

## Zend PHP

Support services

### Challenge

Company needed more IOPS in order to launch 100 virtual machines. Wanted easy data storage management from a single console.

### Benefits

Greater speed and performance. Better flexibility. Two-hour deployment. Simpler management. Improved functionality.

### Solution

NexentaStor™ 3.0 using Open Source technology

## BUSINESS OVERVIEW

Zend PHP is the leading developer of PHP and provides support services to customers around the world. Its IT systems are used to develop and test PHP solutions. From pilot to production, Zend helps increase the maturity of the PHP application life cycle through a combination of popular open source projects, enterprise-grade products, and comprehensive service and support.

Because of its internationally recognized expertise, the company continues to provide important leadership for PHP and plays a central role in its explosive growth.

Zend solutions run approximately 30% of the world's Web sites and provide lower costs, streamline provisioning of resources, and higher availability using Cloud services.

## CHALLENGES

Zend needed a simple, easy-to-use Web interface with increased performance capabilities. Administration of legacy systems was becoming too difficult, and costs per performance were skyrocketing.

Zend PHP needed significantly more IOPS (15,000 IOPS were required) than provided by its legacy storage system in order to launch more than 100 virtual machines to handle testing of major clusters and other Zend solutions. The company was using hundreds of snapshots, which it kept for one year. Recovery and access was a concern.

The in-house EMC solution was close to end of life and it was nearly impossible to get EMC to address speed requirements.

Legacy storage systems were expensive to obtain, operate, and expand. As one cost-saving measure, all in-house hardware needed to work together, smoothly and efficiently, including CIFS and VMware integration. Zend needed a highly scalable solution that was cost effective for future growth periods.

## SOLUTION OVERVIEW

After looking at several options, Zend chose NexentaStor and was able to deploy a turnkey solution in about two hours. The company was familiar with ZFS technology, and the overall cost of the solution fit into the limited budget they had to work with.

Now, storage management is extremely simple, yet the solution is much more flexible in terms of features and hardware configurations.

## System Configuration

- NexentaStor 3.0
- Nexenta Storage Server PowerEdge R710
- Intel Xeon E5506 Processors
- 2x 146GB SAS 6Gbos 10k
- 2x 50GB Solid State Disk 2.5" HD Hot Plug
- 7.5 TB NEAR LINE SAS 7,2k
- 32GB Memory (8x4GB Dual rank RDIMMs)

*"The Nexenta storage solution allows us to utilize VMware Lab Manager, which, with its cloned virtual environment, saves us time, simplifies administration, and streamlines production processes."*

**Andi Gutmans**  
CEO and Co-founder  
Zend Technologies



Nexenta certified partner, OpenStorage LTD, which has more than 50 deployments to its credit, helped Zend PHP size the system, allowing for future expansion of service requirements.

**Upgrading Performance:** In order to fulfil testing requirements, Zend deployed a Nexenta solution using SAS disks with SSDs, providing more than enough performance enhancements, plus room, to scale its capacity. Zend now is able to deploy hundreds of virtual machines in its testing environment.

**Disaster Recovery Plans:** With the Nexenta solution in place, Zend is deploying an additional disaster recovery solution in the United States, which will serve as local storage. The two sites can replicate each other for further access recovery protection.

With unlimited snapshot support, and the ability to maintain files for extended periods of time, Zend was able to acquire the best solution for its QA environment.

**Return on Investment:** From all the solutions researched, none fit the necessary requirements better than Nexenta. It allowed for growth, without deep, up front financial investments. VMware Lab Manager: Virtualization is key to Zend's overall strategy. NexentaStor allows Zend to utilize VMware for production implementation on Web servers and on database servers for the back end. Nexenta also provides automated management of highly transient and highly cloned virtual environments with VMware Lab Manager.

## BUSINESS BENEFITS

Nexenta provided a high-performance, low cost storage solution that allowed Zend to meet and exceed its present and future storage needs, without bankrupting the coffers. With the Nexenta solution, several key issues were addressed:

- Time pressures of a QA environment were eased and overall cost requirements fit into the company's limited budget, providing a greater than 50% cost savings over legacy solutions.
- QA testing environment immediately improved performance and productivity.
- Data migration was simple and straight-forward, taking less than six hours to be copied into NexentaStor.
- With NexentaStor, Zend now has the ability to add capacity on the fly, minimizing downtime, adding growth potential, all without the concern of vendor lock-in.

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