

**Information Brief**

**CAStor and the TCO Effect**



**The benefits of CAStor content storage software**

- ▶ Affordable at acquisition
- ▶ Simple content storage infrastructure that reduces administrative and management overhead
- ▶ Seamless upgrade to newer, more cost-effective hardware when available and on your schedule
- ▶ Eliminate application downtime to upgrade hardware or expand capacity
- ▶ Ensure continuous data availability so content is accessible when required

**The digital content explosion is driving storage demand**

The demand for greater amounts of data storage continues to grow unabated as organizations create more digital content each year than they had the prior year.

**Evaluating Storage TCO**

Companies require large storage environments to house all this new content and although the up-front acquisition price of raw storage is declining, the complexity and associated costs to manage and administer it are increasing.

Evaluating the total cost of ownership (TCO) of the storage infrastructure is an essential consideration in the decision process. IT professionals and business executives must evaluate the overall acquisition, labor and energy costs as well as an array of point products. Each of these elements represents additional cost and complexity in the storage environment. The effect CAStor has on storage TCO for digital content is dramatic and enables organizations to realize cost reductions better than competing offerings.

**Delivering Real TCO Improvements**

**Lower up-front acquisition costs**

CAStor software runs on standard, commodity server hardware (x86 architecture) empowering companies to select the hardware and vendor that delivers the optimal price/performance ratio. Delivers low, up-front acquisition cost compared to other proprietary solutions.

**Simplifies storage management for IT professionals**

Both active and archive content are managed in a single storage tier dramatically reducing the complexity and fragility associated with many storage solutions. CAStor automatically replicates, archives and protects your content and there is never a need for provisioning or data migration. With proprietary storage solutions and multiple tiers of storage, the effort required by IT professionals is often overlooked and not calculated as a part of the overall cost.

**Eliminates hardware switching costs**

CAStor does not lock you into a specific server vendor. The flexibility to change at any time to a less expensive provider and inter-mix server types and vendors within the same CAStor cluster is yours. No need for a forklift transition. Simply phase out those servers and replace them. CAStor will take care of all the rest automatically.

## Reducing the total cost of ownership (TCO) of traditional storage



Minimize hardware, labor and energy costs



Reduce admin overhead, lost productivity and software costs



Cut costs associated with downtime and impact to business

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### Reduces reliance on costly SAN/NAS based storage

Designed to handle transactional data stored in a database where block storage is needed. Reduce storage costs, management and support burden by moving fixed, non-transactional content into CAStor and create smaller, less resource intensive SAN or NAS deployments.

### Realize improved energy efficiency

Reducing energy consumption and cooling costs are critical considerations for IT and CAStor allows companies to seamlessly implement the newest “green” server offerings as they’re introduced. New advancements in server technology can immediately be implemented as they’re introduced.

### Simple to install

Boot a server with the CAStor USB thumb drive and in the time it takes to boot it is a storage node. Simply boot additional server nodes to create a CAStor cluster. No provisioning required with minimal IP configuration.

### Minimizes admin overhead

Expand cluster capacity at the pace your business demands in as little as 1 Terabyte increments. Introducing additional capacity is as easy as booting a new server. Performance and throughput is also improved with the processing power of each new node.

### Automatic provisioning, scaling and balancing

CAStor breaks barriers of traditional file systems. There are no limits in the number of files, size of files or the amount of raw capacity in a CAStor cluster. CAStor eliminates the need to configure or provision storage to add capacity and is self-balancing to ensure that nodes are operating at optimal performance.

### Minimizes management regardless of scale

Central, browser-based administration of a CAStor cluster is the same whether it is configured with three or three thousand nodes. Administrative effort is maintained as the cluster can be easily managed at any scale.

### Continuous data availability

CAStor maintains two or more replicas of content ensuring that there is one available at all times, thus obviating the need to backup. Replication is automatic and minimizes administrative effort for disaster recovery and business continuance.

### Improves uptime for applications

Application availability is improved because hardware upgrades and capacity expansion can be done without impact or the need to take the storage out of service. This maintains user productivity as they are able to continuously access content.

### Eliminate data categorization and migration costs

CAStor delivers the performance of primary storage with the integrity of an archive in a single-tier storage environment, eliminating the need for costly data categorization and migration tools. Active content is stored with the comfort of knowing that it is protected and preserved to meet compliance mandates.

## Summary

Storage infrastructure is one of the largest components of today’s IT budget in terms of technology, management and administrative costs. Regardless of your company’s size or industry CAStor delivers tangible reduction in overall TCO from acquisition to expiration. Start with the lowest prices, eliminate hardware lock-in, reduce system administration and maintenance, and increase the productivity of the IT team. It helps you manage your capital investments more efficiently, allows you to grow content storage on your terms and at the pace your business dictates.

CAStor is simply cost-effective content storage.