

Dell PowerStore vs. NetApp AFF

Dell PowerStore

Run VMware ESXi hosted apps via AppsON technology¹

Dell PowerStore with AppsON offers a purpose-built array with a built-in VMware ESXi hypervisor.

Anytime Upgrade², Industry's most flexible program for controller upgrades³

Optional controller upgrade program offers choice of next gen, higher model or discounted additional new controller.⁴ No subscription renewal required.

Support for SCM drives as persistent storage or metadata tier

Leverage SCM drives as persistent storage for your highest performance workloads, across all PowerStore models.

Always on, intelligent data reduction with 4:1 guarantee⁵

Always on, hardware-assisted data reduction that works proactively to optimize both capacity and performance. Average 4:1 data reduction guarantee, no assessment required.

Predictable software costs - Software Licensing independent of array storage capacity

No additional software license purchase required with addition of capacity to the array. No ongoing software costs.

Increased flexibility and performance with Dynamic Resiliency Engine (DRE) and distributed sparring

Scale granularly in increments, as little as one drive at a time. Spare space is distributed across all drives. DRE helps maximize performance and quickly resumes protection after failure as all drives are actively rebuilding the data.

Automated deployment of NVMe/TCP with SmartFabric Storage Software (SFSS)

Industry's first software tool for automating NVMe/TCP infrastructure discovery and configuration.⁶



NetApp AFF

No VMware ESXi support to host apps locally
No option to deploy app on the array.

No controller upgrade program

NetApp lacks a flexible upgrade program like Anytime Upgrade.

No support for SCM drives

No support for SCM persistent storage or metadata in the storage array.

Temperature sensitive data reduction with a 3:1 guarantee

Data is deduped in-line & compressed in line and/or post-process depending on the temperature of the data. 3:1 data reduction guarantee, no assessment required.

Variable software costs - Software licensing cost dependent on storage array capacity

Addition of capacity on the array requires purchase of additional software licensing. Software licensing costs grow with capacity.

Traditional RAID groups and dedicated spares

Busy individual volumes within RAID groups create potential hot spots. During a drive rebuild, only the drives in the affected RAID group are active; remaining drives in the other RAID groups are not involved in the rebuild process.

Manual configuration of NVMe/TCP

Must manually configure, discover, and deploy networking infrastructure for NVMe/TCP.

Comparison based on Dell analysis using publicly available information, July 2022.

¹Available on PowerStore X models only. ²Anytime Upgrade is available for purchase with PowerStore at POS only, and requires a ProSupport or ProSupport Plus contract with a 3, 4 or 5-year term. Upgrades available 180 days after invoice.

³Based on Dell analysis comparing the highest available program offers for controller upgrades, June 2022 ⁴Anytime Upgrades Select provides next gen controller from Anytime Upgrades Standard, plus choice of in-family upgrade or scale-out discount toward second appliance solution, availability may vary by model. Dell ProDeploy Plus is required for scale-out deployment. ⁵4:1 average rate guaranteed across customer applications. Rates for individual applications may vary.

See Future-Proof Program terms and conditions for details ⁶Based on Dell analysis comparing primary PowerMax NVMe/TCP tool (SFSS) usages vs competitive storage solutions, March 2022.

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