Technology Migration

Paul Rutherford
Isilon Systems
Real Life Scenario

- Technology update to our main server
  - 3rd generation of hardware released last year
  - Customers upgrades on-line
- Disk Capacity update
  - Higher capacity nodes
  - Added On-line with a few Configuration rules
How is it done?

- Intra-generation compatibility
  - New technology compatible with old
  - On-line Add new to old
- Leverage failure handling architecture
  - Upgrade Software
  - “Soft Fail” old technology component
  - Allow system to move data
  - Remove the old component
  - Repeat over time
The Future

- Optimize heterogeneous system
  - System balance work by capability
  - Allows old & new to co-exist for long periods
- Storage Pooling
  - Old & New in separate storage pools
  - Same name space
  - More gradual migration to new technology
Key Requirements

- Require in-place technology upgrade
  - Zero down time is not the same
  - Automated Movement
  - In-place retirement
- At least two generations
  - Must co-exist in single implementation