

Information availability with the IBM PureFlex System and Vision Solutions

Transforming business through information availability on expert integrated systems



Highlights

- IBM PureFlex System and Vision Solutions help protect virtual and physical resources through integrated management
 - Provides business continuity for PureFlex Systems across multiple platforms including IBM i, AIX®, Microsoft Windows and Linux
 - Migration Solutions from Vision help allow customers to seamlessly migrate to PureFlex Systems to reduce data center complexity and sprawl
 - Virtual appliances allow for improved deployment simplicity
 - Integrated IBM Flex System Manager provides ease of management
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Companies of all sizes rely on IT and data to run their businesses; unplanned outages, system downtime, and slow performance impact the bottom line. Yet 50 percent of small-medium businesses have no disaster recovery plan.¹ Rather than taking steps to ensure IT plays a strategic role in a company's future, many spend too much time, money and effort to "keep the lights on." Today's data-driven marketplace requires that businesses use IT to transform their companies, but business innovation can't be delivered when the underlying infrastructure that supports the strategic use of IT is lacking.

The combination of the IBM® PureFlex System™ with Vision Solutions Double-Take and MIMIX high availability, disaster recovery, and migration suites help make maintaining a highly available environment more efficient, while making disaster recovery more reliable. In addition, management and control are more agile, efficient and simple, giving IT more time to help transform the business.

Vision Solutions has more than 20 years of experience in developing, implementing and supporting high availability and disaster recovery solutions on IBM platforms. Now optimized for the PureFlex System—an integrated computing system that combines compute, storage, networking, virtualization, and management into a single structure—Vision Solutions' MIMIX and Double-Take Availability solutions help prevent



unplanned outages and virtually eliminate planned downtime so business systems can keep running around the clock. Vision Solutions products enable administrators to protect critical information and recover lost data in a fraction of the time and effort of traditional tape backup. Additionally, they help to optimize environments for peak performance while integrating data between disparate platforms to make better use of critical information.

Virtually eliminate both planned and unplanned downtime

MIMIX Availability offers a strong architectural foundation for a reliable high availability solution that is uniquely optimized for the PureFlex System, including powerful integration with the IBM Flex System Manager. This helps deliver high levels of scalability, flexibility and customizability by providing critical system and application availability information and status, and by automating optimization of IBM i environments to improve system efficiency, performance and resilience

Double-Take RecoverNow provides comprehensive, real-time application and data protection for the PureFlex System and supports both physical and virtual environments running IBM's AIX operating system. It is designed to provide RTO and RPO attainment that meets the most aggressive regulatory mandates and SLAs, integration with IBM PowerHA® for AIX for full-featured high availability with offsite disaster recovery protection, and support of heterogeneous storage environments.

Double-Take Availability was one of the first to provide comprehensive protection and migration capabilities for virtualized environments. It now supports the PureFlex System, providing ease of management in virtualized environments, including the ability to configure the protection of virtual machines (VMs) in

aggregate without the need to pre-install software on each VM. This reduces the management effort and time it takes to protect a virtual environment.

Double-Take Availability for Windows and Linux is designed to help businesses exceed their RTOs and RPOs by providing unified, real-time high availability and immediate disaster recovery capabilities across physical and virtual environments using real-time replication. This enables server protection and failover executed in minutes, not hours, as well as near-zero data loss using existing hardware, software and network with no distance limits for backup server.

Double-Take Move can offer virtually no-downtime physical and virtual migrations to avoid late night or weekend migrations. Double-Take Move helps you virtualize servers or migrate data from old storage to new with real-time replication while users stay online and productive.

Double-Take solutions for some platforms are available as virtual appliances for the IBM PureFlex System, dramatically simplifying deployment and reducing time-to-value.

Free up IT to help transform your business

The IBM PureFlex System provides an expert integrated system—a new breed of platform that combines the flexibility of general purpose systems and the simplicity of an appliance with integrated expertise. These systems are based on “patterns of expertise,” which can dramatically improve the responsiveness of the business. Patterns of expertise automatically balance, manage and optimize the elements necessary—from the underlying hardware resources up through the middleware and software—to deliver and manage today's modern business processes, services, and applications.

Together, the PureFlex System and Vision Solutions products are infused with the expertise from data center optimizations and consolidations around the world. This expertise can be applied to automate time-consuming manual processes, and to allow an infrastructure to scale to meet unexpected demands without requiring expensive “just in case” capacity. Companies that exploit this automation and optimization expertise can reduce the cost and time required to manage the infrastructure by as much as 55 percent² and the number of unplanned outages by as much as 98 percent² through best practices and automation of manual processes.

Many organizations run applications on more than one platform, maintaining parallel operating environments with multiple management schemes and further complicating the already challenging task of sustaining a high availability environment. An IBM PureFlex System complemented by Vision Solutions’ multi-platform availability software can help reduce management complexity. You can combine IBM POWER7® and Intel processor-based compute nodes running IBM i, Microsoft Windows, AIX and Linux in the same chassis, with shared storage and the integrated Flex System Manager. This integrated approach is more efficient and faster than replicating to external servers, enabling superior availability.

Reduce data center complexity and deliver faster time to value

With the IBM PureFlex System, companies can consolidate systems and application workloads in order to reduce the total cost of ownership for their IT infrastructure. In doing, so they can simplify and reduce their data center complexity and sprawl, but maintain dynamic scalability to help meet service

levels. New capabilities can be delivered rapidly to help improve time to market for new services, and capacity can be added easily to adapt to changes in demand.

Compared to traditional environments, the PureFlex System and Vision Solutions software deliver:

- **Agility:** The PureFlex System is powerful and flexible enough to enable Vision Solutions software to help provide the disaster recovery, migration, and high availability capabilities required in today’s on-demand world.
- **Efficiency:** With built-in solid state drive (SSD) optimization, thin provisioning and non-disruptive migration of data from existing storage, the PureFlex System is designed to give you the capacity and performance you need to quickly take advantage of Vision Solutions software business resiliency capabilities.
- **Simplicity:** The PureFlex System provides a single point of network, storage and processor administration across multiple operating environments.
- **Control:** The PureFlex System protects existing investments with a choice of system architectures, hypervisors, and network switches so users can tune the system to selected workloads.

And, as companies deploy PureFlex Systems, Vision Solutions’ migration offering provides a cost-effective solution that can virtually eliminate the enormous downtime traditionally associated with system migrations. It uses Vision’s advanced high availability and data management technologies to rapidly copy business-critical data to your new PureFlex System and keep it synchronized with your production system in real-time—without the typical downtime. After validating your new PureFlex System environment, you can move users and processes in minutes.

Why IBM?

IBM has built on knowledge, expertise and technology gained from decades of experience and investment in IT solutions for business problems and integrated it into the PureFlex System. And with a commitment to open standards you can integrate IBM solutions with other elements of your own environment with your network of partners, customers and suppliers.

With the technical and industry expertise of IBM Business Partners like Vision Solutions and our combined ability and skill to integrate it all together for you—along with an unwavering commitment to your success—you can rely on IBM and your IBM PureFlex System for your Vision Solutions MIMIX and Double-Take solutions.

For more information

To learn more about the Vision Solutions information availability with the IBM PureFlex System, please contact your IBM representative or IBM Business Partner, or visit the following website:

- ibm.com/pureflex
- visionsolutions.com

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¹ Symantec, 2011 SMB Disaster Preparedness Survey
<http://www.slideshare.net/symantec/2011-smb-disaster-preparedness-global-survey>

² Based on IBM client experience.



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