

# ENTERPRISE CLOTHING RETAILER CASE STUDY



*"Cirrus Data's CMC and CMO, as well as their service and support, were spectacular and on point throughout the entire migration. We were pleased to accomplish all the goals we set at the start of this difficult project."*



## THE CHALLENGE

When an enterprise clothing retailer with a significant e-commerce presence approached one of Cirrus Data Solutions' channel partners with an emergency storage issue, the partner knew it needed a quick solution to get the customer off their current storage and onto new arrays.

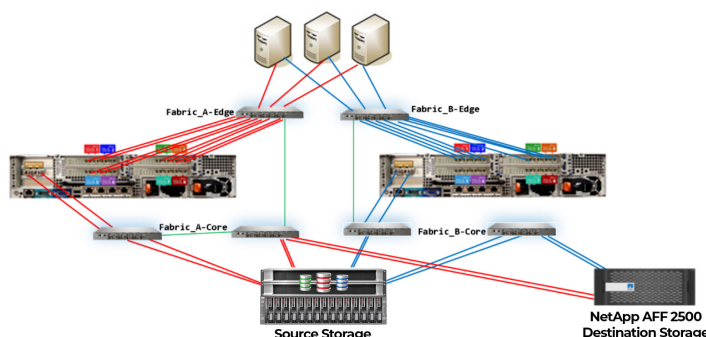
The retailer owned a legacy first-tier OEM enterprise storage array that stored 100TB of data for its Oracle Virtual Box and AIX environment hosting a series of Windows servers. At some point, the array controllers became unresponsive. When attempts were made to regain management capabilities of the controllers using the storage vendor's software interface, it became clear there was an additional issue as the controllers were not responding to the management application. Unfortunately, the issue was compounded by the fact that the array itself was out of support and could not be updated.

## THE SOLUTION

Cirrus Data's partner engaged with the customer's IT team and determined that the best course of action would be to migrate the data on the failing storage array to the retailer's existing NetApp AFF array. This migration project was particularly sensitive since the source array could essentially not be touched, but it was also necessary to ensure the clients currently connected and using it remained active and responsive throughout the migration process. Additionally, since the retailer had no current plans to migrate its data off the old array, it had not allocated a budget for getting the data moved to its NetApp storage.

Since the partner had a longtime relation with Cirrus Data, it knew that Cirrus Data's recently released Cirrus Migrate Cloud (CMC) solution could transparently move each host's data over to the new storage without affecting production operations, all while providing a useful dashboard on migration status and bandwidth usage, and no host would have to be disrupted throughout the complete migration process.

The partner worked with the retailer's internal IT staff to install the lightweight agent on the hosts contained on the Oracle Virtual Box, and successfully completed the migration of all host clients without



issue or performance degradation. Only a brief period of downtime was required at cutover because the Oracle Virtual Box needed to switch its management volumes from the old storage to the NetApp AFF.

When the partner then began working on the hosts maintained on the customer's AIX infrastructure, it ran into an issue where one MS SQL Cluster was showing long latencies using the CMC agent, and a decision was made to use the traditional Cirrus Migrate On-Premises (CMO, formerly DMS) solution, which the partner had used many times in the past for challenging migrations. Using Cirrus' patented pMotion, the data was successfully migrated off the old storage, and the client hosts began using the NetApp storage immediately following migration before the old storage was even shut off. No downtime at all was experienced with these hosts since their databases were able to conduct the final cutover node-by-node using the MS SQL Cluster capabilities.

In the end, Cirrus Data's partner was able to migrate all 100TB off the old array within two months and with a very limited budget. All hosts were cutover successfully, and the failing storage was decommissioned. The partner and customer offered feedback that "Cirrus Data's CMC and CMO, as well as their service and support, were spectacular and on point throughout the entire migration," with additional notes that in such a difficult environment, it was remarkable that they had accomplished every goal they had set at the start of the project.

## QUICK FACTS

### Customer Type

Enterprise-level Retailer with significant e-commerce presence

### Source Storage

Redacted

### Destination Storage

NetApp AFF 2500

### Number of Hosts

Multiple Windows Hosts

### Applications Migrated

Oracle, SQL, Web

### Total Data Migrated

Over 100TB

### CDS Products Used

Cirrus Migrate Cloud (CMC)  
Cirrus Migrate On-Premises (CMO)

## CHALLENGES

- Source storage array failing and out of service with no updates possible
- Source storage management interface inoperable
- Client hosts using source storage are in production 24/7
- No budget initially allocated to this unexpected storage failure

## SOLUTION

- CDS partner arranges migration project using retailer's IT staff
- CMC agents seamlessly installed on numerous individual hosts
- CMO used for AIX environment when one SQL server experiences latency using CMC

## RESULTS

- CMC migrates entire Oracle Virtual Box hosts with no production interruption during the entire migration process, then only a brief outage to move Oracle Virtual Box management volumes
- CMO migrates entire AIX environment with no production interruption
- CMO uses pMotion to move entire workload onto NetApp AFF storage with zero downtime even at cutover in conjunction with MS SQL Cluster management
- Partner and customer give Cirrus products and services extremely high marks after setting and achieving goals on a difficult project

## ABOUT CIRRUS DATA

Cirrus Data Solutions Inc. is a leading technology provider of next-generation solutions for data mobility, specializing in block data migration and protection. The company distributes its solutions through systems integrators, managed service providers, channel resellers, and partners including HPE, IBM, Dell Technologies, Microsoft Azure, AWS, Hitachi, NetApp, Pure Storage, Infinidat, AEBS, AHEAD, CDW, SHI, Park Place, Presidio, ePlus, Insight, Computacenter, Sirius, WWT and many others. Cirrus Data Solutions is headquartered in Syosset, New York and has offices located in Dublin, Ireland, and Nanjing with sales and support offices in Boston and Chicago.

To begin your digital data transformation, [visit Cirrus Data Solutions online](https://www.cirrusdata.com).

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