

SSD Telco/MSO Case Studies

SSDs Enable IP CDN & iVOD

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Sanity Solutions: Focusing on Paradigm Shifts!



Insanity: doing the same thing over and over again and expecting different results



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IP-CDN Case Study

Interactive-VOD Case Study

CDN Future Trends and Requirements



Simplified CDN Architecture





Real Life CDN

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Complex Ecosystem



CDN Adaptive Bit Rate Streaming



Adaptive Bit Rates:

- 5 to 7 Key Formats
- 100KB to 1.5MB payload
- ~1.7MB/sec
- 2 sec to 6 sec Chunks



CDN Adaptive Bit Rate Streaming



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Technology Problem Set

- IP Video Delivery CDNs are...
 - Network Intensive (and as a result, PCI bus intensive)
 - CPU intensive (Linux Realtime vs. Soft IRQ threads)
 - **Disk intensive** (in the case of Video-on-Demand; e.g. IOPs)
 - **RAM intensive** (in the case of Live Video; e.g. streams/sec.)
- Different delivery profiles (VOD vs. Live, for example) do not co-exist well (think head-of-line blocking)
- Short-lived TCP sessions and time-sensitive delivery require significant OS and NIC tuning.



Video CDN Functional Requirements

- Here is what I want my CDN to do:
 - Serve clients from the "closest" available node
 - If unavailable, find the "next closest" available node
 - Immediately identify and bypass failed nodes
 - Support immediate removal from service





IP CDN Deployment Results

Metric	Measured Result
Version I (2015) Total Capacity	~1Tb/s
Version II (2018) Total Capacity	~3Tb/s (2x per-node capacity at same monetary & RU price point
ABR Bitrate Request Rage	~80% to 90%
Highest ABR Bitrate Delivery Time	~.5s
Infrastructure-based service availability	100%
Centralized Control-plane per-bit price compression	100%
RU per-density improvement	8x

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INTERACTIVE VOD BUSINESS REQUIREMENTS:

- Instant Availability (~10 Min)
- Time-Shifted Delivery
- Popular shows
- Sports Events
- Digital Rights Management
- > Any Device, Anywhere

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GOT HBO

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Explore the best selection of the latest TV shows, On Demand movies, and more, available instantly — 90% are free.

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Catch up on last night's episodes the very next day.

XFINITY On Demand always has the shows that everyone's talking about. From Game of Thrones and House of Cards to America's Got Talent and Family Guy and more, it's easy to keep up with your favorites and discover new ones.

Game of Thrones? evaluable with H2O* on XFINITY On Demand



Technical Requirements

- Accessible for 24 to 72 hours
- Starts streaming < 2 seconds after hitting play
- SSD storage for 2 6 seconds of ABR formats
- High capacity required (1 copy per subscriber)
- Performance vs. Cost vs. Power tradeoffs
- Low write latency key for prepositioning content
- Original requirement of 6TB/server (Cassandra)



Cablevision 2006 Court Case (Single Copy Legal Requirement)

- Network DVR (NDVR), or network personal video recorder (NPVR), stored at the provider's central location rather than at the consumer's private home.
- But must for legal reasons be recorded and stored as separate copies. Essentially implementing a traditional DVR with network based storage.
- If 100,000 people are watching a recorded version of the Voice or Survivor or Game of Thrones, then there are 100,000 copies!
- The "fine" is \$50,000 PER violation (e.g. would be \$50M!)



The Solution: TLC SSDs

- SSDs are priced by "Durability" (DWPD)
 - Requirement is .3 DPDW (1 write per 3 days)
- 4 x 1.6TB NVMe blew away 6TB "limit"
- Changed to 8 x 1.6TB SATA in 1 RU server
- Reduced overall server count by 1/3
- 2 X capacity/server, saved space & power



WHAT'S NEXT ? WHAT'S REQUIRED?

• IP CDNs:

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- Pushing the CDN closer to the Edge to minimize latencies.
- Additional caching layers to avoid CDN and network hotspots

• VOD Delivery:

- Intelligent long term caching is critical, since content is not as transient
- Accommodating longer-tail content which constantly changes
- High I/O solutions for heavy write access without impacting reads
- Higher capacity NVMe flash and Storage Class Memories



NEXT CHALLENGES

CONVERGED CDN NON-VIDEO CDN CUSTOMIZATION

Next Gen ABR VOD

Next Gen ABR Live Video CDN





Thank You! Questions?

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