolidation of storage capacity for mission-critical and other business applications on the same array. This eliminates the need to purchase two separate systems. Using APEX, clients can ensure mission-critical applications meet required bandwidth and latency thresholds, while still allowing less important data to be stored and accessed on the same P9500.

In addition, clients can lower their total cost of ownership with new “pay-as-you-use” meter-based licensing. This enables clients with short-term projects to buy only what is required for the time span they need, rather than perpetual licensing arrangements.
**Accelerated data center consolidation**

HP P9000 Smart Tiers software automatically moves small “chunks” of data between classes of storage on the P9500, improving performance and capacity utilization without incurring system downtime. This allows clients to balance storage performance and cost requirements in a single storage environment.

With Smart Tiers, application data is automatically moved to the optimal disk type, giving applications solid-state disk performance for data that needs it while moving less critical data to lower cost drives. Smart Tiers also improves application performance by enabling the P9500 Disk Array to deliver more than 100,000 I/Os per second from a single cabinet.\(^{(2)}\)

The P9500 allows clients to consolidate more storage in less space with greater efficiency through a new hardware design that leverages standard, 19-inch enclosures instead of the larger enclosures employed by competitive solutions. Clients also realize improved resource utilization with 2.5-inch small form factor SAS drives, which offer double the power efficiency and I/O per square foot in half the space.\(^{(2)}\)

The combination of standard racks and SAS drives enables many clients to meet all their primary storage requirements in a single rack – extending the life of the data center and reducing costs.

“Priority Health requires a storage system that can support and protect our critical customer data,” said Sean Henkel, enterprise infrastructure architect at Priority Health, a health benefits company. “The enhanced performance of the HP P9500 allows us to simplify our configuration jobs and reduce the volume of storage administration tasks while maintaining service levels for critical applications.”

**Pricing and availability**

The new HP StorageWorks P9500 Disk Array is available worldwide, with U.S. list prices starting at approximately $250,000 for a complete system.\(^{(3)}\)


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1. Based on comparisons using competitors’ published documents.
2. Based on internal HP testing.
3. Estimated list pricing. Actual prices may vary.

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