

By reducing storage infrastructure management complexities, Hitachi Storage Advisor simplifies management operations, helping you to rapidly configure storage systems and IT services for new business applications.

DATASHEET

Hitachi Storage Advisor

Simplified Storage Infrastructure Management

IT departments are constantly dealing with continuous data growth and accompanying technological complexities while being asked to do more with less. Ease of implementation and management become key issues as limited staff resources are expected to manage diverse storage infrastructure assets. The need to simplify IT resource administration becomes paramount, to continue to rapidly deploy infrastructure resources in support of new business applications.

Hitachi Storage Advisor (formerly Hitachi Infrastructure Director) is a common configuration management application for the Hitachi Virtual Storage Platform (VSP) family that reduces storage management

complexities. This software enables a simplified, unified and extensible approach to managing storage across data types, including both block and file. Use intuitive graphical user interfaces (GUIs) and recommended configuration practices to streamline your system configurations and storage provisioning operations (see Figure 1). Easily provision storage for your new business applications and file servers without having to fully understand all underlining storage infrastructure details. By abstracting management complexities, Storage Advisor provides centralized management across the VSP family and reduces the numbers of steps to properly configure, optimize and deploy new storage resources.

Storage Advisor builds on the Hitachi software-defined infrastructure approach

to abstract and virtualize infrastructure for agility, access new data sources for insight and use automation to simplify management practices. Use Storage Advisor to easily address and adapt your virtualized storage resources to changing application workloads and enable the transition to a new IT infrastructure self-service model.

Hitachi Storage Advisor helps you to rapidly deliver IT infrastructure resources with new administrative efficiencies at reduced costs while directly addressing today's management challenge of "doing more with less."

Simplified Management

Hitachi Storage Advisor provides management abstraction that masks underlining technological complexities, providing visual GUIs to facilitate a simplified approach to storage resource management. This approach expands centralized management capabilities across different levels of administrators with varying skills. Accompanying standards-based application program interfaces (APIs) further extend administrative operations to customized scripts and enable integration with external management applications.

Recommended System Configurations

Storage Advisor provides comprehensive administrative capabilities: It covers configuration, storage pool and volume creation, replication and monitoring, which enable end-to-end management of the



Figure 1. Hitachi Storage Advisor GUI

IT infrastructure life cycle. Smart, guided configuration workflows include system configurations based on recommended practices to streamline system deployments for both block and file requirements.

Service-Level Optimized

Hitachi Storage Advisor enables easy alignment of infrastructure resources to required business application service levels. Storage resources are automatically grouped and categorized into tiered storage service profiles, such as gold, silver and bronze. This structure facilitates rapid storage infrastructure definition and alignment to your mission-critical business applications. It ensures applications and file servers are receiving the proper storage service levels for capacity and performance.

Business Benefits

Reduce Administrative Complexity

- Abstract management complexities to lower administrator expertise and training requirements.
- Employ innovative GUI elements to easily view and interpret key management information, such as available and used capacity.
- Work with an object-oriented design, which provides just the required information and available functions for each selected storage infrastructure resource.

Accelerate New Storage Infrastructure Deployments

- Integrate storage configuration workflows to streamline resource delivery for common business applications.
- Unify management across data types, reducing the number of required management applications and interfaces.
- Incorporate Hitachi recommended practices to improve storage management administration and operations.

Improve Total Cost of Ownership

- Deliver new shared storage resources without the need for professional services.

HITACHI STORAGE ADVISOR FEATURE HIGHLIGHTS

- Easy-to-use GUI to manage, monitor and maintain Hitachi Virtual Storage Platform (VSP) family, including VSP G1500, VSP G1000, VSP F1500, VSP Gx00 and VSP Fx00 models.
- Recommended system configurations based on best practices to simplify initial deployment.
- Common storage element manager to centralize management operations for the VSP family (VSP G1500, VSP G1000, VSP F1500, VSP Gx00 and VSP Fx00 models only).
- Status dashboard with an intuitive information gauge to provide a visual, at-a-glance summary of storage system capacity.
- Automated builds for storage array groups, storage pools and autozoning.
- REST-based API to provide full management programmability and control.
- Unified storage resource management from a common administrative console for both block and file-based requirements.
- Integrated storage administrative operations, including in-context launch of core storage element managers.
- Data optimization technology (deduplication and compression) management for VSP F1500 and G1500 storage volumes, as well as monitoring for overall space-saving efficiencies.
- Global-active device awareness and management capabilities for non-global-active-device resources of storage systems configured for global-active device.
- LUN path management workflow, which enables administrators to set customized paths between server World Wide Names (WWNs) and selected storage system ports.
- Support for large enterprise NAS environments; automation of the creation of file pools, which is achieved by implementing workflows to eliminate the complexities normally associated with NAS file pool setup and creation (embedded VSP NAS module only).
- Support for the management of file-based objects, such as file pools, file systems, virtual file servers, and file exports and shares.
- Multi-user administrative capabilities for improved productivity and reduced risk.
- Detailed system log files to store and track a daily log of all administrative operations for change management reporting and troubleshooting.

VSP
Models

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- Manage more storage resources per administrator and improve administrator productivity.
- Facilitate transition to an IT self-service model to reduce ongoing operational costs.

Services and Training

Hitachi Data Systems Global Services offers storage consultants, proven tools and methodologies, and a comprehensive

portfolio of service offerings to help you optimize alignment of storage to your business requirements. Our assessment, planning and design, installation, management and support services leverage Hitachi Storage Advisor. We help you to efficiently manage and automate your management practices, and realize the benefits of Storage Advisor quickly.

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