PRODUCT OVERVIEW

DOUBLE-TAKE® FLEX

Double-Take® Flex allows multiple desktops or servers to boot from a centralized image repository stored on SAN or NAS to increase security and reduce management.

Double-Take Flex can create its own software iSCSI SAN, making it easy for any network admin to create a single image that users can boot to any desktop, regardless of hardware. And, using the Double-Take Flex Nomad architecture, individual images and data storage settings can follow the user based on their login. Go ahead...sit anywhere!

Double-Take Flex enhances the process of provisioning and maintaining desktop and server images to provide a complete platform for Dynamic Infrastructure. Double-Take Flex enables organizations to use a SAN or NAS to rapidly and cost-effectively launch virtual and physical servers and desktops for workload management tasks including provisioning, migration and recovery. Increased IT flexibility and security are immediate benefits while meeting compliance standards becomes easier and more affordable.
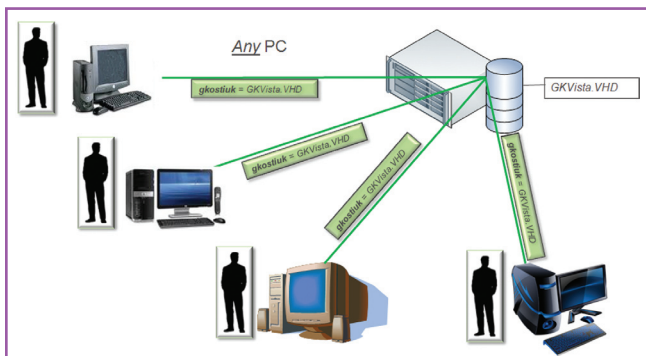
Double-Take Flex Nomad architecture allows individual images and data storage settings to follow users to any desktop, anywhere - reducing management expenses and providing increased flexibility and security.

Uniquely Portable

Using the NOMAD features in Double-Take Flex allows a user's personal workspace (profile and personal settings) to go where they go. Users can log into any desktop or workstation (like hardware not required) and receive their assigned image along with their personal settings, including desktop preferences, shortcuts, mapped drives, email settings, and more.* A user's data path to their home drive is persisted no matter which desktop or workstation they log in to, allowing administrators the option to set up segregated data storage on a 2nd LUN to retain data on SAN or NAS for increased security and backup. *Requires RES® PowerFuse add-on*
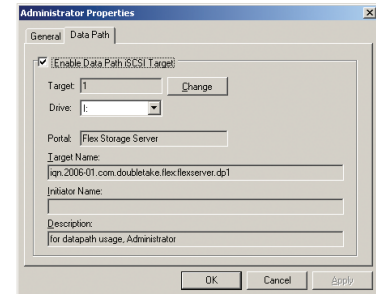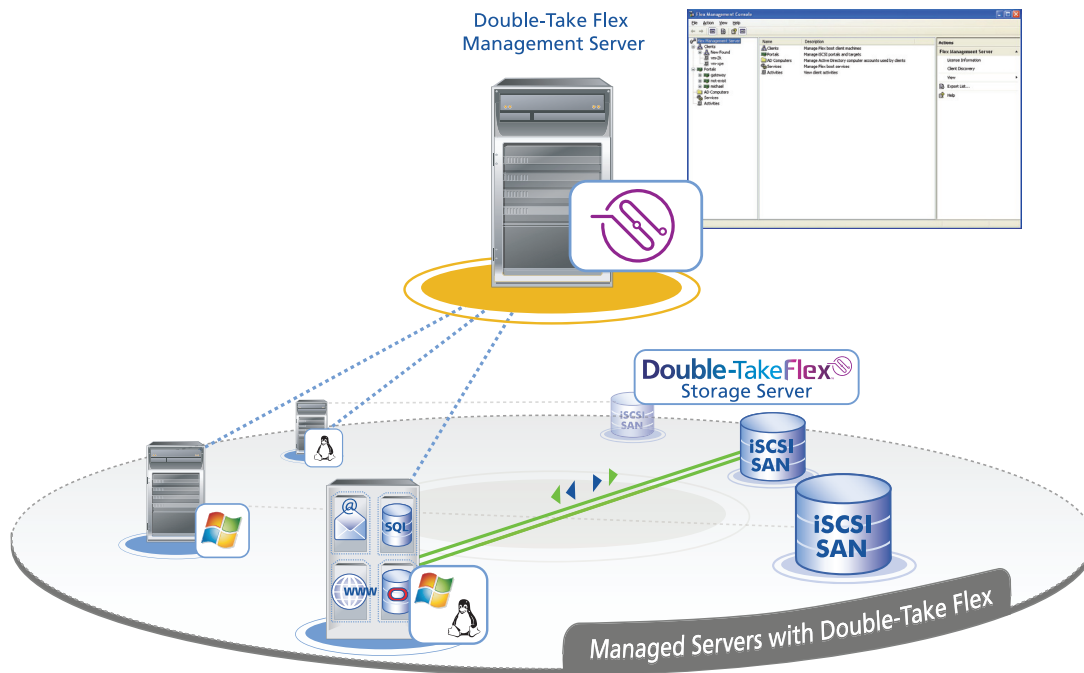
Simplified Recoverability

Using the cloning features of the SAN vendor's management software, Double-Take Flex allows disaster recovery and hard drive replication to be performed with the same tools used for all data management. If a machine fails, it can be directed to boot from a snapshot or copied boot volume on the SAN.

Fast Deployment

Server and desktop deployment is time-consuming and costly. With Double-Take Flex, volumes can be quickly duplicated using snapshot or cloning features specific to the iSCSI storage vendor. You can also create shared boot volumes that can be provisioned once and assigned to many machines to boot from the same volume on the SAN.

How Double-Take Flex Works

Double-Take Flex
Management Server

Double-Take **Flex**
Storage Server

iSCSI SAN

iSCSI SAN

iSCSI SAN

Managed Servers with Double-Take Flex

Powerful Provisioning

Double-Take Flex lets a machine boot completely different operating system images and change them quickly for other tasks. Quick provisioning ensures that hardware resources are used to their full potential. Server rooms, testing labs, training centers and grid computing applications can switch between boot volumes depending on the task.

Blade Ready

Double-Take Flex enables existing Ethernet NICs on blades to perform diskless boot from iSCSI. Servers can be deployed, provisioned and re-provisioned quickly and as needed. Servers gain instant flexibility by separating the operating system and data from the hardware.

Virtual Machine Friendly

Double-Take Flex enables a virtual machine's guest operating system to boot directly from an iSCSI SAN fabric. Virtual machine operating systems can now leverage the ease of bare-metal deployment and disaster recovery provided by Double-Take Flex and

an iSCSI SAN. Double-Take Flex works on VMware Workstation, VMware Server, and ESX/ESXi servers, as well as on Microsoft Virtual PC, Virtual Server and Hyper-V.

Bulletproof Desktops

Environments with desktops shared by many people are susceptible to changes and viruses on the desktop. Double-Take Flex can operate in two modes: one unique boot volume per machine or one boot volume shared among multiple machines. Shared boot volumes can be rendered unchangeable (read-only) for the end-user. Instead of re-imaging a hard drive, a simple reboot of the desktop returns the machine to a pristine state. It is possible to share a boot volume yet still have each user maintain a private and persistent write cache so user environments can be individually customized.

Replacing failed hard drives or restoring drives to their original state is time consuming and costly. IT staff no longer need to visit desktops to replace or untangle hard drives. Desktops can be quickly booted from backup boot volumes on the SAN or

iSCSI SAN snapshots. The operating system and all end user applications are run on the client machine providing a true "thick" client - without the requirement for a hard drive.

Ease the Pain of Compliance

Compliance standards such as Sarbanes-Oxley and HIPAA are expensive to implement. Network booting lets every piece of corporate infra-structure be stored on an iSCSI SAN. iSCSI storage is affordable for small business, and powerful enough to scale for use in the largest enterprises. Double-Take Flex can assist in Sarbanes-Oxley, HIPAA and SEC rules compliance using the SAN vendor's management software to take regular snapshots, copies or even replicating offsite, reducing the requirements and expense of traditional solutions.

Virtualized Storage: Simple and Shareable

Double-Take Flex turns storage on any Windows server into an iSCSI SAN. With Double-Take Flex, setting up iSCSI storage for use by server or desktop

systems is as easy as five clicks. Double-Take Flex also provides shared modes for the iSCSI storage it manages, allowing multiple servers or workstations to access the same shared volumes.

Double-Take Flex lets you rapidly launch and provision virtual and physical servers and desktops for recovery, migration, back-up or any other purpose, using a combination of traditional host-based technologies and new iSCSI storage--based products.

Double-Take Flex lets you create iSCSI Target disks using the storage attached to the local machine. The storage can be any type of disk that is Windows compatible, which includes Direct-attached Storage (DAS) such as PATA, SATA, SCSI and SAS, NAS, and SANs, based on Fiber Channel or iSCSI. Double-Take Flex makes your storage available via the iSCSI protocol to other computers and forms the foundation of centralized boot volumes that are the easiest to manage.
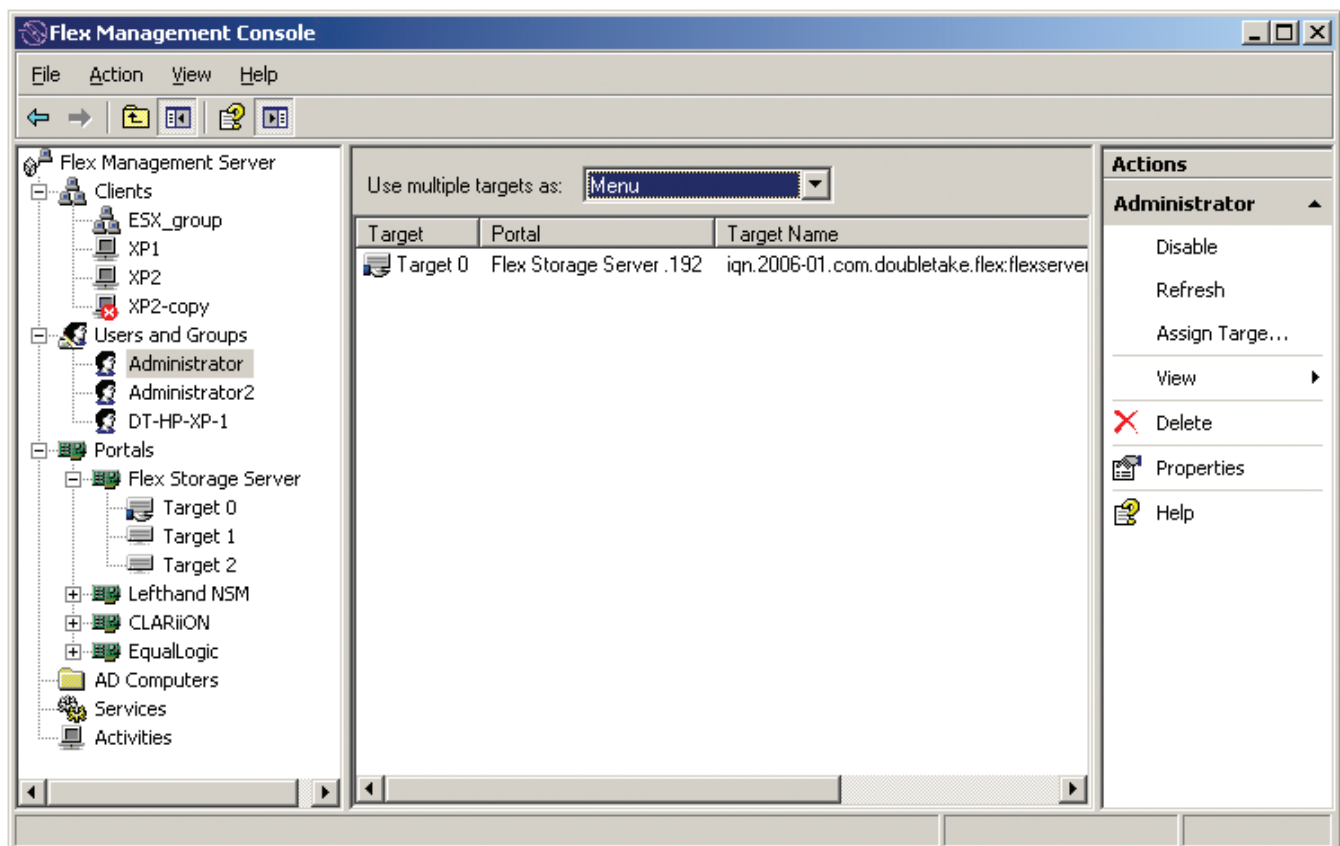
System Requirements

Server
- Linux daemons require RHEL or SLES
- Windows Server 2003 / 2008, Windows Vista Enterprise, Windows XP Professional
- DHCP Server
- .NET Framework v2.0
- MMC v3.0 update required for XP, 2003 (R1)

Client
- PXE 2.x compliant network adapter
- Windows Server 2003 32-bit / x64, Standard or Enterprise, R2, or Windows Storage Server (Service Pack 2), Windows Server 2008 Standard, Enterprise, Datacenter, Windows Vista SP1 Enterprise, Windows Server 2008 R2, Windows XP Professional, Windows 7, RHEL v 5.2 (or higher), SLES v10.1 (or higher)

iSCSI Client Requirements
- iSCSI Specification 1.0 (former Draft 20) compliant iSCSI Initiator

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