



# Venetian Resort Hotel Casino

## QLogic Case Study



### Resort Comes Up Lucky With QLogic SANbox2™

**Problem** | DAS environment ineffective under growing demands.

**Solution** | Innovative, cost-effective SAN using QLogic infrastructure.

**Result** | Storage consolidation, accelerated backup, management simplified.



When the Venetian Resort Hotel Casino contacted West Coast Technology (WCT) to help the luxurious Las Vegas resort create the ideal SAN environment, the data-storage professionals advised them that QLogic® was the odds-on

favorite for switches, host bus adapters (HBAs) and SAN management software.



Venetian IT Director Steve Vollmer was thoroughly convinced after two SANbox2 16-port switches were easily connected to the resort's 10 Windows-based servers in just under two days.

"As the amount of data we stored continued to expand, it had placed new demands on our IT infrastructure," Vollmer said. "This solution addressed our requirements to consolidate storage, accelerate backups and simplify storage management."

At WCT, the decision to use QLogic was based on system performance, as well as the resort's budget. "QLogic is our first source," said Rick Crane, WCT President, adding that QLogic sent a systems engineer to provide support during installation. "We like the company's aggressive pricing, excellent product and friendly customer service."

#### The Move Toward Storage Consolidation

The Venetian Resort-Hotel-Casino, a recipient of the Exxon/Mobile Four-Star Award and AAA's Four-Diamond Award, is one of the world's most luxurious resort and convention destinations. Located in the heart of the Las Vegas Strip, The Venetian features a wide variety of entertainment venues, as well as extensive convention and corporate services.

To say The Venetian's storage infrastructure had reached its limit would be an understatement: the Exchange e-mail system had grown to more than 1,000 clients, and multiple Microsoft SQL databases were struggling to support Human Resources, POS transactions, Web activity, Players Club, marketing efforts, dispatch logs and investigations.



SANbox2-16

HIGH-AVAILABILITY  
FIBRE CHANNEL SWITCH



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The transition from a diverse direct-attached storage (DAS) environment to a consolidated SAN solution quickly became integral to the resort's business model as the amount of raw information grew. In addition to an outlandish number of man-hours being spent backing up data, IT personnel realized that they required a remote mirroring site as a hedge against disaster recovery.

"With all this data, our backups were taking over 18 hours a day to complete," Vollmer said, adding that backup performance has increased 800 percent with the SAN installation. "Plus, if we encountered any problems during the backup process, we were often unable to complete it within the backup window."

WTC proposed a Nexsan Technologies storage array, 20 QLogic SANblade™ HBAs, two SANbox2 16-port Fibre Channel switches and QLogic SANsurfer Management Suite'.

### The QLogic Solution

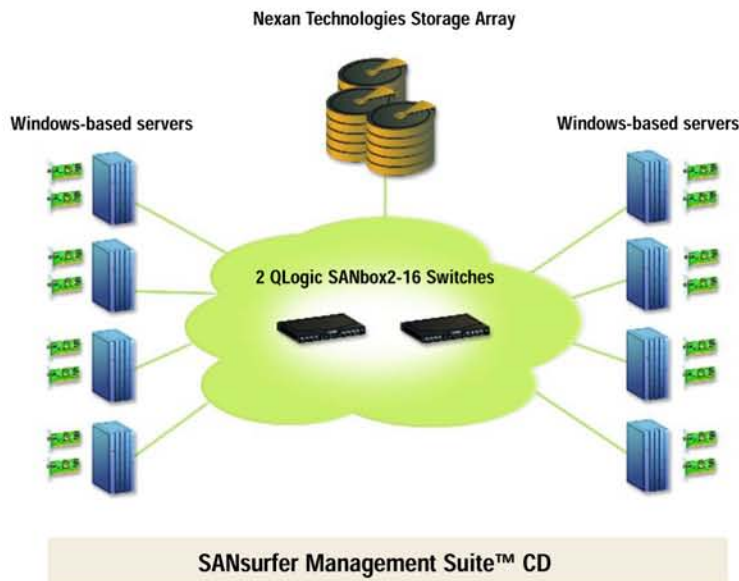
The SANbox2 is the ideal switch to connect the resort's 1.6 terabytes of storage. With SANbox2 switches, businesses can easily build powerful storage networks that are fully interoperable with any servers, networking equipment and storage subsystems. Certified to work with every major storage management application, SANbox2 switches are fabric-ready out of the box.

Moreover, the 20 SANblade HBAs provide The Venetian's SAN with fast, reliable and efficient data flow without bottlenecks. All of these critical components are driven by the QLogic SANsurfer Management Suite, which unifies remote Fibre Channel HBA and switch management control into a single, easy-to-use, point-and-click console using on-site or remote hosts.

"The transition has been seamless as far as our users are concerned," Vollmer said. "They continue to use the systems just as they always have."

Meanwhile, the resort is busy implementing an advanced disaster recovery extension in which critical data is copied to a second data center on their property.

Said Vollmer, "Mirroring data between two sites will give us a very affordable and flexible disaster recovery solution."



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