CuriosityStream

ATTO ThunderLink® devices provide SVOD platform with reliable, high-bandwidth connectivity

Solution Components
ATTO Products:
- FC 2162 and FC 2082 Thunderbolt™ adapters

Infotrend Products:
- EonStor DS 3060

About ATTO Technology
With a focus toward markets that require higher performance, ATTO manufactures host bus adapters, RAID adapters, network adapters, RAID storage controllers, Thunderbolt™ adapters and software. ATTO solutions provide a high level of connectivity to interfaces including Fibre Channel, SAS, SATA, iSCSI, 10GbE, and Thunderbolt. ATTO distributes its products worldwide through Original Equipment Manufacturers (OEMs), Systems Integrators and Value Added Resellers (VARs). www.atto.com

About Infotrend
Supporting storage protocols including Fibre Channel, iSCSI, SAS, SATA and SCSI, Infotrend products and solutions can be readily implemented in storage area networks (SAN), direct attached storage (DAS), and network attached storage (NAS) environments. Additionally, to meet top-tier application needs across business environments, Infotrend products and solutions are tested compatible with enterprise-level operating systems (OS) such as Windows®, Server 2008, Solaris®, Linux®, IBM AIX®, HP-UX®, and server virtualization software such as VMware®, Oracle®, Citrix® and Microsoft Hyper-V. www.infotrend.com

CuriosityStream, a subscription video on demand (SVOD) platform that provides ad-free, on-demand factual television content to its subscribers via websites, mobile apps and streaming devices, was experiencing a large amount of data growth as it expanded its library of technology, history and science-based content. To ensure a continued smooth workflow, the company needed to upgrade to a shared storage system that would provide the necessary high read-write speeds and bandwidth for multiple editors to work simultaneously on multiple video streams. In addition, the system needed to be scalable to accommodate future business demands of its operations.

ThunderLink®: High-Performance, Data Integrity, Reliability
To meet its requirements, CuriosityStream selected ATTO Technology, Inc. Thunderbolt™ enabled FC 2162 and FC 2082 ThunderLink® adapters to connect multiple Mac workstations running Final Cut Pro X and Adobe After Effects to an Apple Xsan storage network. The ThunderLink FC 2162 and FC 2082 act as external Thunderbolt 2 to Fibre Channel adapters to connect workstations and laptops to 16Gb/s and 8Gb/s Fibre Channel storage devices, respectively. With dual channel configurations, they are an ideal solution for users of small form-factor and mobile platforms who require the highest I/O and data throughput for advanced video applications. ATTO exclusive MultiPath Director™, a feature found in the ThunderLink adapters used by CuriosityStream, adds improved data integrity and reliability to the solution by providing multiple paths to storage.

Said Ray German, server manager for CuriosityStream, “We were concerned at first when Apple moved away from PCI in favor of Thunderbolt connectivity. But we have been pleasantly surprised by the performance, ease of use and stability provided by ATTO ThunderLink adapters. They have consistently provided our editors with the low-latency access to multiple streams of high-definition video necessary to perform their jobs.”

For German, ATTO reputation for quality was also a factor in choosing Thunderbolt adapters: “The devices have been maintenance-free. Basically, once configured, they just work, every day, without issue. We have been very happy with the speeds and found that the devices perform per ATTO specs.”

The shared storage component of CuriosityStream’s system is provided by Infotrend’s EonStor DS 3060. The Infotrend EonStor DS 3000 Series features the company’s exclusive SANWatch 3.0, a browser-based interface to consolidate storage management, and embedded RAIDWatch 3.0 for data protection. A dual controller 4U 60-bay storage system, the DS 3060 combines high availability with space-saving high density and large capacity. With up to 1.3M IOPS and 5,500 MB/s throughput, it provides the needed bandwidth to enhance media applications.