Datasheet

OnCommand API Services

Centralized integrated monitoring of storage infrastructure

Key Features

Simplify Storage Management in Complex Environments

- Integrate storage monitoring and reporting
- View inventory, configuration, and events collectively
- Obtain performance metrics to take action

The Challenge

Managing complex storage

Dr. Rado Kotorov published CIOs' top priorities for 2015 in ITWorld[1], naming managing data as the second most important priority for CIOs. Data is recognized by CIOs as their most valuable asset because data is used to drive productivity, innovation, and business success. Many IT organizations are also seeking ways to monetize assets by offering X as a service.

The Enterprise Strategy Group (ESG) conducts an annual survey gathering responses from IT decision makers representing companies from numerous industries and varying sizes based in North America and Western Europe. According to the ESG's annual report, "2015 IT Spending Intentions,"[2] managing data growth continues to be a top priority for IT organizations. IT administrators continue to rely on command line interface (CLI) and disparate management tools to manage virtualized applications, compute servers, networking, and storage, further contributing to the crux of the challenge of managing data growth and complexity.

Increasingly IT organizations do not have specialists dedicated to managing either the server or networking or storage infrastructure. Instead they have IT generalists managing their entire infrastructure. Traditional approaches of monitoring their application servers, networking, and storage infrastructure, typically with different vendor-provided tools, do not fit the new data center paradigm.

The Solution

OnCommand API Services to simplify management

NetApp® OnCommand® API Services provides a way for IT organizations to address today's complex IT management challenges. It enables IT organizations to have a single view of their entire infrastructure, while still having the ability to use vendor-provided tools on an as-needed basis to troubleshoot a specific issue associated with that infrastructure component.

1. The CIO's top 3 priorities for 2015, by Dr. Rado Kotorov, ITWorld, December 8, 2014. Dr. Rado Kotorov is Chief Innovation Officer for Information Builders and works both with the Business Intelligence and the iWay product divisions to provide thought leadership, analyze market and technology trends, aid in the development of innovative product roadmaps, and create rich programs to drive adoption of BI, analytics, data integrity, and integration technologies.

2. 2015 IT Spending Intentions Survey and Next Generation Storage Architectures, by Enterprise Strategy Group, February 2015. Enterprise Strategy Group (ESG) is an integrated IT research, analysis, and strategy firm that is world-renowned for providing actionable insight and intelligence to the global IT community.
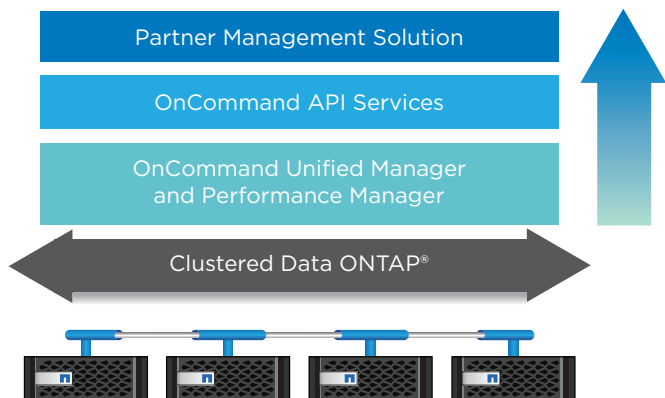
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Figure 1) Rest APIs pull data from Unified Manager and Performance Manager into the third party management console.

Recognizing that numerous management tools are likely unavoidable in most IT organizations, the logical approach is to integrate the disparate tools as much as possible. OnCommand API Services lets you integrate and simplify storage management by exposing Representation State Transfer (REST) APIs and enabling third-party infrastructure-monitoring tools to monitor and manage NetApp storage. Today, OnCommand API Services works with OnCommand Unified Manager and OnCommand Performance Manager to provide active monitoring and reporting of your clustered Data ONTAP® environment. OnCommand API Services provides a single endpoint across your data center, enabling data collection from multiple Unified Manager and Performance Manager servers managing one or more clusters.

Flexibility and choice

OnCommand API Services lets you pull performance metrics from OnCommand Performance Manager and retrieve operational metrics such as capacity and utilization from OnCommand Unified Manager. Using these three products together, you are able to gather information about the configuration, inventory, and provisioning for a holistic view of your NetApp storage, while REST APIs allow you to integrate this information within the management console of choice.

REST is a simple communication architecture that is commonly used in web-based and network-based services. NetApp uses REST APIs to provide flexibility and choice for integrating with third-party or custom management applications. If your preference is to continue to use or create your own custom management application for managing your data center, OnCommand API Services lets you integrate and pull NetApp storage information quickly and safely.

Who can benefit

Large enterprises and IT service providers face the biggest challenges around growth and complexity and are seeking automation and orchestration solutions to improve IT agility, reliability, and service delivery. In addition, if you are using OpenStack, you can use the REST interfaces for monitoring and managing your NetApp storage.

Learn More

OnCommand API Services is part of the OnCommand management software portfolio. Go to www.netapp.com/oncommand to learn more about the management portfolio, including API Services. Explore the OnCommand product community, including OnCommand discussions, articles, and resources, at http://www.netapp.com/oncommand_community.

About NetApp

Leading organizations worldwide count on NetApp for software, systems and services to manage and store their data. Customers value our teamwork, expertise and passion for helping them succeed now and into the future.

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