# WHY CUSTOMERS CHOOSE UNITY XT ALL-FLASH STORAGE FOR GENERAL PURPOSE VIRTUALIZED WORKLOADS

Unity XT arrays have modernized datacenters around the globe and delivering technology advances that simplify the task of keeping up with growing storage demands. Compared with previous generations, Unity XT All-Flash Storage Arrays are designed for performance, optimized for efficiency, and built for a multi-cloud world - with exceptional storage lifecycle simplicity. Unity XT All-Flash arrays drive better business, operational and economic value across your entire application portfolio.

## 1 | Designed for performance

Unity XT All-Flash Arrays deliver twice the performance of its predecessor for mixed and demanding workloads such as VDI, databases, and analytics. These modern All-Flash systems implement linear multicore scaling, zero impact drive firmware-based garbage collection, write coalescing minimizing IO, and intelligent wear leveling capabilities. With the latest dual-socket Intel processors, more cores and more memory, Unity XT has the power to run applications, process inline data reduction and deliver unified data services – simultaneously.

## 2 | Optimized for efficiency

Unity XT's low overhead leaves you more room for effective usable capacity and uses inline data reduction to provide a guaranteed 3:1 DRR with no assessment enabling you to store mode data in less footprint. In some cases, Unity XT All-Flash inline data reduction can deliver up to 129% greater data reduction rate and up to 94% faster provisioning than some competitive systems. Unity XT's modern design future-proofs your investment with 5-9's availability and a dual-active controller architecture.

## 3 | Unmatched simplicity

Unity XT represents the ultimate in midrange storage simplicity. These systems are simple to setup enabling installation in just a few minutes and in 15 minutes you're configured to go. Each Unity XT arrays is managed from the intuitive HTML5 Unisphere™ interface with access to multiple VMware and Microsoft integrations and simple service/support features through a self-service portal within Unisphere. If you're an IT generalist, you'll really like Unity XT's overall simplicity and ability to resolve issues faster. Additionally, Unisphere provides capabilities for data migration with built-in capabilities to easily and non-disruptively migrate file and block data from VNX, legacy Unity and 3rd party systems to Unity XT.

## 4 | All-inclusive software

Unity XT All-Flash systems include all the software you need to store, manage, and protect your data at no additional cost making it easy to purchase and own. A comprehensive software portfolio includes Unisphere Management Suite (HTML5), inline data reduction with zero detect, unified multi-protocols, unified snapshots and thin clones with Dell EMC AppSync integration, data at rest encryption, unified remote replication with Metrosync Manager, QoS, IP multi-tenancy, File level retention and much more.

## 5 | Built for multi-cloud

Unity XT All-Flash Arrays support multiple cloud deployment options including Validated Designs with VMware Cloud Foundation on AWS; Cloud Tiering Appliance for expanding block/file data to the cloud; Unity Cloud Edition with HA on VMware Cloud Foundation for consuming SAN/NAS services in AWS clouds; Multi-cloud Data Services enabled by Faction for Dell EMC Unity XT providing access to DRaaS and multi-cloud workload migration services. Also, Cloud Data Insights enables full access to CloudIQ, a cloud-based storage analytics application that's included at no cost with Unity XT arrays. It provides proactive monitoring of system health, performance, capacity, configurations, and on-array data protection metrics with anomaly detection.

## 6 | Metro node appliance

Metro node is a hardware add-on feature for Unity XT that provides true active-active synchronous replication over metro distances. In addition, metro node supports data mobility to non-disruptively relocate workloads to enable storage technology refresh without application downtime. Metro node is also the only solution available that provides true active-active configurations by allowing simultaneous writes at both sites and supports Recovery Point Objective (RPO) and Recover Time Objective (RTO) equal to zero downtime.

## 7 | Scalable file system

Unity XT All-Flash Arrays support enterprise and transactional NAS use cases with a new 256TBu file system. The UFS64 file system includes up to 256 independent VMDK clones, 16 thin clones, space efficient snapshots with a simple space reclaim and low IO impact, file system shrink that can reclaim free blocks, simplified Quotas for User, Tree and Group Quotas, and faster failovers with in-memory log replay for faster and non-disruptive failovers. Each array provides synchronous and asynchronous file replication with support for Metrosync Manger to monitor both sides of the synchronous replication, detect outages and automatically fail over the synchronized NAS Sever(s) and constituent filesystems and configurations from the source to target.

## 8 | Software-defined storage

Unity XT Virtual Software Appliance with HA (Dell EMC UnityVSA™) delivers the Unity XT operating environment as software-defined storage using the same management interface for deploying on a VMware ESXi server. Users can create shared storage with NAS and iSCSI SAN protocols and data services compatible with hardware platforms and deploy on industry-standard server hardware. With the flexibility of software-defined storage, users can quickly and easily deploy Dell EMC UnityVSA software-defined storage and fully supported capacity licenses up to 350TB for a variety of uses including ROBO, test and development and embedded applications, while maintaining full compatibility with their Unity XT platforms.

## 9 | Comprehensive data protection

Unity XT storage arrays advance the state of data protection with a range of features that are not only comprehensive but also included at no extra charge. The list of Unity XT data protection capabilities is extensive including unified snapshots with support for differentials, refresh, and vVol snaps; unified synch/asynch remote replication with support for throttling, interface pairing, snapshot replication and full copy avoidance; data-at-rest encryption (D@RE) to protect data without requiring special drives and multiple key manager support enabling centralized security administration; file-level retention (FLR) for protecting files from modification or deletion ensuring data integrity; and a limited number of RecoverPoint Basic licenses enabling continuous data protection and a zero RPO for your most critical application data.

## 10 | DevOps integrations

Containers are fast becoming the new software architecture paradigm and Kubernetes has emerged as a popular Container Orchestration platform choice. Dell EMC is at the forefront of developing solutions that enable customers to efficiently run containerized workloads while leveraging powerful storage integrations for DevOps workflows. Dell EMC Unity XT now supports the Container Storage Interface (CSI) plugin to run Kubernetes workloads. Automation is a major theme in IT Procurement discussions. The good thing is Automation no longer means programming-intensive and hard-to-maintain scripting. Tools like VMware vRealize Orchestrator (vRO) provides a drag and drop environment to quickly automate infrastructure operations and service delivery tasks. Unity XT supports vRO plugin enabling customers to automate end to end workflows spanning the entire infrastructure stack.

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