

## Mokko Studio – Digital Visual Effects

Media and entertainment

### Use Case

Increase data creation and retrieval performance by implementing a single file system. Relieve growing mgmt. and admin. tasks

### Requirement

Reduce existing environment complexity caused by supporting multiple operating systems

### Solution

Cost Effective, Low Latency, Predictable

## COMPANY OVERVIEW

Since 2003, Mokko Studio has been committed to the creation of compelling visual effects and animation for film, television and commercials. With more than 70 experienced resident artists, the Montreal-based company provides cutting-edge video services, including multi-camera production and editing.

## CHALLENGES

With an extremely high rate of daily data creation, along with high throughput requirements from network clients, Mokko was facing major data storage and retrieval issues. The company had to, on a weekly basis, groom large data sets so as to not run out of space. In addition, there was the added complexity of having to cater to all its in-house operating systems, including Linux, Windows and OSX.

The entire system was far too slow and there was a growing need for a single file system in order to relieve management and access tasks. Mokko needed the solution to support the network load without any slowdowns, thereby keeping productivity high.

### NexentaStor™

- 1 SGI C2108 dual socket x86-based server
- 4 x 2 port HBAs
- 8 x JBOD chassis with 12 x 10K SAS HDDs
- 170TB usable data capacity
- Supports 100 users and a rendering farm of 160 servers

*“We need to upgrade our data storage infrastructure so as to meet the expanding demands of our business. The solution had to be easy, compatible with many applications, and within our budget. The bottom line was about system performance and end-user productivity.”*

**IT Manager  
Mokko Studio**

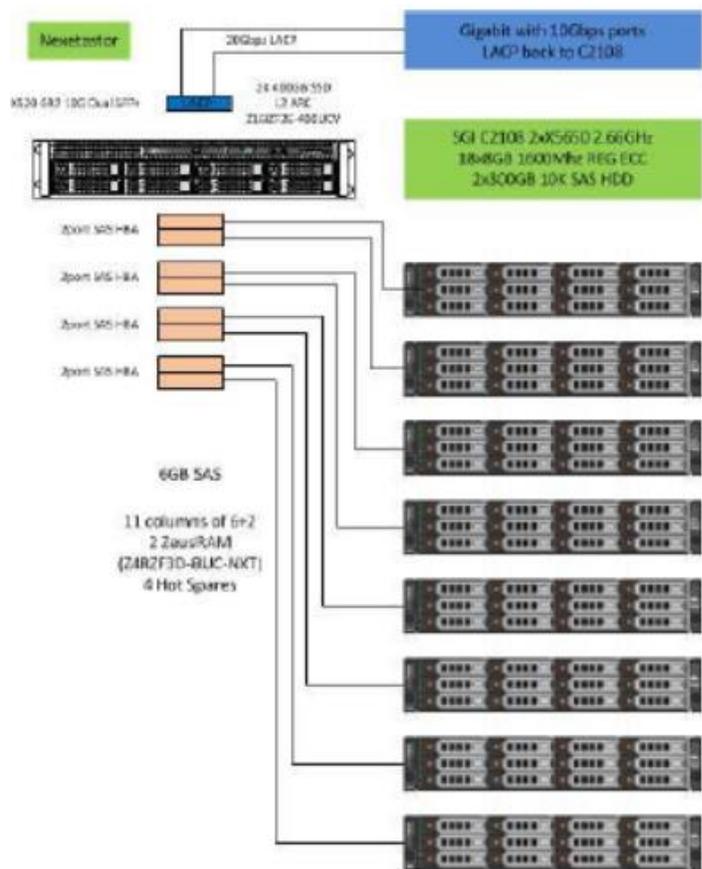
## SOLUTION

After looking at a variety of solutions, including BlueArc and Oracle ZFS, Mokko decided on NexentaStor, a software-defined storage solution. Multiple reasons influenced this decision, including flexibility in hardware choices, compatibility with Active Directory and NIS, and compatibility with the wide range of in-house applications. In addition, the solution afforded unlimited snapshots, thereby providing the needed safeguard against human error or viruses.

## BUSINESS BENEFITS

With the new solution in place, overall I/O per watt is excellent, creating an even greener solution. Other solutions required much more hardware for the same performance levels. And finally, the NexentaStor solution provided very low latency for network clients both in NFS and CIFS. The total cost of the solution was not only lower now, but also more cost effective and with more predictability as company growth continues. The final solution came in at 40% less than the competitors' best offerings.

Canadian Visual Effects Firm Mokko Studios Selects Nexenta Storage for Cost and Performance



**Mokko Studio Deploys Nexenta Solution:**  
NexentaStor, with a dual CPU server, provides 170TB of usable data to more than 100 users and a render farm (160 servers).