



Windows Unified Data Storage Server 2003

By developing dramatically simple management interfaces, introducing the Microsoft iSCSI Software Target, and enhancing remote administration capabilities, Microsoft® Windows® Unified Data Storage Server 2003 raises the bar in storage management ease and affordability.

Microsoft® Windows® Unified Data Storage Server 2003 is an important step forward in Microsoft data storage solutions.

The goal of unified storage is to provide an integrated solution offering file-level and block-level storage within the same device. Windows Unified Data Storage Server 2003 gives organizations the ability to deploy and efficiently manage an integrated storage solution that supports storage interface technologies for Storage Area Networks (SANs) with iSCSI, and Network-Attached Storage (NAS) with Server Message Block (SMB) and Network File System (NFS) support.

Windows Unified Data Storage Server 2003 adds a new, simplified, "Out-of-Box Experience" for storage resource configuration, a full-featured, integrated management interface, the Windows iSCSI Software Target, enhanced remote administration support, and includes all of the functionality previously available in Windows® Storage Server 2003 R2.

Windows Unified Data Storage Server 2003 is built on the proven Windows Storage Server 2003 R2 code base with all of its superior security, stability, performance and management advantages.

New Out-of-Box Experience
Windows Unified Data Storage Server 2003 provides administrators with straightforward, easy-to-use tools for the initial configuration and setup of their storage environment.

The new "Out-of-Box Experience" incorporates a single configuration utility that starts automatically at logon, guiding administrators through the initial setup. And for common configuration tasks, administrators will have access to all the appropriate tools through the "Initial Configuration Tasks" interface.

Integrated Data Storage Management

The new management console allows administrators to deploy, configure, and manage all storage technologies from a central location. Whatever storage technology solution is right for your situation, the administrator can utilize the same familiar Microsoft Management Console interface to implement that solution.

Unified Share and Storage Management Snap-in

With a consistent and familiar interface, the new Share and Storage Management MMC snap-in simplifies management of shares and volumes through unification of SMB and NFS share provisioning, integrating share and storage provisioning, and by providing an overview of storage and shares.

Microsoft Windows iSCSI Software Target

Windows Unified Data Storage Server 2003 supports implementation of an iSCSI SAN solution by providing access to external storage systems over Ethernet networks using the iSCSI initiator. Additionally, with the ability to act as an iSCSI target, Windows Storage Server can now provide additional storage for application servers, such as Microsoft Exchange Server, Microsoft® SQL Server™, or other database programs.

Remote Administration Enhancements

Key new functionality enables Windows Storage Server to be used and managed in environments that are not predominantly Windows-based. Remote administration can now be accomplished from either a Windows or a non-Windows machine with the same set of management capabilities.

Building on Windows Storage Server 2003 R2

Windows Unified Data Storage Server 2003 has been designed to supplement Windows Storage Server 2003 R2. So, in addition to the benefits provided by the new features described above, all editions of Windows Unified Data Storage Server 2003 will include full support for all of the features and functionality from Windows Storage Server 2003 R2.

Windows Unified Data Storage Server 2003 Key Features and Benefits

Windows Unified Data Storage Server 2003 is optimized for network storage devices, offering better support for key storage management scenarios, including share and storage provisioning, improved Out-of-Box Experience, and support for remote administration from non-Microsoft clients. Windows Unified Data Storage Server 2003 also includes new iSCSI target functionality that makes it possible to provide block storage services and file-level services.

ENHANCED MANAGABILITY	
Out-of-Box Experience (OOBE)	<p>The new Out-of-Box Experience (OOBE) system management interface provides a single configuration utility that starts automatically at logon, guiding administrators through the initial setup. The new "Initial Configuration Tasks" interface simplifies and streamlines tasks such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Setting administrative password, network settings, computer name, and domain membership • Configuring Windows Update and downloading updates • Creating or joining a cluster, and creating a highly available file server instance • Configuring NFS attributes and options
Integrated Data Storage Management	<p>The new management console improves storage system manageability by allowing administrators to configure and manage all storage technologies from a central location. Whether the storage technology includes existing Network-Attached Storage or new iSCSI SAN technology, you can utilize the same familiar MMC interface to manage that solution. By bringing together several major areas of management functionality in one MMC interface, the File Server Management node saves administrators the time and effort required to learn other third-party storage configuration tools.</p>
New Unified "Share and Storage Management" Snap-In	<p>Through use of a consistent and familiar interface, the Share and Management MMC snap-in simplifies management of shares and volume by providing unification of SMB and NFS share provisioning, integrated share and storage provisioning, and a unified overview of storage and shares.</p> <p>The unified "Share and Storage Management" snap-in consolidates already established storage management snap-ins, such as File Server Resource Manager (FSRM), the Storage Manager for SANs (SMfS), Disk Defragmenter, and Disk Management, making all the functionality available at the administrator's fingertips.</p>
INCREASED FUNCTIONALITY	
Microsoft Windows iSCSI Software Target	<p>The new Microsoft iSCSI Software Target available in Windows Unified Data Storage Server 2003 adds iSCSI target capability to storage servers, enabling you to combine file, print, and block storage services on a single platform. New Microsoft iSCSI Software Target wizards give you the ability to easily create and manage iSCSI targets, create and manage disks for storage, and implement backup and recovery support using snapshots.</p>
Remote Administration Enhancements	<p>Administrators can remotely administer a server running Windows Unified Data Storage Server 2003 by connecting a client computer browser to http://servername/admin. The server detects the client OS and launches the ActiveX® RDP client for Windows computers, or Java RDP support for non-Windows computers. The same server management capabilities are supported with either connection method.</p>
New End-to-End Storage and Share Provisioning Wizards	<p>As part of the initial setup and configuration of storage and shares provisioning, the Provision Storage Wizard and the Provision a Shared Folder Wizard can be run one after the other to provide a seamless, unified provisioning experience for SMB and NFS storage. Tasks which can be accomplished through the wizards include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Configuring quotas to restrict the quantity of data • Configuring file screening to prevent certain file types or allow only certain file types (as defined by the administrator) • Enabling indexing
Support for Volumes Greater Than 2 Terabytes in Clusters	<p>In a cluster with servers running Windows Unified Data Storage Server 2003, Enterprise Edition, and using an external storage array as the shared cluster disk, you can use iSCSI Software Target to share highly available storage. Windows Unified Data Storage Server 2003 supports 2 Terabytes and greater volumes in clusters, providing greater capacity for critical applications like Exchange Server, SQL Server, and other database applications that access data at the block level.</p>

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