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

