



OSIsoft®

# REGIONAL SEMINARS

## The Power of Data

2012



# Architecture and Best Practices for PI Systems

Presented by **Chris Lonsberry, Field Service Engineer**

# Topics

## Upgrading to PI System 2012

- Why Upgrade
- How to Upgrade

## Architecture

- Hardware and System Sizing
- Virtualization

## Best Practices

- PI Data Archive
- Interfaces
- AF



# Upgrading to PI System 2012

# What's New in PI Server 2012?

## Performance & Scalability

- More efficient use of RAM
- More efficient use of archive space
- Better management of connections

## Manageability

- Auto recovery of corrupted queues
- Streamlined backfilling process (hours, not weeks)

# PI Server 2012 Performance



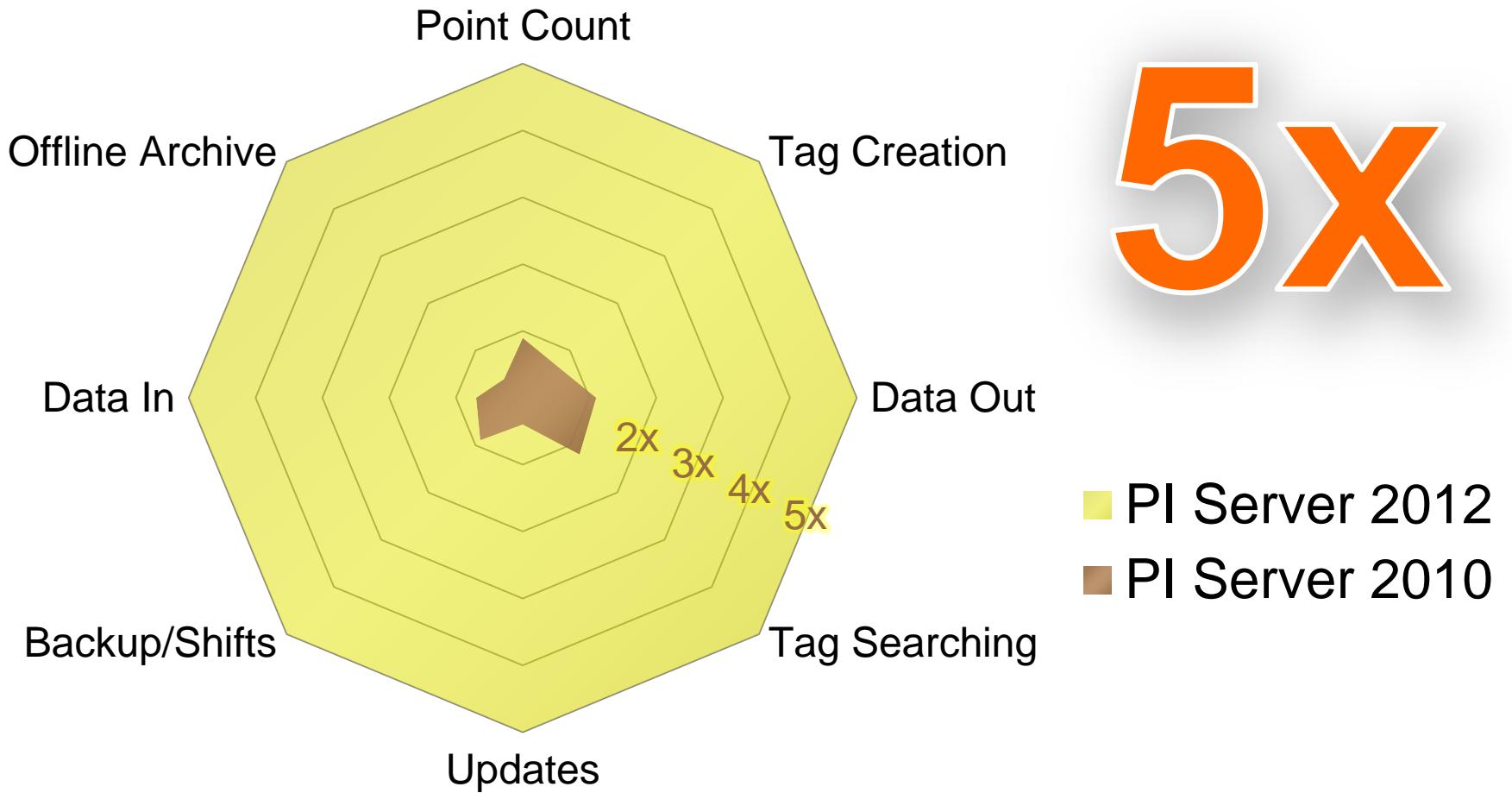
## 2010 R3

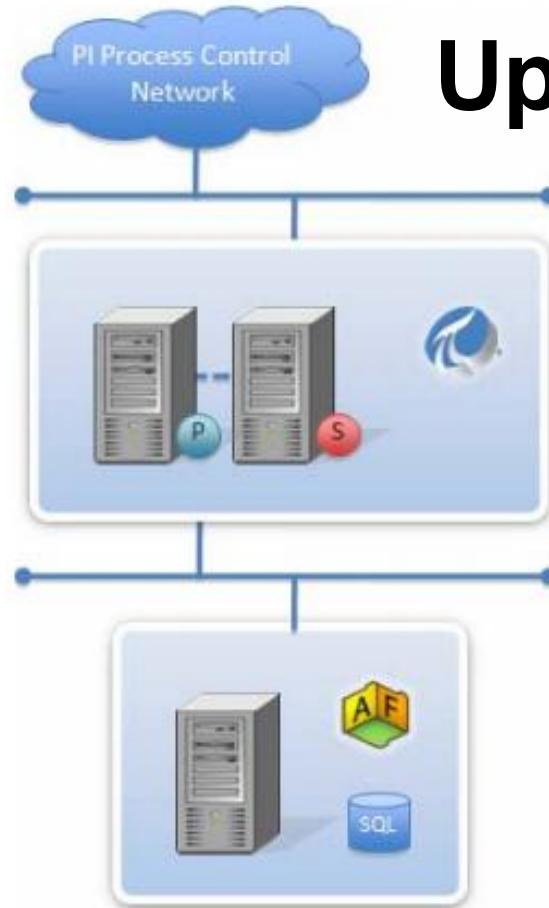
Max Point Count	2M+ tags
Max Data In Rate	<100K ev/sec
Max Data Out Rate	<5M ev/sec
Online Archives	2-5K files
Real-time Updates	200K signups
Point Changes	<10 pt/sec
Startup Time	>20 minutes



## 2012

Max Point Count	5M tags
Max Data In Rate	500K ev/sec
Max Data Out Rate	5M ev/sec
Online Archives	>10K files
Real-time Updates	>3M signups
Point Changes	>500 pt/sec
Startup Time	<2 minutes





# Upgrading to PI System 2012

- PI Asset Framework is a required component since PI Server 2010

# I want to upgrade to PI System 2012 but...

...my current PI  
Server is 32-bit

...I don't have  
AF

...on 64-bit  
OS

...on 32-bit  
OS

...for a  
small PI  
System

...for a  
large PI  
System

# Why 64-bit?

Use All  
Your RAM

32-bit OS only  
makes use of  
~4GB

Larger File  
System  
Cache

32-bit OS FSC  
is 960MB  
64-bit OS can  
use all the RAM

# ...My Current PI Server is 32-bit

KB Article KB00530: Upgrading to 64-bit PI Server while moving to 64-bit hardware

...my current server runs on  
64-bit OS

...my current server runs on  
32-bit OS

Uninstall and reinstall PI Server

Move current version of PI Server  
to new machine with 64-bit OS

Note: Likely an older PI Server. (v3.4.380 and newer do not allow 32-bit install on 64-bit OS.)  
Time for new hardware???

Then upgrade to PI Server 2012.

**Upgrading to 64-bit PI Server while moving to 64-bit hardware**

**Product:** PI Server  
**Version(s):** 32-bit to 64-bit PI Server 2010  
**Platform:** Windows All

**Issue**

You currently have an old, 32-bit version of the PI Server installed on your hardware. You want to upgrade to the latest PI Server version. This means you will need to move the PI Server from the old hardware to the new hardware. Upgrades will be performed on the new hardware.

Review the following factors prior to upgrading:

- Except as noted in the table below, when moving a PI Server from one hardware to another, as was on the original hardware before it was moved, you must move the PI Server.
- Because you will need to install an old PI Server on the new hardware, contact Technical Support to get the old installation files. Note: If you are moving a PI Server from one hardware to another, most older installations will work. However, most older installations will not work if the hardware has changed significantly.
- Upgrading to PI Server 2010 or later may require changes to the PI Asset Framework (PI AF) 2010 and PI Security settings on the PI AF and PI Server.
- Before upgrading to PI Server 2010 or later, you must move the PI Server.
- If you are moving a PI Server collective, refer to known issue [236340SI8](#) for a detailed description of the problem.

**Solution****Upgrade Table for Moving from 32-bit Hardware to 64-bit Hardware**

Source 32-bit server	Actions on target 64-bit machine
Any 32-bit PI Server version between 3.2.357.8 and 3.4.375.38.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Install PI Server 3.4.375.99 64-bit on target machine.</li> <li>• Move PI Server.</li> <li>• Upgrade to latest PI Server version.</li> </ul> <p>Note: Moving from an old PI Server version (between 3.2.357.8 and 3.4.375.38) directly to 3.4.375.99 is the exception to the rule. Under other circumstances, you should move PI Server database files on the source machine to the target machine and then upgrade both machines to the exact same versions of the PI Server.</p>
PI Server 3.4.375.80 32-bit or 3.4.375.99 32-bit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Install PI Server 3.4.375 64-bit on target machine. Use the same version of the PI Server that was installed on the 32-bit PI Server machine. (For example, if 3.4.375.80 32-bit was installed on the source PI Server, you should install 3.4.375.80 64-bit on the target PI Server. If 3.4.375.99 32-bit was installed on the source PI Server machine, you should install 3.4.375.99 64-bit on the target PI Server.)</li> <li>• Move PI Server.</li> </ul>

# ...I don't have AF

...small  
system

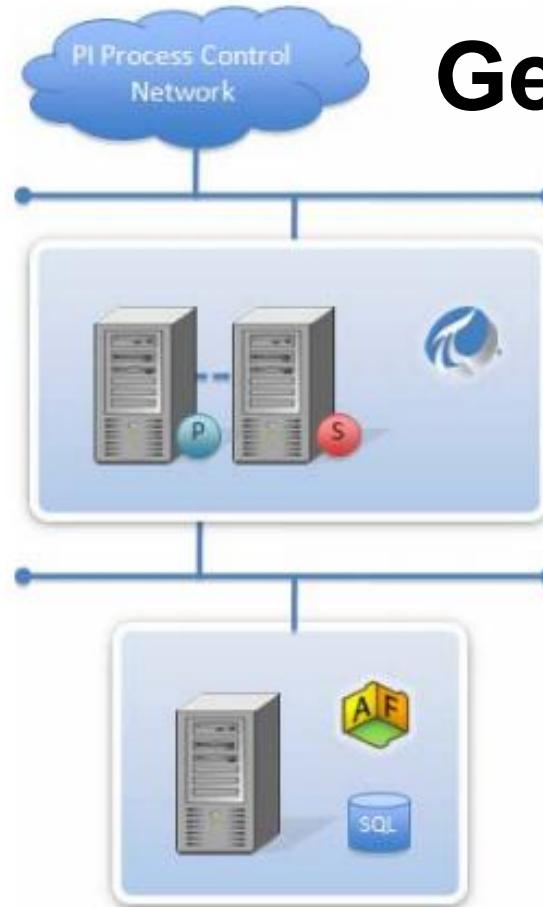
...large  
system

Install SQL  
Server  
Express on  
the PI Server  
machine

Install PI AF  
on the same  
machine

Enterprise  
grade SQL  
Server  
installation

Devote a  
machine (or  
several) to AF



# Get AF

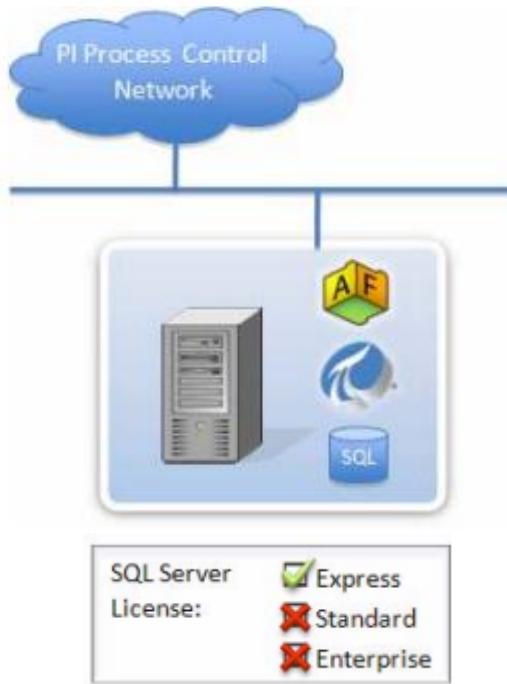
- PI AF has two components
  - AF Server
  - SQL Server Database

P Primary server of a collective

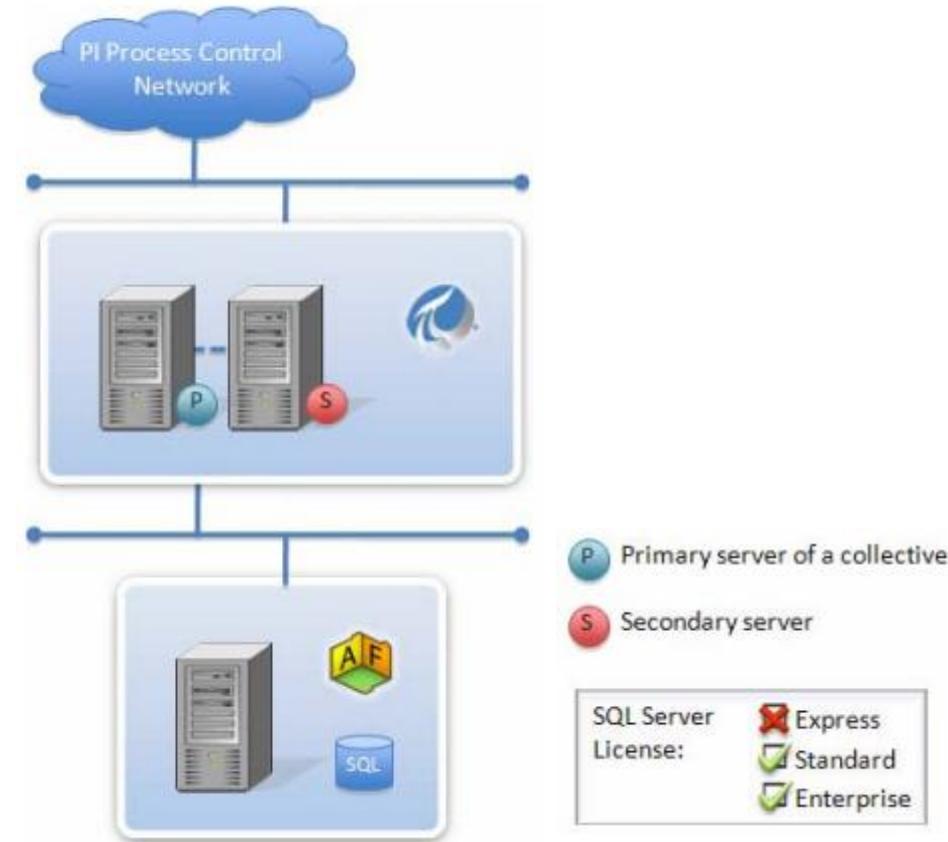
S Secondary server

SQL Server	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Express
License:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Standard
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Enterprise

## Small AF (<10k Assets)



## Larger AF (>10k Assets)



# Help!!!

## OSIsoft Field Service

- On-site or remote service. Typically a 4 day job.

## Public Classes

- Practice with the product in a controlled environment.

## YouTube Walkthroughs

- Step-by-step walkthrough. (Not a substitute for documentation)

## OSIsoft Technical Support

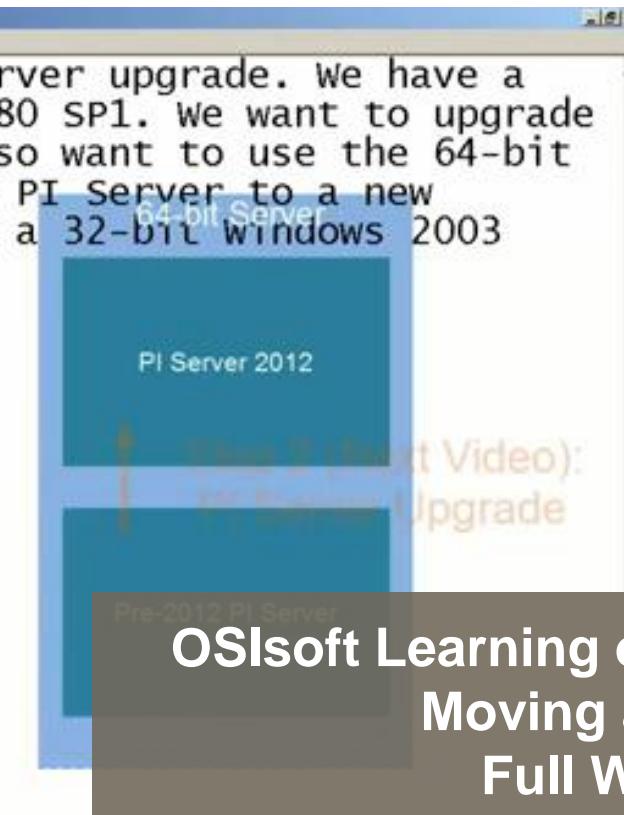
- If there are problems during the upgrade.

Hello! Today we are going to do a PI Server upgrade. We have a 32-bit PI Server, running version 3.4.380 SP1. We want to upgrade to the latest PI Server, PI 2012. We also want to use the 64-bit version. That means we need to move the PI Server to a new machine, because the current machine is a 32-bit Windows 2003 machine.

I

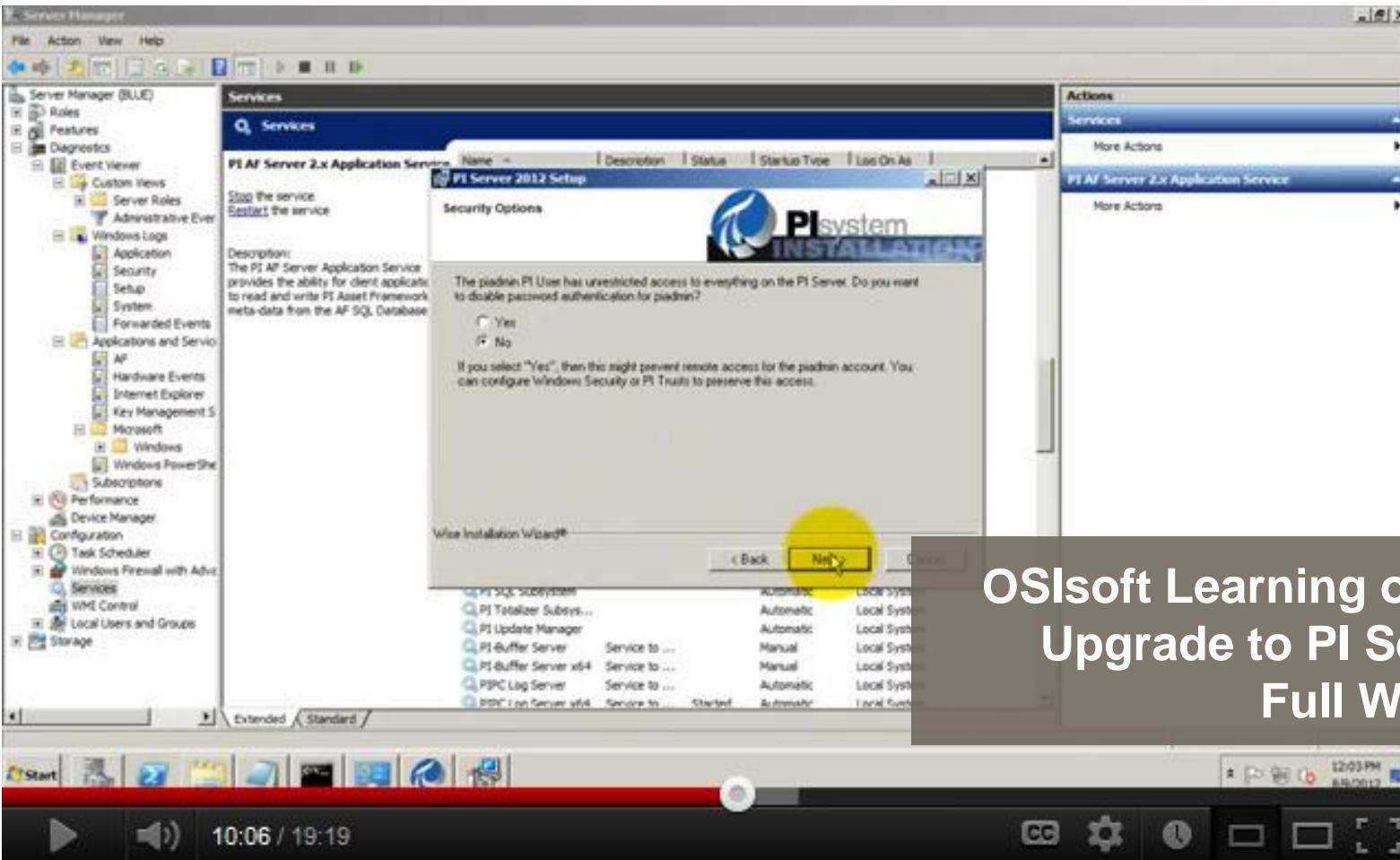


Step 1 (This Video):  
PI Server Move



## OSIsoft Learning on YouTube Moving a PI Server: Full Walkthrough





## OSIsoft Learning on YouTube Upgrade to PI Server 2012: Full Walkthrough



# Hardware and System Sizing

# Basic Hardware Guidelines

0. Windows ⇒ Latest OS (64 bits)
1. Memory ⇒ most bang/\$
2. Storage ⇒ latency (IOPS)
3. Network ⇒ latency (RTT)
4. Computing ⇒ client workload

	RAM	Disk IO/s	Network	CPU Cores
<b>Minimum</b>	15KB per PI Point	Rate of Archived Events/50	100Mbps LAN	4 + Active Client Connections/5
<b>Recommended</b>	Enough to fit 2 full archives in RAM  (file system cache)	Rate of Archived Events/10 + Read Workload  (based on desired client response time)	1-10Gbps LAN  (end-to-end latency is most critical)	4 + Active Client Connections/2  (more with multi-threaded clients)

# PI Data Archive Hardware Sizing

**PI Server** PI Data Archive Hardware Sizing

Last Update: 9-Oct-2012  
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Please review and adjust values in the first 6 rows. Recommendations are shown in the white-text cells underneath.  
Note: using lower numbers may affect performance and reliability, please contact OSIsoft Customer Services for help.

Expected Point Count	50,000 points
PI Interface Nodes	2 nodes
PI Interface Scan Rate	5.00000 sec (0.2 Hz)
Measurement Data Type	float32 (6-digit precision)
Average Data Compression	50 % (2:1)
Online Data Time Range	120 months
Estimated Snapshot Rate	10,000 events/sec
Estimated Event Size (on Disk)	6 bytes
Estimated Archiving Rate	5,000 events/sec
STORAGE	
Minimum Archive Size	100 MB
Recommended Archive Size	256 MB
Required Online Disk Space	8,813 GB
Estimated Archive Count	3,525 files/year
Estimated Archive Volume (per server node)	103 MB/hour
Estimated Archiving Rate	73 GB/month
DISK I/O	
Minimum Disk Bandwidth	1 MB/sec
Minimum Disk Throughput	100 IO/sec*
Recommended Disk Bandwidth	10 MB/sec
Recommended Disk Throughput	200 IO/sec*
(* See "KB Article #xxxxx" for details on how to evaluate IO operations/sec	
PI Collective Nodes	1 node (no HA)
Estimated Bandwidth per Interface Node	146 KB/sec
Active Client Applications	10 applications
Average Query Int.	Estimated
Average Query Rate	Estimated
Average Points per Query	Estimated
Processor	Processor
Memory	Memory
Network	Network
Estimated Snapshot Rate	Estimated Snapshot Rate
Estimated Event Size (on Disk)	Estimated Event Size (on Disk)
Estimated Archiving Rate	Estimated Archiving Rate
Recommended Bandwidth*	100 Mbps
(†) See "Buffer and Bandwidth Calculation" spreadsheet for latency considerations	

# Better Performance on Old Hardware



2012

Max Point Count	10K+ tags
Max Data In Rate	>40K ev/sec
Max Data Out Rate	>100K ev/sec
Online Archives	>1K files
Real-time Updates	>5K signups
Point Changes	>50 pt/sec
Startup Time	<1 minutes



Dell OptiPlex  
SX-260

- 32-bit Architecture
- Pentium 4 3GHz  
(1 CPU Core)
- 1GB 266MHz DDR RAM
- 40GB 5.4K IDE HDD

eBay ~ \$30



# 2012

Max Point Count	20M+ tags
Max Data In Rate	1M ev/sec
Max Data Out Rate	>10M ev/sec
Online Archives	>50K files
Real-time Updates	10M+ signups
Point Changes	2,000 pt/sec
Startup Time	<10 minutes



# 2012

Max Point Count	5M tags
Max Data In Rate	500K ev/sec
Max Data Out Rate	5M ev/sec
Online Archives	>10K files
Real-time Updates	>3M signups
Point Changes	>500 pt/sec
Startup Time	<2 minutes

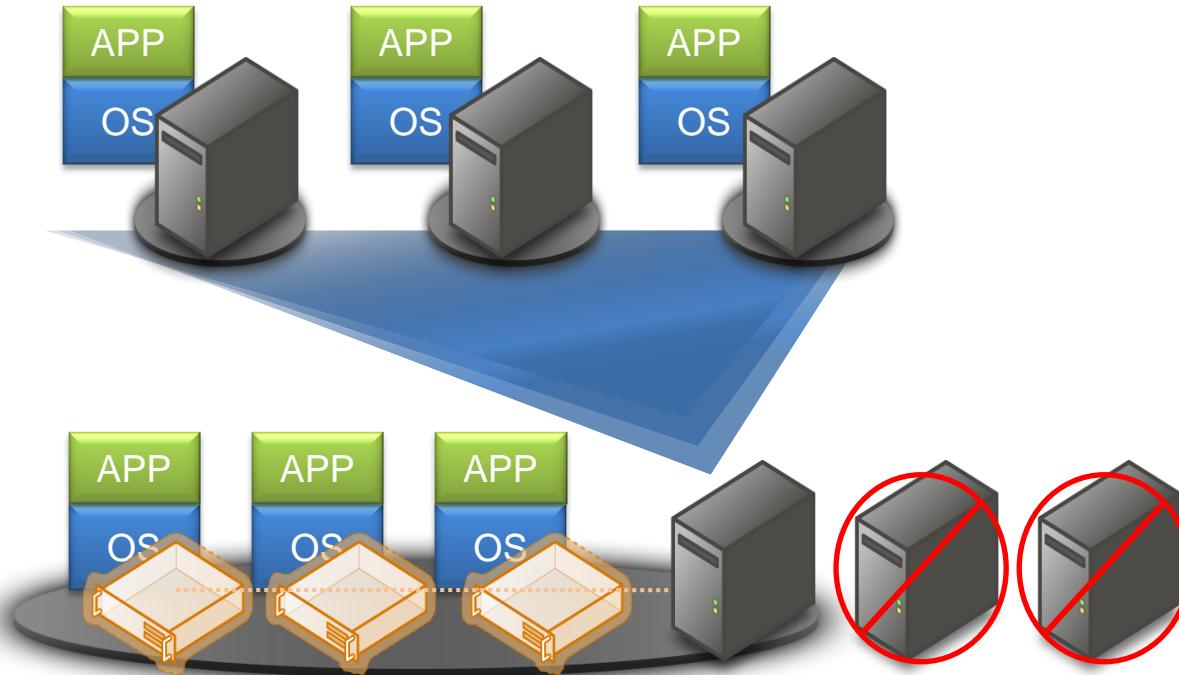


# 2012

Points	10K+ tags
Data In	>40K ev/sec
Data Out	>100K ev/sec
Online	>1K files
Updates	>5K signups
Points	>50 pt/sec
Startup	<1 minutes



# Hardware Virtualization



# Operating System Virtualization

Why are OSIsoft customers using virtualization?

- Server consolidation
- Improved availability and provisioning

OSIsoft supports virtualization

- OSIsoft Knowledge Base article 3062OSI8
- Consider shared resources implications

# Operating System Virtualization\*

Treat virtual machines as if they were physical machines

Invest in enterprise-level hardware and software

Do not mix virtual and physical on the same host

Use qualified virtualization support personnel

Test on the target platform

\* OSIsoft Center of Excellence



# PI Data Archive Best Practices

# PI Server High Availability

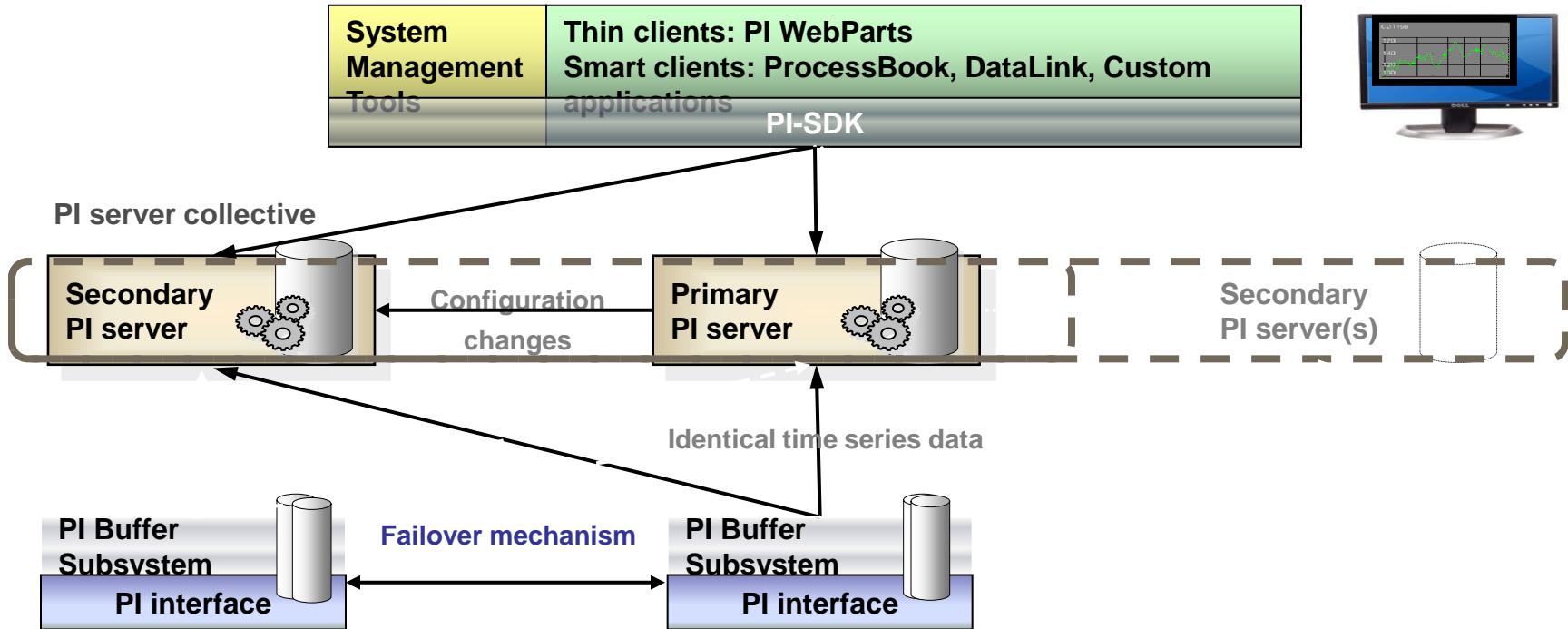
## Create a PI Server Collective

- Maximize data access for clients.  
Maintain availability during outages.
- Load balance by connecting clients to closest Collective member

## Best Practices

- Implement PI Server High Availability
- No more support for Microsoft clusters in PI Server 2012

# High Availability Architecture



# Windows Integrated Security (WIS)

PI Server 3.4.380.36 (2009) introduced support for WIS



Use Microsoft Active Directory (AD) for PI Server Authentication



Map AD Principles to PI Identities



PI Identities are roles on the PI Server  
e.g. PIAdmins, PIReaders, PIInterfaces

# What Does WIS Do for Me?

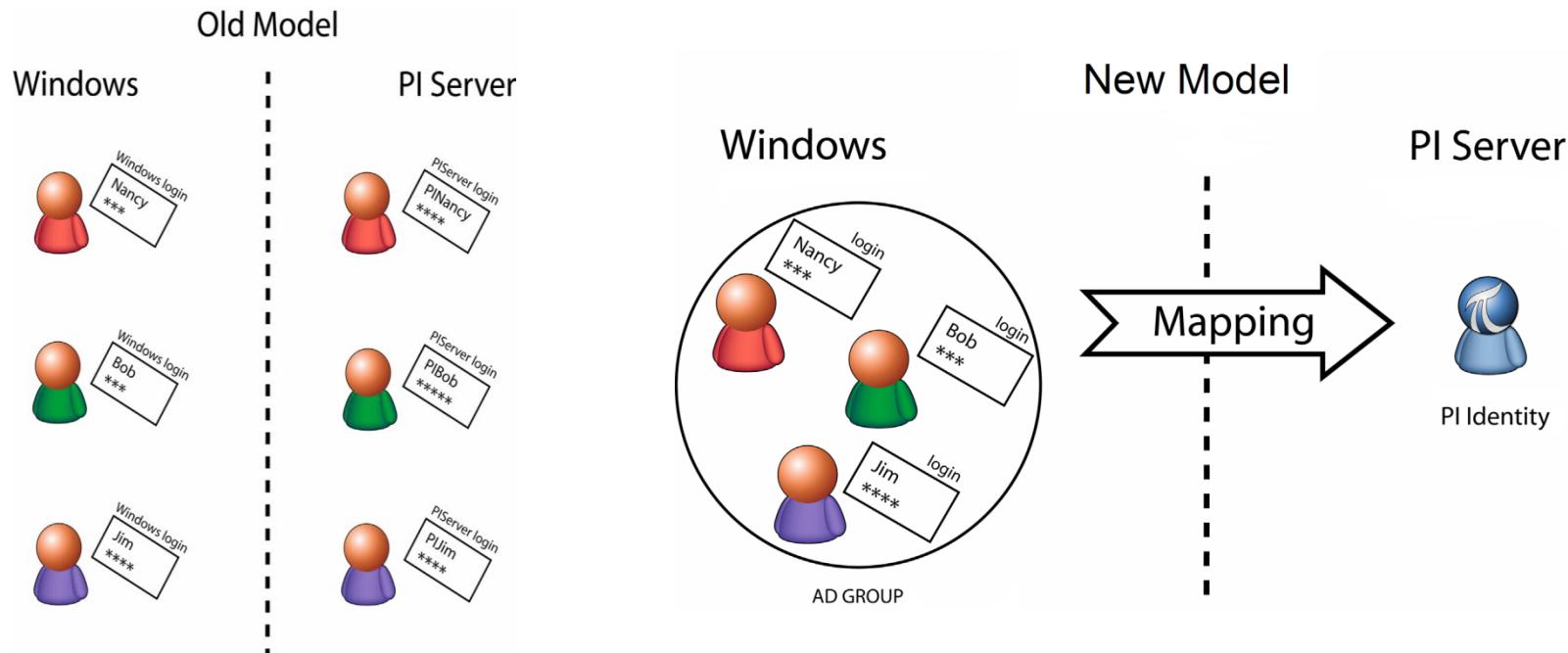
More  
secure than  
trusts and  
explicit  
login

Seamless  
user login  
experience.  
No login  
box.

No more PI  
Users to  
maintain

No more  
piadmin  
password  
on sticky-  
note

# Comparing PI Users and PI Identities

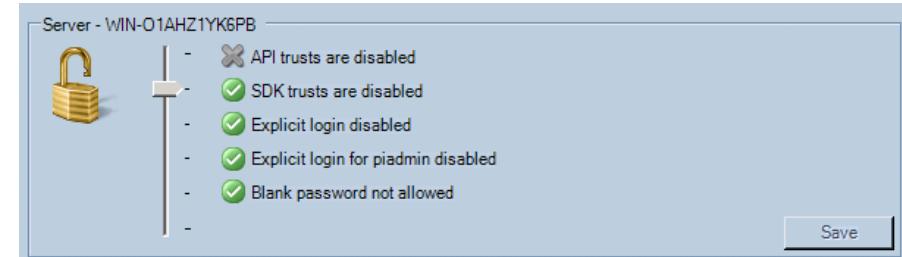


# PI Identity Planning with AD

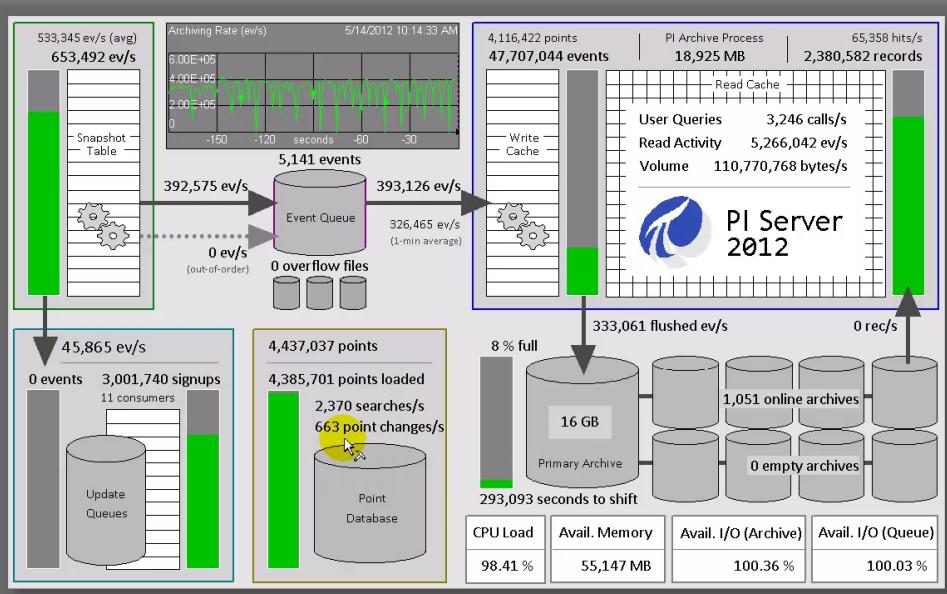
- Develop a PI Identity Scheme for your Organization
  - Who uses PI data?
  - Who writes to PI data?
  - Who needs Admin access?
- Who manages the AD Security?
  - Map identities and or groups directly
  - Add AD users to local groups that are mapped

# How to Tighten Security

1. Physical and OS security are the first line of defense
2. Use the new Security Tool to help secure your PI Server
3. Do not use the PIADMIN account in trusts or mappings
4. Disable PI password authentication (explicit logins) (see KB00304)
5. Retire PI SDK-based Trusts
6. Use Windows Integrated Security



# PI Server Best Practices



Look at the Logs

Use the Security Features

Monitor PI System Health with PI PerfMon

Automatic Archive Creation

Check Your Backups and Know How to Use Them



# PI Interface Buffering and Failover

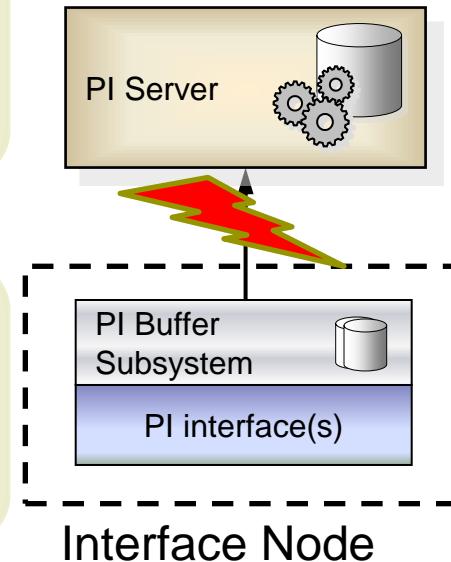
# Interface Buffering

Prevent  
Data  
Loss

- Stores data in the event of disconnection from PI Server(s)

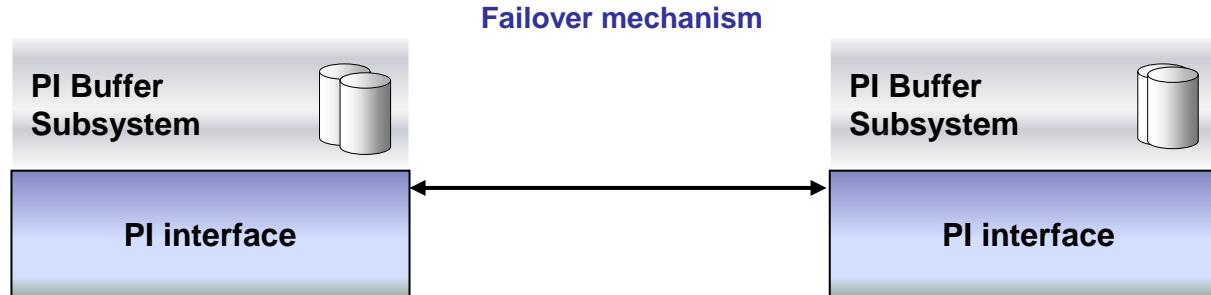
Two  
Flavors

- **PI Buffer Subsystem (pibusfss)**
- PI Buffer Server (bufserv)

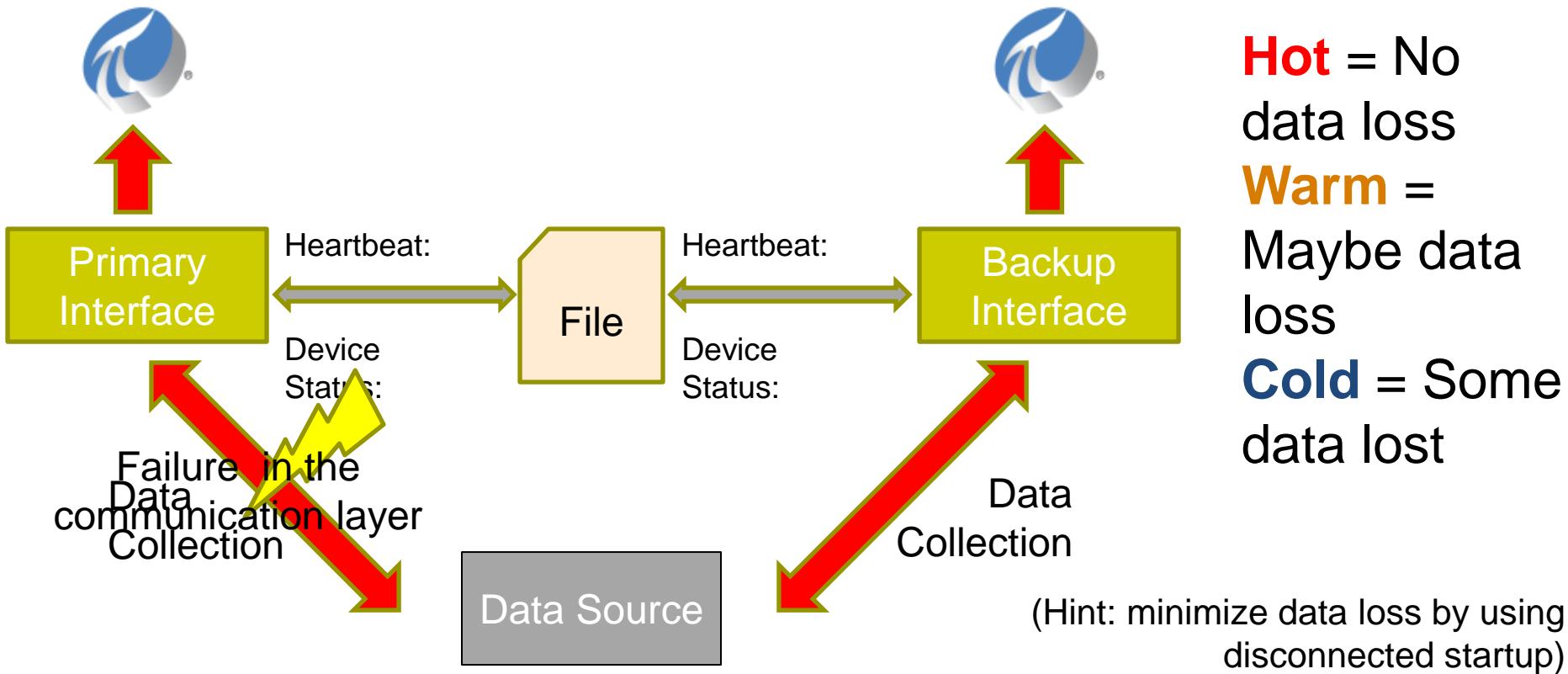


# What is Interface Level Failover?

- Prevents (or minimizes) data loss if one of the interface machines fails.
- Each interface monitors the other's status and takes over if there is a problem.
- UnInt Phase 2 Failover uses a shared file.



# How does interface failover work?



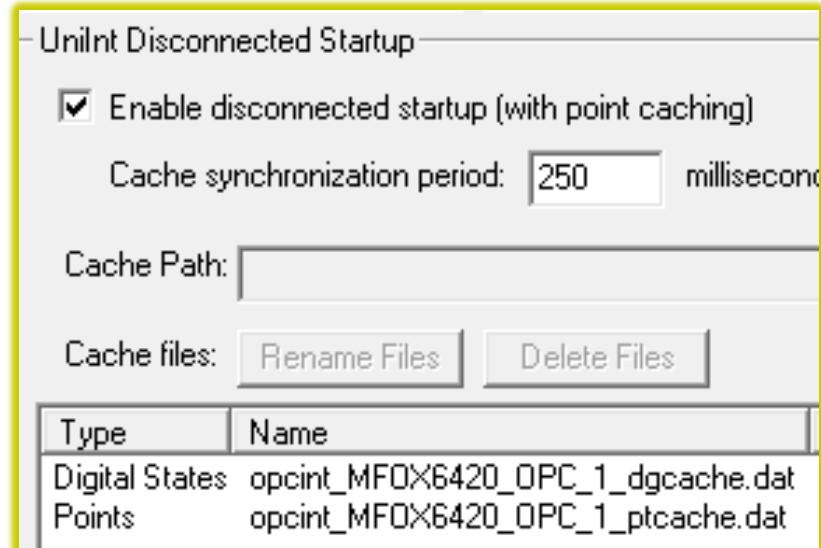
# Disconnected Startup

- Previously, if the PI Server was not available, it was not possible to start the interface
- Creates a local cache of all of the tags. Now the interface can start without connecting to the PI Server

**Along with buffering, you know have an interface that can operate (almost) indefinitely without the PI Server!**

**Bonus:** We have seen impressive decreases in interface startup time when this feature is enabled

**Hint:** If you make a lot of changes to this interface's tags consider shutting down the interface and deleting the cache files.



# PI Interfaces - Best Practices

- Configure buffering with PI Buffer Subsystem
- Consider implementing Unilnt Failover
- Disconnected start-up
- Create interface health points
- Configure 2+ trusts using a limited account (not piadmin)
- Don't forget to test!



# PI ACE

# PI Advanced Computing Engine

Develop calculations in  
Microsoft Visual Studio

- *Wizard*

Easy to manage and  
deploy calculations

- *Manager*

Service runs  
calculations

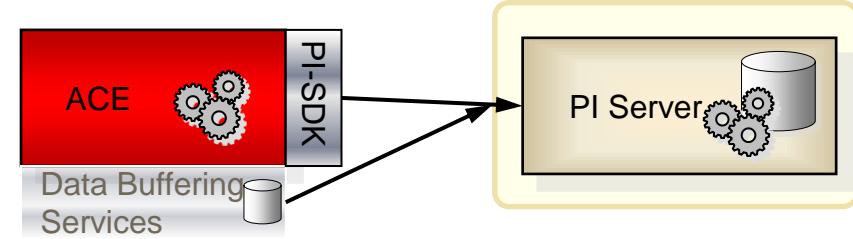
- *Scheduler*

Support for 64-bit

- *PI ACE 2010*

# PI Advanced Computing Engine

- Best Practices
  - Configure buffering
    - *Buffer subsystem or buffer server*
  - Error handling
    - *Try...catch*
  - Performance Counters
    - *Calc in error, calc skipped, etc...*





# PI Asset Framework and PI Notifications

# PI Asset Framework Overview

- Adds context to PI data
  - Define relationships
  - Build hierarchy
  - Relate to non-PI data
- Usable
  - Provides context to end users
  - Integrated calculations and search tools
- Scalable
  - 10s of 1,000s of assets
  - Connect to multiple PI Servers & data sources
- Extensible
  - Access with PI OLEDB & PI Webservices
  - Customizable data references and plug-ins



# PI AF Server - Components

- Two key components
  - AF Server
  - SQL Server database
- SQL Server
  - Express, Standard
  - Cluster or Mirror
- AF Server
  - Behind a load balancer
  - AFSDK Collective

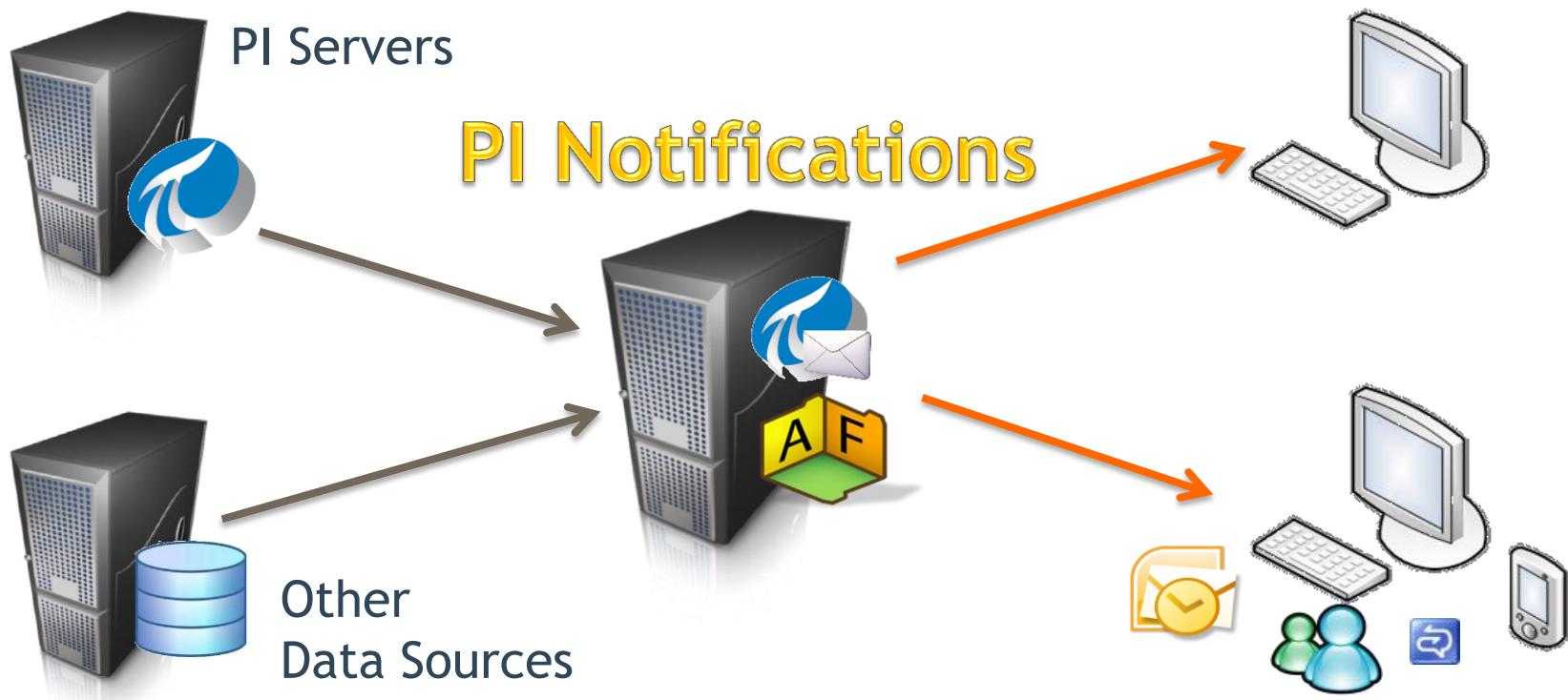


# PI AF Server – Best Practices

- Configure AF backups – Backup PIFD and/or run afbackup.bat
- Monitor SQL Server health
- Do not run the SQL Server database engine as LOCALSYSTEM, admin, or domain admin.
- DO NOT RUN the AF Server with SysAdmin privilege (don't use SA account, LOCALSYSTEM, or admin)
  - Use a domain account

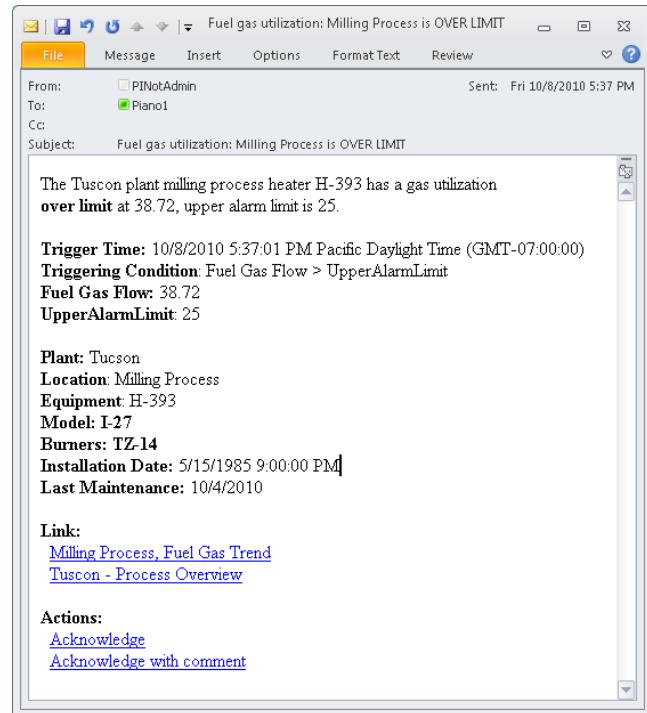
# PI Notifications - Overview

PI ProcessBook  
PI DataLink



# PI Notifications – Best Practices

- Run PI Notifications as a domain account
- Configure PI Buffering
- Create redundant schedulers
- Monitor health with PI PerfMon tags





# THANK YOU

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