

Backups and Storage

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Sean has been working for over 20 years to provide Mac and IT support, most recently with IronGate Server Management in Ottawa.

After much research and data analysis he has determined that 100% of his client base, and likely yours, is... human. Individuals who, while likely intending to do the important things, end up reacting and focusing on the louder, more pressing 'urgent' things - leaving gaps in the safety nets protecting their digital lives.

It doesn't have to be that way.
And Sean is on a mission.



Outline

- Local Storage
- Network Storage
- What's Coming Next?
- Backups (You have them, right?)

Storage Nomenclature

- Hard Drive - Uses Magnetic Platters
- SSD(Solid State Drive) - Uses Flash Memory
- Hybrid Drive - Uses Hard Drive with Flash
- Fusion Drive - Uses Hard Drive and SSD



RAID

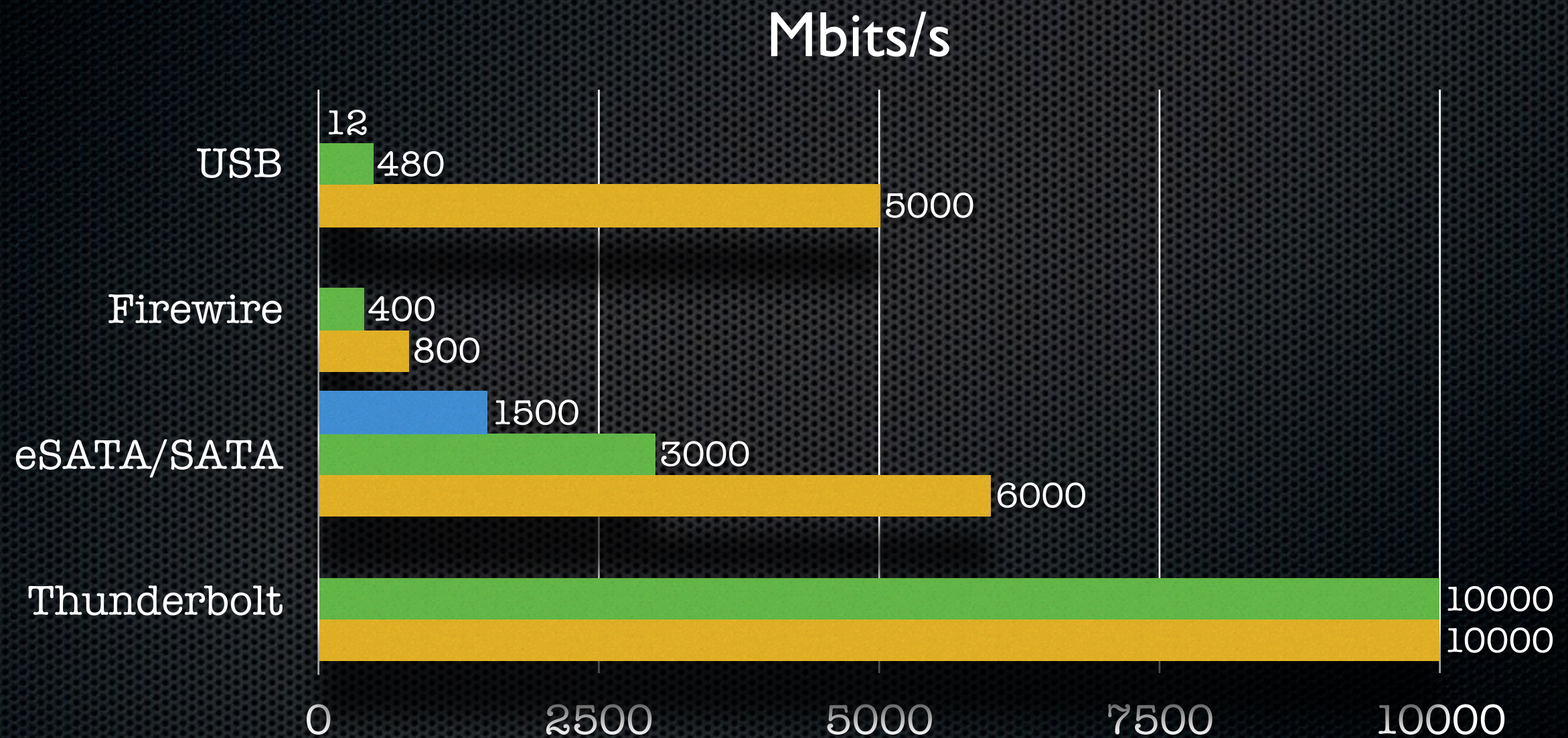
- RAID Levels:
 - 0 - Striped
 - 1 - Mirrored
 - 5 - Striped w/Parity
 - 6 - Striped w/Double Parity
 - 10 - Mirrored + Striping

RAID is not, however... a backup!

RAID in OS X

- Disk Utility
 - Striped, Mirrored and Concatenated (JBOD)
- In 10.8, it can be a boot volume (but without a recovery partition)

Bus Speeds & Performance



Local Storage: Classic approach

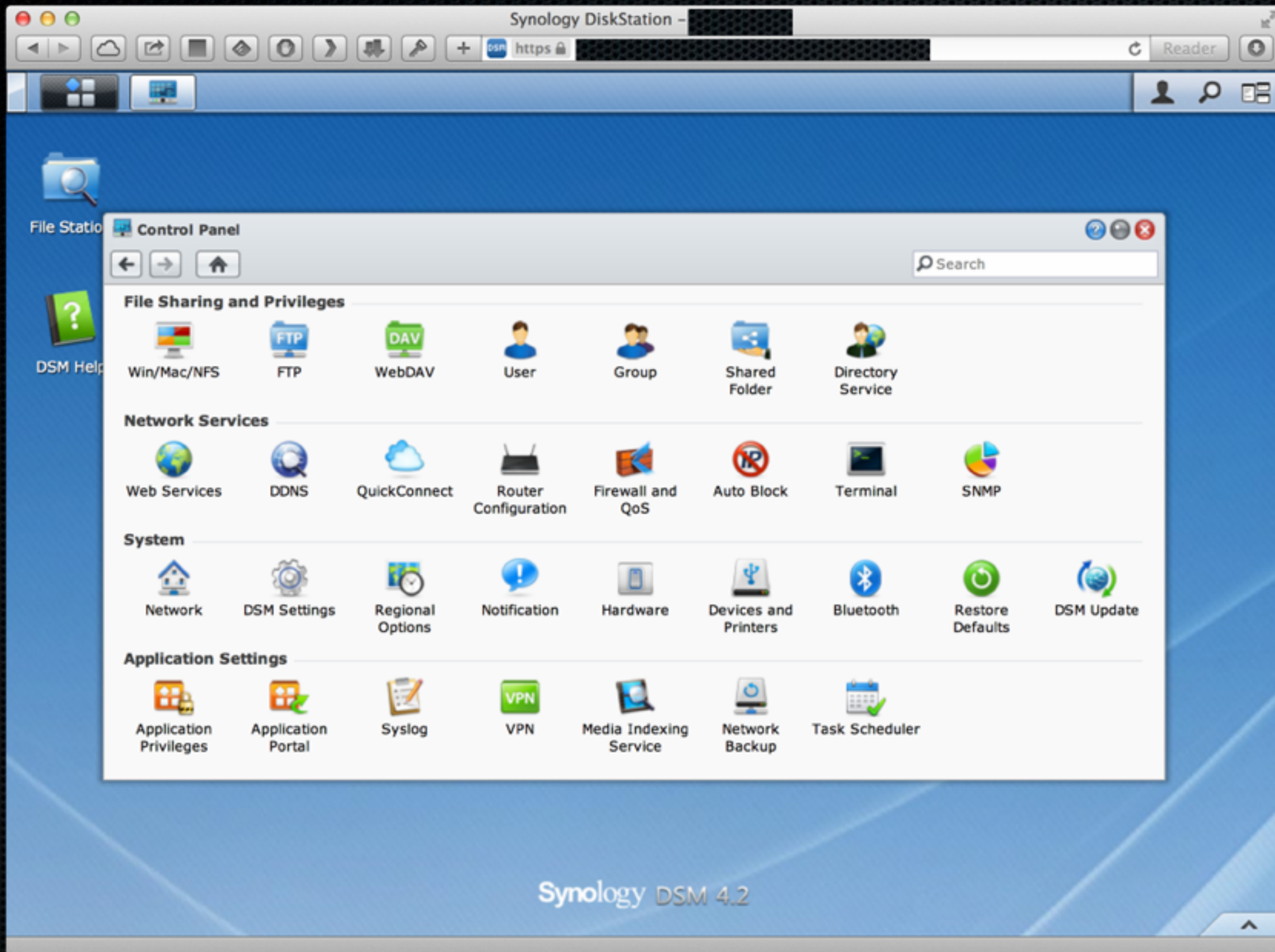
- Internal boot and storage. i.e. Mac Pro Server.
 - Big
 - Expensive
 - Powerful
 - Limited Storage (limited to 4 internal drives and RAID card)

Local Storage: modern approach

- Internal boot and external storage.
i.e., Mac Mini + external RAID.
 - Fast Storage with Thunderbolt
 - Potentially Underpowered
 - External Connections
 - Difficult to replace hard drives
 - Limited Internal Storage (2 internal drives)
 - Potentially slow network connection

Network Storage

- Network Storage appliance NAS/SAN
 - NAS - Network Attached Storage
 - SAN - Storage Area Network
- Some products are both.
- Network limitations - single network port, link aggregation.
- Might not be appropriate solution.



File Station

DSM Help

Control Panel

Search

File Sharing and Privileges

Win/Mac/NFS

FTP

WebDAV

User

Group

Shared Folder

Directory Service

Network Services

Web Services

DDNS

QuickConnect

Router Configuration

Firewall and QoS

Auto Block

Terminal

SNMP

System

Network

DSM Settings

Regional Options

Notification

Hardware

Devices and Printers

Bluetooth

Restore Defaults

DSM Update

Application Settings

Application Privileges

Application Portal

Syslog

VPN

Media Indexing Service

Network Backup

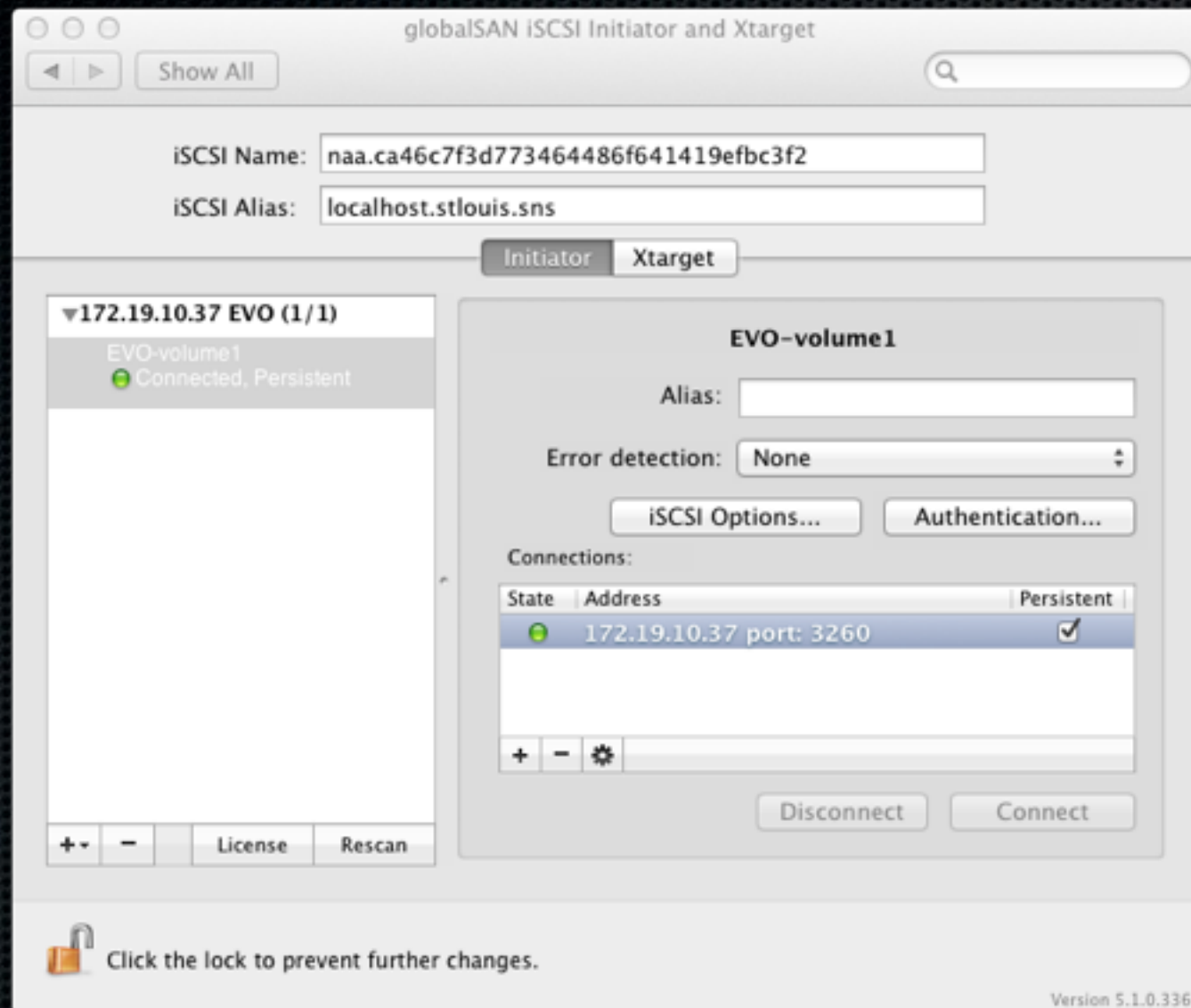
Task Scheduler

Synology DSM 4.2

SAN

- Block level based network storage - it is storage FOR a server.
- One large SAN can be shared to multiple servers for storage.
- Web based administration

iSCSI



- Allows you to connect a network volume as if it was local.

What's Coming Next?

- Faster storage:
 - Mac Mini Server HD - 100MBps
 - SATA SSD drive - 550MBps
 - Macbook Air SSD drive - 800MBps
 - Mac Pro SSD Drive - 1.2GBps
- Faster Networking:
 - 1 Gbe - 125MBps Duplexed 250MBps
 - 10Gbe - 1.25GBps Duplexed 2.5GBps

Backups

- Constructing a safe and sane backup plan that allows your customers to recover from likely threats to their 'working' data:
 - accidental deletion
 - intentional deletion (mal intent)
 - hardware failure
 - software corruption
 - natural disaster, fire, flood

Live Databases: Special Case Backups

- Examples: FileMaker, MySQL
- Use scripts for those

Backups (cont'd)

- Using unproven third party File Servers, or NAS devices as network Time Machine destinations
- Offering BackBlaze, Carbonite, MozyPRO, Dolly or other Cloud services
- Enterprise capabilities: CrashPlan, Druva, Retrospect, Archiware, etc...

Backups (cont'd)

- Clone utilities
 - Carbon Copy Cloner
 - SuperDuper!
 - Disk Utility
- Using other backup utilities
- The importance of "off-site" storage in a disaster recovery scenario.

Things to think about

- Manual backup vs. Automated backup
- Distributed data set backup
- Full vs. incremental vs. differential backup
- Disk Encryption: How it impacts backups
- Encryption in backups:
 - To the cloud and In the cloud
 - Protected disk images
 - External hardware encrypted volumes and thumb drives



Sync: Is it a backup?



- Google Drive, Sky Drive, Dropbox, and cloud services like them are great.



- Their primary function is synchronization and collaboration.



- Not truly built for restoration, but can definitely be part of the equation.

Archive: Is it a backup?

- DMG: Great for storing files in one enclosure for long period of time.
- Archive: Great for quickly collecting a set of files and keeping them all together.
- Not a backup, but part of the equation.





First Published: 19:36 IST(29/8/2011)
Last Updated: 19:38 IST(29/8/2011)

Branson loses autobiography in blaze

Airline tycoon Richard Branson has lost his autobiography and 15 years of handwritten notes after his British Virgin Islands house caught fire.

Actress Kate Winslet and 20 other guests were holidaying at the billionaire's home when lightening hit the wooden property and set it ablaze, reports contactmusic.com.

"My office was in the house and I lost everything in it. I'd got a long way into writing my autobiography and it's lost. Fifteen years of handwritten notebooks went and photographs and so on," Branson told Britain's The Sunday Times.

"Running a business, we have a meticulous computer backup system so I'd assumed all that was completely safe. But it turns out the backup was also in the house.

"Everything filed on the computers there in the past few years is lost, both business-related and personal... But these are things. And as long as you have your family and friends around you, they're not that important," he added.

<http://www.hindustantimes.com/StoryPage/Print/739287.aspx>

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The real test

- Regardless of which tools / approaches you suggest to your client, implore them to run (or have you run) fire-drill type restore tests, for both their protection and yours.

Questions?



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