



Enhancing the Learning Experience, Delivering Workflow Efficiencies and Protecting Assets with an iQstor SAN

iQstor Customer: La Sierra University

In an era where colleges and universities have been forced to slash IT budgets, administrators are faced with a daunting challenge: to select technology that is affordable, easy-to-manage with small IT staffs, and has the ability to scale to meet growing educational demands on campus. For Southern California's La Sierra University, the search required a versatile solution that could address these requirements AND serve administration, faculty and students to increase workflow efficiencies and enhance the learning experience.

La Sierra's solution? They deployed iQstor Networks' intelligent iQ1000 Fibre Channel SAN solution to provide a storage network foundation for the university's IT infrastructure. Using iQstor, the university has gained enhanced network efficiencies and increased storage utilization while decreasing overall costs in their day-to-day activities -- a winning solution for students, faculty and administration.

Supporting tomorrow's needs today

La Sierra needed a solution that would meet their expanding administrative needs, support future initiatives, and allow for simple and straightforward management by the university's small IT staff. Acquiring iQstor's iQ1000 Fibre Channel Storage System with 2.2 Terabytes of disk space, La Sierra University is using the system's embedded enterprise-level intelligence to solve needs in three major areas:

- to consolidate storage from campus file servers into a unified and virtualized storage pool;
- to allow faculty to protect the data stored on their laptops by backup to the SAN; and,
- to provide streaming multimedia feeds to classrooms and for distance learning applications.

The selection of iQstor's affordable, yet highly advanced storage system brings next generation, intelligent technology to La Sierra University. With its embedded enterprise-level storage management and data services features, including storage virtualization, snapshot, mirroring, remote replication, capacity management and policy-based storage provisioning, iQstor is positioned to provide a cost-effective and reliable solution that fits the needs of La Sierra and other forward looking educational institutions.

"Using iQstor, we have found a SAN solution that meshes scalability, ease-of-use, and cost-effectiveness to allow us to easily serve our growing student population with an infrastructure that delivers network efficiencies, increased storage utilization and decreased overall costs," said Sam Young, director of Information Technology for La Sierra University.

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Director of Information Technology
La Sierra University

Business Challenge:

Select a scalable, cost-effective storage networking solution that would support current and future needs of the school's administrative, faculty and student body.

Solution:

Deploy an iQstor iQ1000-powered SAN that allows La Sierra University to consolidate and virtualize campus storage; provides an intelligent backup resource to protect school databases and information on faculty laptops; and delivers streaming content for classroom and distance learning applications.



CUSTOMER SUCCESS STORY

By deploying iQstor's iQ1000, La Sierra University addressed each of their objectives to create a multipurpose storage network that provides avenues for workflow efficiencies, data protection and advanced teaching solutions.

Storage consolidation: In creating their storage network infrastructure using the iQ1000, La Sierra aimed to increase workflow efficiency for the administrative staff. This included linking campus servers to consolidate data, bringing the tons of paperwork, staff documentation, student data and teacher accreditation information together into a virtualized storage pool for quick access. The storage network resource also includes ongoing document imaging with audio and video materials. In addition, unified messaging for the campus (e-mail, voice and fax), accessible via Microsoft Outlook is also available through the SAN

Data protection and backup: La Sierra uses the iQ1000 SAN for backup of database information and assets at the university at multiple levels. Administration and faculty can easily connect into the SAN to protect and backup their local data from laptops and remote computers.


Enhancing the teaching experience: La Sierra, always striving to provide the richest educational experience for its students, is also using iQstor's storage solution to deliver video clips through browser directly into the classroom. Multimedia animation can be created and filmed in the classroom, stored on the SAN, then rebroadcast into other classes or via the Internet for distance learning applications.

"With iQstor," Young continued, "we have witnessed the value of storage consolidation and centralized backup first hand, and now have the capability to easily provide streaming video for classrooms as well as distance learning and online courses for faculty and students."

Indeed, the ability to implement a solution that can support students, faculty and tomorrow's programs today – at the highest levels – allows forward-looking universities like La Sierra the opportunity to stay competitive and stretch their IT dollars.

About iQstor Networks, Inc.

A privately-held company based in Newbury Park, CA, iQstor is a leader in the innovative design and delivery of storage solutions with embedded enterprise level functionality to channel partners worldwide. Its storage solutions include the iQ1000 Storage System, policy-based storage management, data services software, professional services, support and training.



Storage Solution Configuration

- iQ1000 FC Storage System
- 2.2 TB Disk Space
- Storage Virtualization
- Dynamic Provisioning
- Managed Snapshot Services
- Local Mirror
- Remote Replication Services
- Intelligent Capacity Management
- iQstor SAN Manager



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