



## PANASAS ACTIVEIMAGE SNAPSHOT

### Instant Backup and Restore with Intelligent Snapshot Technology for Clustered Storage.

The foundation of Panasas ActiveStor parallel storage solutions is the Panasas ActiveScale operating environment which includes the PanFST™ parallel file system, the DirectFLOW Protocol, ActiveScale Failover, and ActiveImage snapshot software. Together, these components offer orders of magnitude performance improvements over traditional file storage architectures, and dramatically lower the cost of managing data storage by supporting enterprise-ready manageability and availability features.

The object-based architecture of the Panasas ActiveScale operating environment means that additional intelligence can be injected into all storage functions. One of these key functions is the ability to instantly backup data and to recover data in seconds not hours. Panasas ActiveImage delivers snapshot capability with the ability of the user or system administrator to go back in time to previous states of the file system to retrieve files.

A snapshot is effectively a point-in-time image of the data set. It can be taken instantaneously on a live file system because a snapshot is a copy of the pointers to the data on the disks, not a separate copy of the data itself. Because of this elegantly simple approach, the snapshot file is very small compared to the data it represents.

Panasas uses copy-on-write technology that intelligently keeps track of just the changes made to data. The changed data blocks only are copied in the background. When a snapshot is taken, the pointers are copied to the snapshot file providing an image of the changes since the last snapshot. Multiple snapshots can be taken per volume on a scheduled or as-required basis. This allows the administrator to decide the importance of different volumes, for instance scratch volumes may not be snapshot, while project volumes may be snapshot hourly.

Panasas ActiveImage is standard on the ActiveStor 8 and 9 Series Storage Clusters and optional on the ActiveStor 7 Series.

#### FEATURES AND BENEFITS

- **Maximizes Availability**  
Reduces recovery time from data corruption or human error via an immediate restore from a disk resident, point-in-time data snapshot copy.
- **Increases Productivity**  
Accelerates application testing and deployment by providing always-available copies of current production information
- **Avoids Impact to Applications**  
Allows frequent data backup operations to be performed non-disruptively, while critical applications run unaffected.
- **Improves Efficiency**  
Improves operational efficiency by allowing multiple processes to run in parallel with access to the same information.
- **Maximizes Disk Usage**  
Allows disk space to be used efficiently through volume snapshots rather than full copy clones, which helps maximize the disk.

PANASAS. THE LEADER IN PARALLEL STORAGE.

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