

Brochure

Create enterprise storage solutions effectively

HPE Virtual Connect Flat SAN direct-attach technology for HPE 3PAR Storage Systems



Hewlett Packard
Enterprise

Achieve virtualization efficiency easily

Today's data centers are undergoing rapid changes with trends such as virtualization, cloud, and mobility setting the pace. The impact of these trends on your networks, however, can be of increasing complexity. It's vital that you simplify to gain the agility required to keep pace with the changing scenario. In addition to complexity, you may also face challenges in the management of your network and server connections. Not addressing these challenges effectively can directly limit the success of virtualization and cloud deployments in your network.

Shrink functional silos

HPE Virtual Connect solution provides simplified storage, server, and network management in virtualized environments. Server and virtual machine (VM) connections to LANs and SANs are simplified—vastly freeing up resources of time and power. Virtual Connect liberates administrators from the constraints of a traditional infrastructure by bringing “wire-once” simplified management between networks and servers. Wire-once technology can help you add, move, or change servers in minutes, thus saving time and improving agility—and eventually providing direct connections to thousands of servers. It also shrinks functional silos between the server, storage, and network administrators by providing tools to collaborate together in the management of a virtualized data center. In addition, with the HPE FlexFabric architecture used in these solutions, you can get improved network utilization and performance.

It's vital that you are able to consolidate thousands of virtual machines onto the single storage system that's connected via HPE Virtual Connect. With the advent of the highly scalable HPE 3PAR Storage Systems, you get this benefit in addition to greater performance and non-disruptive workload migration. Virtual Connect connects with HPE 3PAR Storage Systems through an intermediate SAN fabric to create your storage solution. However, this fabric can be expensive, and can result in increased complexity and IT infrastructure costs.

The newest addition to the Virtual Connect family is a solution that enables small to medium environments to get-up-and-running rapidly with HPE 3PAR storage arrays connected to HPE BladeSystem c-Class servers. You can now connect HPE 3PAR Storage Systems directly to the HPE Virtual Connect FlexFabric Module, and remove the need for an intermediate SAN fabric.

HPE Virtual Connect Direct Attach Fibre Channel (FC), also known as Flat SAN technology, for HPE 3PAR Storage Systems lets you worry less about storage solution complexity. The need for an expensive intermediate SAN fabric to create the connection between Virtual Connect and HPE 3PAR Storage Systems devices no longer exists. In addition to being much more cost-efficient, management of your storage solution is made easier. Valuable IT resources are freed up, along with reduced costs.

HPE Flat SAN direct attach technology is available on the following Virtual Connect modules:

- HPE Virtual Connect FlexFabric-20/40 F8
- HPE Virtual Connect FlexFabric 10/24 port

Make server connection management a breeze

Storage solutions usually include components such as server Host Bus Adapters (HBAs), SAN switches/directors, optical transceivers/cables, and storage systems. You may have concerns about management and efficiency, because of the sheer number of components. Moreover, different components require different tools—such as SAN fabric management, storage management (for each type of storage), and HBA management.

HPE Flat SAN with HPE 3PAR Storage Systems including the StoreServ 7200/8200 Series helps you to:

Reduce costs

- Do away with the need for expensive SAN fabrics, HBAs, and cables
- Save on operating costs and cut down on capital expenditure
- Scale with the “pay-as-you-grow” model, which lets you pay for only what you need now

Overcome complexity

- Flat SAN and Virtual Connect FlexFabric Fibre Channel Flexports connect directly to HPE 3PAR FC storage, simplifying your server connections
- Improve efficiency with automated fabric management with simplified management tools
- Configure your Virtual Connect as “direct attach” or “fabric attach,” depending on your solution design

Simplify management

- Manage through a single pane of glass with HPE OneView (v.1.20/2.0/3.0), Virtual Connect Manager Web-based and Command Line Interfaces
- Use Virtual Connect technology to further improve management efficiency
- Reduce disparity with separate fabric and device management

Boost operations

- Automatically provision storage and attach 3PAR volumes to server profiles in HPE OneView
- Simplify SAN zoning with HPE OneView and 3PAR StoreServ, supported by policy-based deployment to eliminate errors in zoning and configuration
- Enable Flat SAN profile mobility across c-Class enclosures

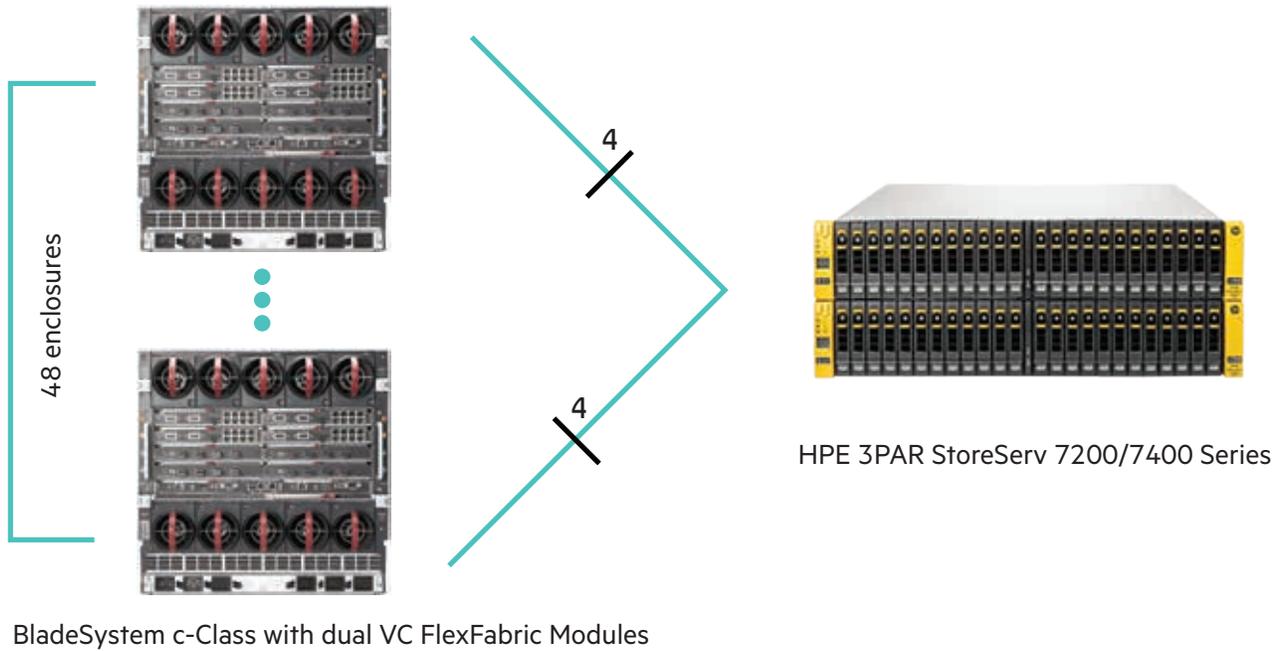


Figure 1: Virtual Connect FlexFabric direct attach with FC based HPE 3PAR StoreServ Storage Systems

The HPE advantage

Network complexity can make managing your data center confusing. HPE is committed to being with you every step of the way, and to helping you make an informed decision about your data center solution. Our solutions liberate you from worry and let you focus on innovation and handling your business.

Transformational improvements are best effected with HPE, with more than 45 years of infrastructure technology services experience. HPE is unique in its breadth of capabilities to deliver a robust offering that addresses your unique needs.

Learn more

Reduce the complexity of your enterprise storage solution by embracing HPE Virtual Connect Flat SAN technology for HPE 3PAR Storage Systems. For more information, visit hpe.com/info/virtualconnect



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