Dell's Blade Storage Array

Written by Marco Attard

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Dell reveals the EqualLogic PS-M4110 Blade Array at its Storage Forum-- a storage array with a server blade form factor users can combine with networking and server blades within a single chassis.

The newest member of the EqualLogic PS series, the PS-M4110 comes in x4 models and holds x14 drives for up to 14TB of data per array, 28TB per group (x2 blades) inside a blade chassis or 56TB with x2 groups inside one blade chassis.

Models come with either 1 or 2 controllers, and use either seven 2.5-inch HDDs (146GB-1TB capacities, 7200-15000rpm spindle speeds) or 2.5-inch SAS SSDs. Drives can also carry optional native encryption.

Tiering software automatically migrates most frequently used data to best performing spindles.

Customers can combine Blade Arrays with Dell PowerEdge M420 blade servers and Force10 MXL switches in a PowerEdge M1000e blade chassis-- creating a pre-tested and certified Blade Data Center.

The Blade Arrays carry EqualLogic array Software 6.0, with automatic storage capacity virtualisation, synchronous data replication, snapshots and Microsoft Sharepoint integration (in addition to integration with VMware, Exchange, SQL and Linux). It also features the Volume Undelete capacity reclamation feature.

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