

BUYER'S GUIDE

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Network Attached Storage



You can never have enough storage, whether a bigger house to store your belongings or more hard disk space to store your data on a network. Traditionally, installing server-based storage is complicated, expensive, and requires you to take down the server. Shutting down the server, installing disks, reconfiguring software, setting share privileges, and restarting the system aren't problems with Network Attached Storage. NAS connects directly to a network's

wire and is as easy to install as plugging a telephone line into a wall jack. You generally don't need to add software to make NAS run, and configuration is minimal. Theoretically, if you plug the device into your network, the NAS will work.

Some NAS devices provide workgroup storage, which places file sharing closer to users and offloads file service from the server. Other NAS devices provide storage to your heterogeneous environment. Regardless of the size of your business or your storage needs, NAS devices offer a compelling solution because they are easy to install and administer.

When sorting through NAS options, keep in mind the kind of data you plan to store, the importance of fast access to your data, the amount of scalability you need, and how much you want to spend. This Buyer's Guide focuses on NAS solutions using CD-ROM, RAID, or hard disks as the storage medium. Products listed range in price from \$995 to \$100,000.

—Jonathan Cragle

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Compiled by Sue Cooper

Contact Information	Product Name	Price	Description
Advanced Media Services 800-466-0813 http://www.amsstorage.com	DakotaRAID	\$9995	Network-attached RAID server; supports Windows NT, Windows 9x, Novell NetWare, UNIX, and Web clients; dedicated RAID controller supports RAID 0, 1, 3, and 5
Auspex Systems 408-566-2000 http://www.auspex.com	Auspex 4Front NS2000	Call vendor for pricing	Enterprise-class data availability and scalability for heterogeneous environments with storage requirements ranging from 150GB to 9.5TB
Axis Communications 978-614-2000 http://www.axis.com	AXIS StorPoint NAS 100	\$3000	Scalable NAS server lets integrators easily connect storage without using file servers; true Plug and Play (PnP) installation; remote access from the Internet

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Cutting Edge 800-257-1666 http://www.cuttedge.com	Storage Anywhere 100	Starts at \$1495	A true PnP network storage appliance; supports as many as 15 SCSI drives of any size; storage capacity from 9GB to 540GB; 10/100Base-T
ECCS • 732-747-6995 http://www.eccs.com	Synchronecton 2	Starts at \$96,000	A fully fault-tolerant NAS solution; supports NFS, Common Internet File System (CIFS), Server Message Block (SMB), HTTP, and Network Data Management Protocol (NDMP); multiple and simultaneous network support for Gigabit, quad 10/100Base-T, and Fiber Distributed Data Interface (FDDI)
Hewlett-Packard 916-785-8000 http://www.hp.com	HP SureStore CD/DVD-ROM Server	\$3495	Features seven CD/DVD-ROM drives that can expand using the optional expansion towers
	HP SureStore CD-ROM Server Plus	\$4300	Equipped with six 32X CD-ROM drives and an integrated 18GB hard disk caching drive; as many as 50 users can simultaneously access the unit
	HP SureStore HD Server 4000	From \$5000 to \$8900	Hard disk servers with storage capacity ranging from 18GB to 90GB; features 15-minute installation and RAID 5 data security
JES Hardware Solutions 800-482-1866 http://www.jescdrom.com	Lightning CDR	From \$3000 to \$7000	25-,50-,100-, and 200-disc CD-ROM caching towers with a shared recorder that lets anyone on the network make a 10/100Base-T CD-ROM; IDE drives
	Tornado CD	From \$3000 to \$7000	25-, 50-, 100-, and 200-disc CD-ROM caching towers; as many as 255 CD-ROMs fit in one seven-bay tower; 10/100Base-T; SCSI hard disk system
	Lightning CD	From \$3000 to \$7000	25-, 50-, 100-, and 200-disc CD-ROM caching towers; as many as 255 CD-ROMs fit in one seven-bay tower; 10/100Base-T; IDE drives
	Lightning Archiver	From \$3500 to \$8000	Lets several users scan, archive, and record large document databases; a true archiving appliance; 10/100Base-T
	Raptor RAID	From \$8000 to \$100,000	A true NAS-shared hard disk system; one partition; sizes to 1TB; simple installation and control; 10/100Base-T; TCP/IP
	Net Raptor	From \$3500 to \$10,000	A true NAS-shared hard disk system; one partition; sizes to 36GB; simple installation and control; 10/100Base-T; TCP/IP
LAND-5 • 858-566-2514 http://www.land-5.com	ICEbox NAS 2000	\$10,700	Combines NAS, RAID technology, tape backup, and fault-tolerant subsystems to provide a high-reliability network storage solution
	ICEbox NAS 1000	\$17,000	Blends disk and tape RAID systems to provide a complete NAS solution
Pioneer New Media Technologies 800-444-6784 http://www.pioneerusa.com	DRM-6NX Network Cache Changer	\$2495	Combines hard disk caching, a network interface, and a six-disc CD-ROM changer in a small footprint device; provides access to CD-ROMs without routing through the file server
Procom Technology 800-800-8600 http://www.procom.com	NetFORCE 100	Starts at \$6218	Offers PnP connectivity, availability, scalability, and affordability with a disk-based workgroup data server (as large as 100GB)

ATTACHED STORAGE



Contact Information	Product Name	Price	Description
Procom Technology, continued	NetFORCE 100R	Starts at \$13,327	A rack-mount version of the NetFORCE 100 with the same affordability, fault tolerance, and PnP connectivity; 50 percent more storage capacity at 150GB than the NetFORCE 100
	DataFORCE 1000R	Starts at \$18,894	Enterprise-class rack-mount CD/DVD-ROM server that accommodates as many as 250 discs; good ease-of-use and availability for heterogeneous networks; uses as much as 160GB of RAID 5 disk capacity, which boosts performance
	DataFORCE 250/275	Starts at \$7515	CD-ROM networking system that fits as many as 275 CD-ROMs running at hard disk speeds across multiple platforms; ideal for workgroups, schools, libraries, and government agencies
R.A.R.E. Systems 800-847-7273 http://www.rare.com	RASER 700	\$17,700	Scalable enterprise-level NAS device with hardware RAID and full redundancy; 700MHz engine; 256MB to 16GB cache; 10/100/1000Base-T
SciNet 800-653-1010 http://www.storage-appliance.com	Blazer, Series 100	\$995	An affordable and expandable NAS appliance that lets you add storage directly to the network; no software to install or configure; works like storage on an NT server with no further setup, configuration, or training required
StorLogic • 877-786-7564 http://www.storlogic.com	SerView NAS	From \$1000 to \$25,000	Offers PnP simplicity and manageability to deliver optimized server functionality and productivity
StorNet • 800-462-4949 http://www.simplefs.com	SimpleFS Workgroup and Department Model	Call vendor for pricing	A simple file server that lets large-capacity high-speed disks attach directly to a network to give authorized users access to shared NT, UNIX, and HTML file storage
Unicore Technologies 800-227-9901 http://www.unicoretech.com	NAServer CDi	Starts at \$1595	As many as 1000 heterogeneous users can simultaneously access several hundred gigabytes of data from as many as 254 cached CD/DVD-ROM discs; simplified Web interface management; pricing is based on a five-drive hot-swappable unit with 18GB of storage
	NAServer Rackmount	Starts at \$3995	Heterogeneous embedded Ultra SCSI NAS with as much as 500GB of storage in a rack mount; built-in tape backup support; optional redundant power supplies and RAID controller; pricing includes 27GB of storage
	NAServer 5	Starts at \$3839	Embedded Ultra SCSI NAS with as many as five hot-swappable drives; heterogeneous network access through UNIX, Novell, Windows, and Macintosh clients; built-in tape backup support; pricing includes 27GB of storage
	NAServer 5 H-A	Starts at \$5995	High-availability version of NAServer 5; includes redundant power supplies and a built-in SCSI-to-SCSI RAID 5 controller; Web-browser utilization for configuration and management; pricing is based on a unit with 27GB of storage
	NAServer 10	\$4803	Embedded Ultra SCSI NAS with as many as 10 hot-swappable drives; heterogeneous network access through UNIX, Novell, Windows, and Macintosh clients; built-in tape backup support
	NAServer 10 H-A	\$6880	High-availability version of NAServer 10; includes redundant power supplies and a built-in SCSI-to-SCSI RAID 5 controller; Web-browser utilization for configuration and management