RapidCompute
Upgrades its Services with a Primary Storage Solution by StorPool Storage

About RapidCompute

RapidCompute™ is Pakistan's first enterprise-class public cloud computing platform founded in 2012. The company is an Infrastructure as a Service (IaaS) cloud provider offering a high performing, standards-based, flexible and robust cloud solution to power the mission-critical applications of businesses.

RapidCompute's customers are able to enjoy the flexibility and efficiency required by every enterprise to fully utilise cloud technologies. They serve their customers out of multiple data centres managed by their team of highly skilled and dedicated engineers. With their intuitive self-service portal, customers get to comfortably operate and manage their virtual machines and quickly scale up or down as their business needs evolve.

The Challenge

RapidCompute is known for being fully committed to providing the best cloud experience to local enterprises and small businesses alike. As a growing company that is constantly seeking to improve its services and meet global standards, RapidCompute wanted to upgrade its infrastructure and evolve its storage system to gain even more flexibility and operational efficiency.

RapidCompute had five major challenges that needed to be addressed by the new primary storage solution selected to optimize their cloud platform:

- The solution had to bring both cost-efficiency by utilizing off-the-shelf hardware and operating cost optimization through end-to-end automation of the RapidCompute services.
- They needed an agile solution that delivers multiple tiers to solve the different storage challenges they address for end customer workloads daily.
- They needed a speedy solution that delivered extremely high performance to address the heavily-loaded transactional databases backing modern enterprise software.
- The solution needed to have linear scalability through online scaling out with additional physical servers and non-disruptive hardware refreshes on timelines set by RapidCompute.
- Their team needed a specific feature set like faster recovery time, quick rebuild times, higher fault tolerance, and easy migration from their legacy storage system.

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Technology Stack
- **Applications:** Enterprise resource planning, supply chain management, and other enterprise software
- **Cloud Platform:** CloudStack, OpenStack, and VMware
- **Hypervisor:** XenServer, KVM, and VMware ESXi
- **Storage:** StorPool Storage
- **OS:** CentOS
- **Network:** Dell and Huawei
- **Servers:** Dell and Supermicro with NVMe SSDs or hard disk drives

www.rapidcompute.com
@RapidCompute
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The Solution

RapidCompute did extensive research on the different storage solutions. They wanted to migrate their whole storage system from NexentaStor to a more flexible and reliable solution. It was also essential that the new primary storage platform would meet their customers' expectations and needs. RapidCompute selected StorPool Storage based on the software's features and flexibility. The solution met the project's high requirements, addressed their major challenges, and had the ability to overhaul RapidCompute's cloud platform.
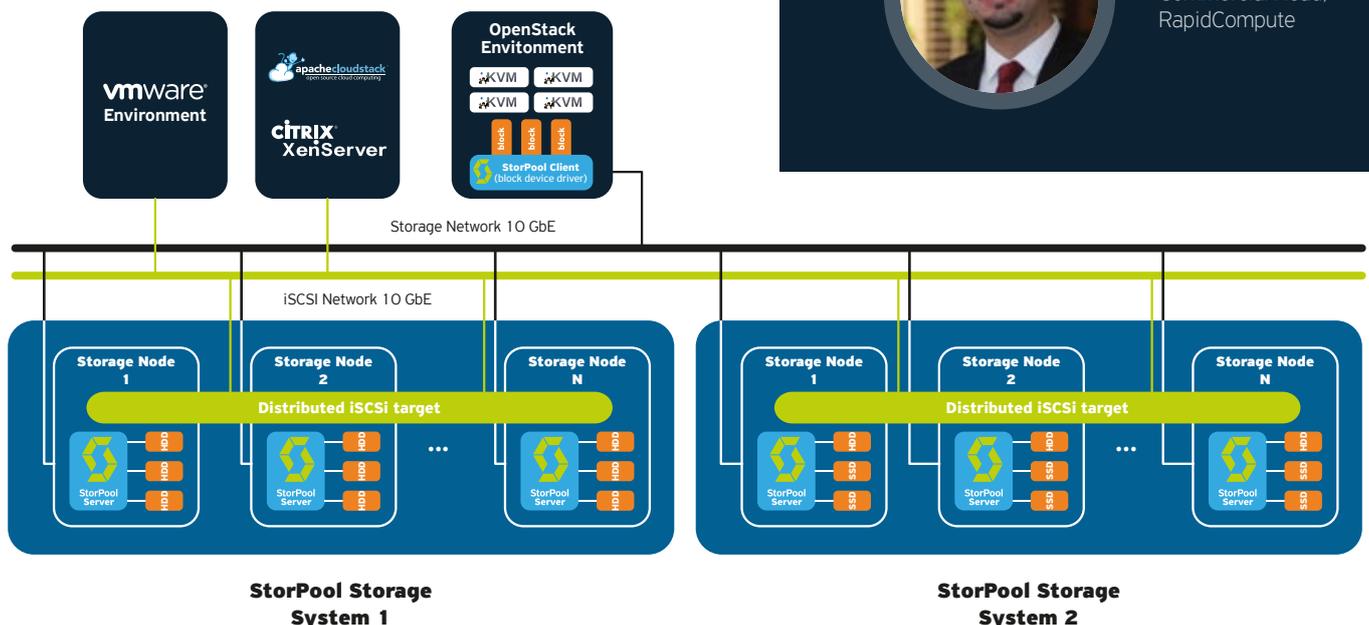
Two primary storage systems are already deployed, and the teams are working on increasing the number of environments powered by StorPool Storage with three more storage systems. One of the deployed storage clusters is a 9-node deployment connected over iSCSI to a CloudStack environment managing XenServer hypervisors. The other is a 5-node deployment connected to OpenStack with KVM. Both storage environments also serve the primary storage needs of multiple VMware hosts. In summary, the StorPool storage systems are being used to manage the critical data of the virtualized primary workloads of RapidCompute's end customers.

In addition to the purely technical advantages delivered by the software, StorPool Storage was selected to serve the primary storage needs for all of RapidCompute's clouds because of the utterly hands-off support included with the software license. StorPool's experienced storage experts design, deploy, tune, monitor, and maintain each StorPool storage system. Thanks to StorPool's hosted monitoring suite, they track hundreds of metrics per second, proactively open support tickets, and quickly deal with any storage issues before anyone at RapidCompute even notices them. The RapidCompute team gets to focus on building their business with the peace of mind that their cloud's foundation is running optimally.

> *A significant number of local enterprises finds it difficult to adopt hyperscale cloud because of a common practice that they build applications on monolithic architecture. Such single-tiered applications due to their complex nature are performance hungry and demands low latency. With StorPool we aim to target such customer base and add critical workloads on Rapid.*

Shahzaib Khan
Commercial Head,
RapidCompute

How StorPool Optimizes the Infrastructure of RapidCompute

StorPool Storage is a very mature, fully distributed primary storage solution. It delivers all the key features required by RapidCompute, like maintaining the maximum possible performance of the cluster in case of storage device or node failure. Also, there is no noticeable performance impact during the storage device or node rebuilding and rebalancing processes. The solution also provides quality-of-service settings and encryption of data at rest.

With StorPool Storage, RapidCompute managed to achieve better performance of its services and guarantee an even better experience to its end customers with zero downtimes. Overall, service quality improved and StorPool offloaded their IT teams, giving them the opportunity to focus on the important projects that aim to grow the RapidCompute business.

> *Our experience with StorPool has been outstanding. We have saved substantial time managing operations and have experienced zero downtime. The solution is an excellent value for money and the team we work with is very professional and goes the extra mile in addressing any concerns we have.*

Imtiaz A Khan
CTO, RapidCompute

Key Benefits

- The complete StorPool solution delivers a lower total cost of ownership compared to other storage products
- Saving of 30 workdays per year that would be spent on routine storage tasks - a whole month of productive work is returned to the RapidCompute team
- StorPool Storage satisfied the key technical requirements of RapidCompute, delivering more flexibility and productivity with the same cloud infrastructure
- RapidCompute experienced a smooth deployment and migration process that was handled well by both teams
- StorPool offloaded RapidCompute's tech team and now handles the monitoring and management of the cloud's storage layer.
- RapidCompute experienced a reduction in downtime by 100% - they have not experienced any downtime since the implementation of the StorPool solution.

Learn more at www.storpool.com

StorPool Storage is a primary storage platform designed for large-scale cloud infrastructure. It's the easiest way to convert sets of standard servers into primary storage systems. The StorPool team has experience working with various clients - Managed Services Providers, Hosting Services Providers, Cloud Service Providers, enterprises, and SaaS vendors. StorPool Storage comes as a software, plus a fully-managed data storage service that transforms standard hardware into fast, highly available, and scalable storage systems.