

Nominee: SolidFire

Nomination title: **Fuelling your storage transformation with Oxygen**

SolidFire has a unique software-based approach to storage that adds considerable value to data centres. SolidFire's Element OS, first announced in May 2011, has delivered thousands of non-disruptive generation over generation upgrades since its inception. Its newest version, Oxygen, was released on June 11, 2015.

With a number of new capabilities, Oxygen delivers the industry's most comprehensive enterprise feature set for consolidating mixed-workloads onto a secure, agile, automated infrastructure.

While SolidFire's Element OS has enabled customers to transform their data-centre infrastructure and take their storage to new heights over seven versions, Oxygen builds upon that success - and in turn reduces operational overhead and risk by - by bringing new levels of protection and security to the data centre.

SolidFire's latest Element OS, Oxygen:

- Maximises data protection against a disaster via synchronous replication. It is ideal for customers who are heavily regulated or have business demands that require constant access of data to prevent significant revenue loss.
- Enables easy rollback flexibility to a second site via its snapshot replication feature
- Simplifies the scheduling and automation of snapshots, rollback points and retention duration
- Delivers industry-leading support for up to 256 secure, logically isolated, per-tenant storage networks on a single storage platform
- Simplifies management with centralised user account administration via expanded VLAN Tagging and LDAP Authentication

SolidFire's Element OS also delivers the most comprehensive set of enterprise-class features for next-generation data-centre infrastructure, including:

- **Scale-Out** - Companies can add performance and capacity linearly and independently from each other. This process is non-disruptive and allows for instant resource availability.
- **Guaranteed Performance** - Customers can ensure guaranteed, predictable performance for thousands of applications within a shared infrastructure and eliminate noisy neighbour issues.
- **Automated Management** - By automating all of the complex storage management tasks and delivering deep management integration, customers can focus on driving business forward.
- **Data Assurance** - Secure multi-tenancy delivered on a resilient, self-healing architecture reduces operational overhead and risk.
- **Global Efficiencies** - Global, always-on efficiencies maximise utilisation of resources, driving the reduction of data centre footprint and lowering operational costs.

Only Element OS delivers the agile, scalable, automated, and predictable storage operating system necessary for cloud environments. You will find our Element OS at the heart of storage infrastructure in the world's most demanding service provider and enterprise environments like Datapipe, eBay, FICO, Colt, 1&1 and Ultimate Software.

Oxygen is also available to customers as a software-only option via SolidFire's Element X program. This option targets hyper-scale customers and allows them to integrate Oxygen into their pre-existing hardware supply chains. With the release of SolidFire's Element X program in February 2015, SolidFire is the only vendor to offer four infrastructure consumption models to meet their customers individual needs.

SolidFire's customers have realised a number of concrete business benefits by incorporating the Oxygen platform into their infrastructures. This has been proven through a recent hands-on lab testing done by Enterprise Strategy Group (ESG) Labs. After evaluating more than a dozen emerging flash-based storage solutions, the group concluded that "If your organisation is frustrated with the limitations of traditional storage for scale-out workloads and you're striving to deliver IT-as-a-Service from a next-generation data centre, ESG Labs strongly recommends that you consider SolidFire for the enterprise."

Some of the specific measurable business benefits ESG Labs determined SolidFire:

- **Eliminated 93 percent of the issues associated with traditional storage**
- **Lowered operating expenses through automation by 67 percent**
- **Reduced time at risk in deployment by 97 percent**

- **Minimised administrative time by up to 67 percent**
- **Increased response time 28x**

With its volume-level Quality of Service controls, SolidFire offers the only all-flash array that can guarantee storage performance to thousands of applications from a shared infrastructure.

SolidFire's system leverages a unique scale-out storage architecture in which capacity and performance are independent from each other. This enables customers to achieve linear scalability of both resources, purchasing only what they need now and growing their data center over time as business demands dictate, without downtime.

SolidFire is the only company that offers innovative solutions for four major storage consumption models with its single platform: As-a-Service, Converged Infrastructure, SF Series Appliance and Element X, a software-only option leveraging SolidFire's Element OS software on industry-standard hardware.

Why nominee should win

- SolidFire is the clear leader in all-flash arrays for Next Generation Data Centres with highly differentiated capabilities, including simple shared-nothing scale-out design, guaranteed Quality of Service (QoS), self-healing high availability, and complete automation.
- SolidFire received the highest score for overall use case in Gartner's 2015 Critical Capabilities for Solid-State Arrays for the second consecutive year and was again recognised as a Visionary in Gartner's 2015 Magic Quadrant for Solid-State Arrays.
- We combine our unique architecture with delivery via a wide range of consumption models, including Appliances, Converged Infrastructure, As-A-Service, and Software-only.