Regional Seminar Series

Architecture and Best Practices: Recommendations for the PI System

Brandon Lake
Sales Support Engineer
blake@osisoft.com

Empowering Business in Real Time.

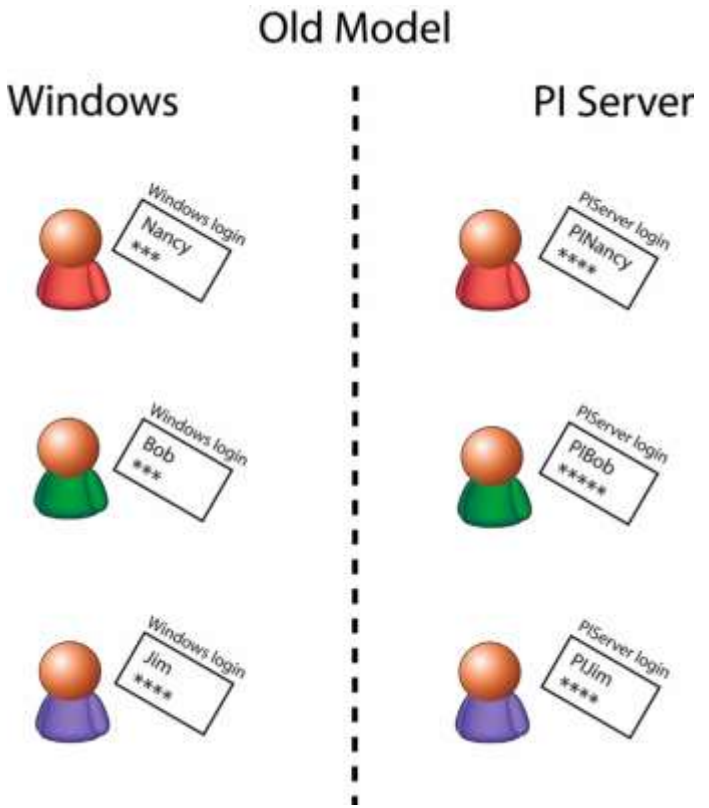
Overview

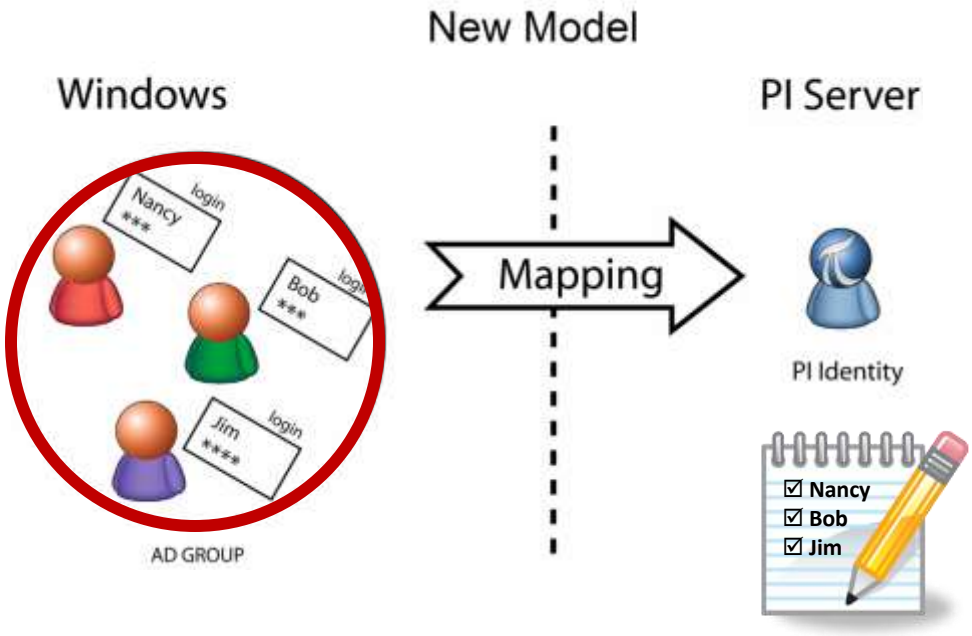
- PI Server with Windows Integrated Security (WIS)
- PI High Availability for time series and AF
- PI Interface Failover
- Virtualization and PI

Todays PI Security Concepts

Value now. Value over time.

User Identity in the PI Server

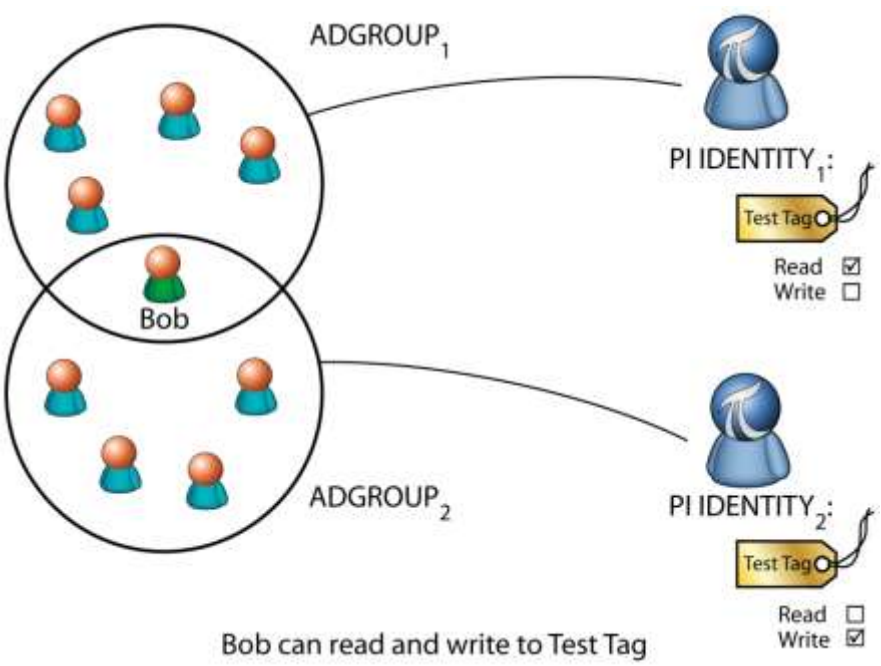


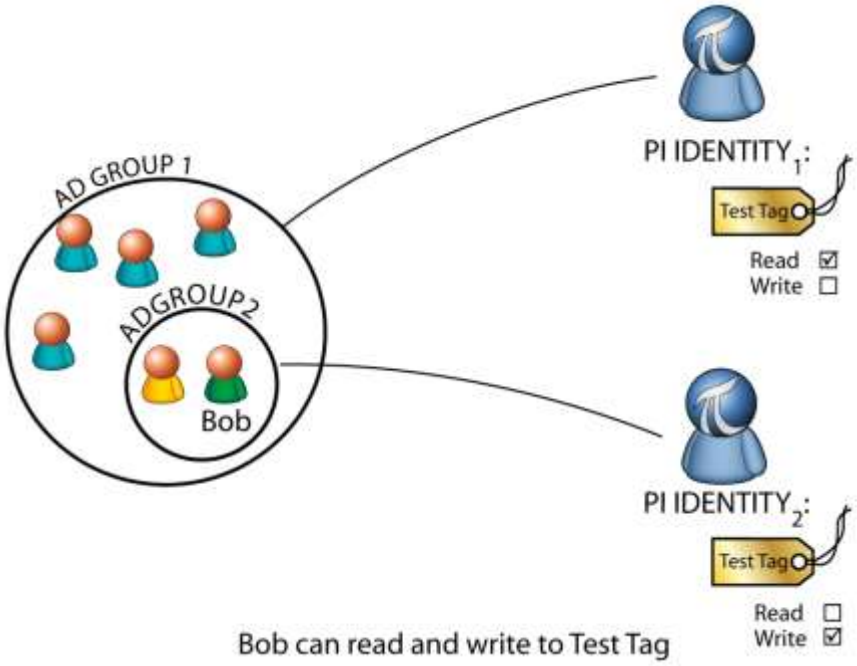


- The security principal is the PI User
- Audit and Change logs reflect the PI User

- The security principal is the Windows User, not a PI User
- Audit and Change logs in the PI Server reflect the Windows User

PI Identities, PI Mappings





- PI Identities = Security Principals within PI
  - Examples: PIOperators, PIEngineers, and PISupervisors
- PI Mappings – link AD Groups to PI Identities

PI Identity vs. PI Groups and Users

- Differences between PI Identity and PI Users and Groups
  - Unlike PI Users, PI identities don't have a password and can't be used for explicit login
  - Unlike PI Groups, PI Identities can not contain PI Users
- Common Properties Shared by PI Identities, Users, and Groups
  - Can be used for PI Mappings or PI Trusts (except PIWorld)
  - Can be used in all Access Control Lists (ACL)
  - Have the same authentication control flags

Active Directory Integration

- PI Server must be a member of a domain to leverage Kerberos authentication
- Multiple AD domains must have trusts established or users and groups from other domain cannot be used
  - One-way trusts are supported: the server domain must trust the client domain
- Users in Workgroups can be configured to use Windows Local Groups from the PI Server machine
  - Passwords have to match for NTLM authentication

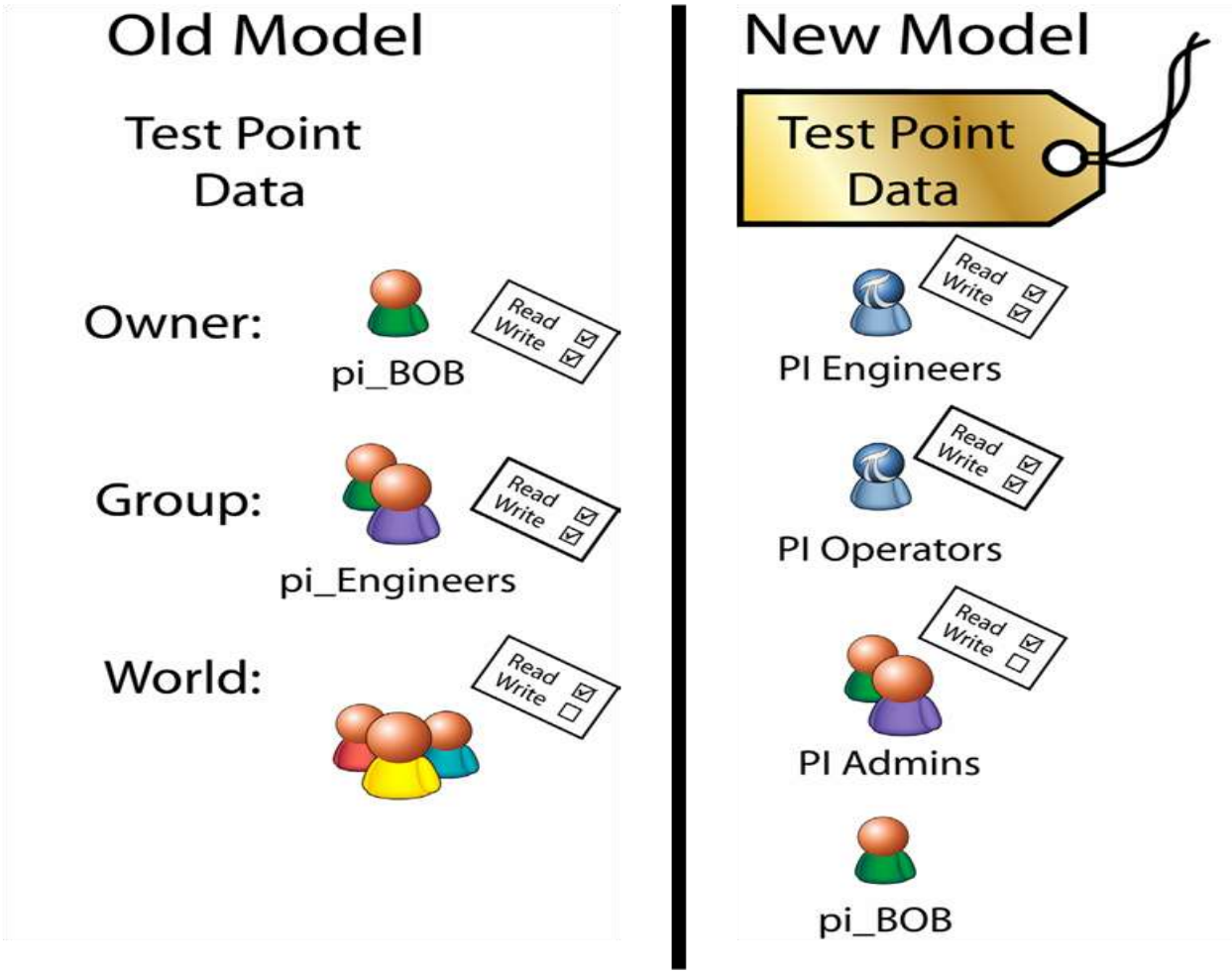
Active Directory Integration

- Considerations when Integrating with AD
  - Kerberos authentication can be used without creating domain groups
    - Create a Local Group then add users from AD into those local groups
  - Who will manage the AD Security groups?
    - Will IT allow you to manage them?
    - Do you want to manage them?
  - Design Identity mappings and AD or Local Groups to ensure consistent access management across your PI System(s) with Active Directory

Identity Planning – Best Practices

- Develop a PI Identity Scheme for your Organization
  - Use common Identities across PI Systems
    - What will the structure be?
      - Why would you build them that way?
        - » Protect data
        - » Ease of maintenance
        - » Organizational separation
  - Standardize the application of Identities for security in PI Systems
- Use Kerberos authentication either by directly mapping AD Security Principles, or by using Local Groups with AD Security Principles

Object Level Security Model



Object Level Security - Compatibility

Access permissions are automatically converted

Tag	dataaccess	datagroup	dataowner
sinusoid	o:rw g:rw w:r	pi_users	bob

New single ACL attribute or security descriptor

- `Identity1:A(r,w) | Identity2:A(r,w) | Identity3:A(r)`

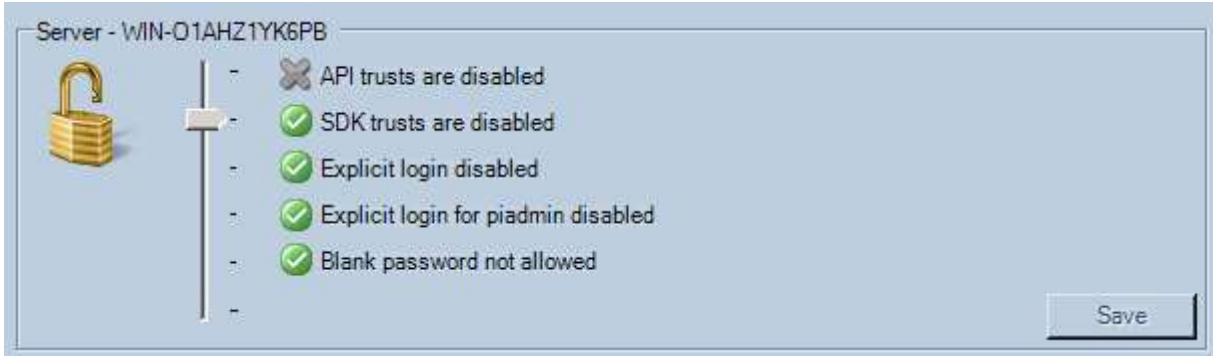
Tag	datasecurity
sinusoid	pi_users:A(r,w) | bob:A(r,w) | PIWorld:A(r)

Backwards Compatible

Same schema for PI Database and Module Database security

How to Tighten Security

1. Use the new Security Tool to help secure your PI Server
2. Disable or protect the PIADMIN account
3. Disable PI password authentication (Explicit Logins)
4. Secure piconfig by forcing login
5. Retire PI SDK-based Trusts
6. Configure the PI Server Firewall
7. Disable PIWorld Identity



PI High Availability (HA)

Value now. Value over time.

Built-in Benefits of HA PI

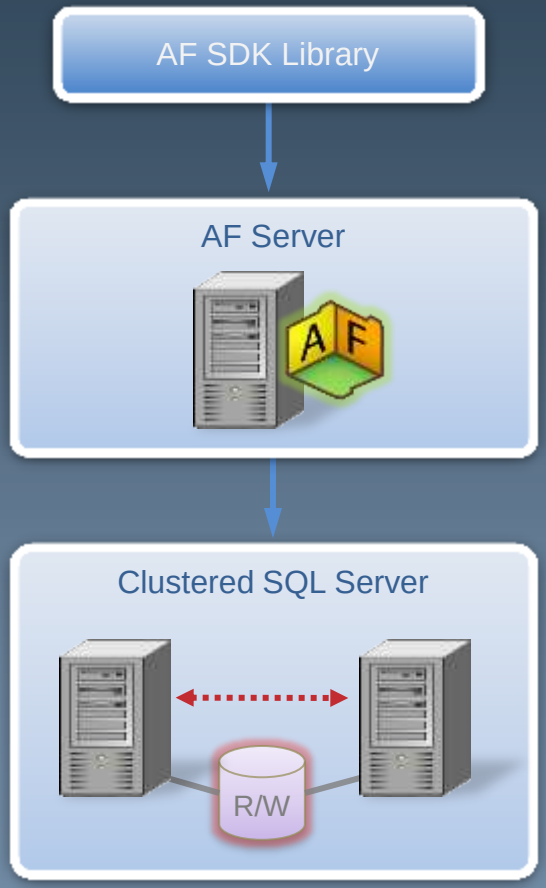
- PI is there all the time – users trust it
- No late night heroics to restore a backup or perform routine maintenance
- Removes fear of a bad backup
- Simple design is robust, low bandwidth and supported by WANs
- Geographical independence (replace PI to PI)
- Support more or specialized users
- Facilitates capacity planning
- Complements virtualization strategies:
  - PI is perfect for monitoring a virtualized environment (HyperV performance counters; VMWare SNMP interface)

High Availibility for AF

- Support for Clustering, Mirroring, and Replication
- Very similar to HA for the PI Server
- Automatic Failover for clients
- SQL replication for the AF database

AF 2.1 + Clustered SQL Server

PI System Explorer

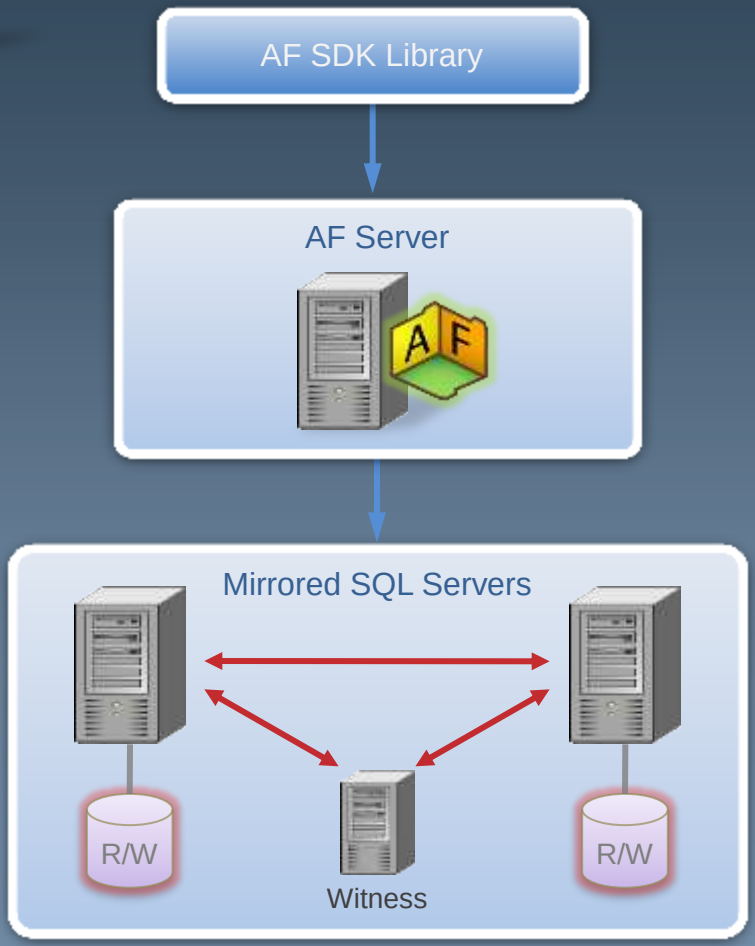


SQL Server License:
- Express
- Standard
- Enterprise

Value now. Value over time.

AF 2.1 + Mirrored SQL Servers

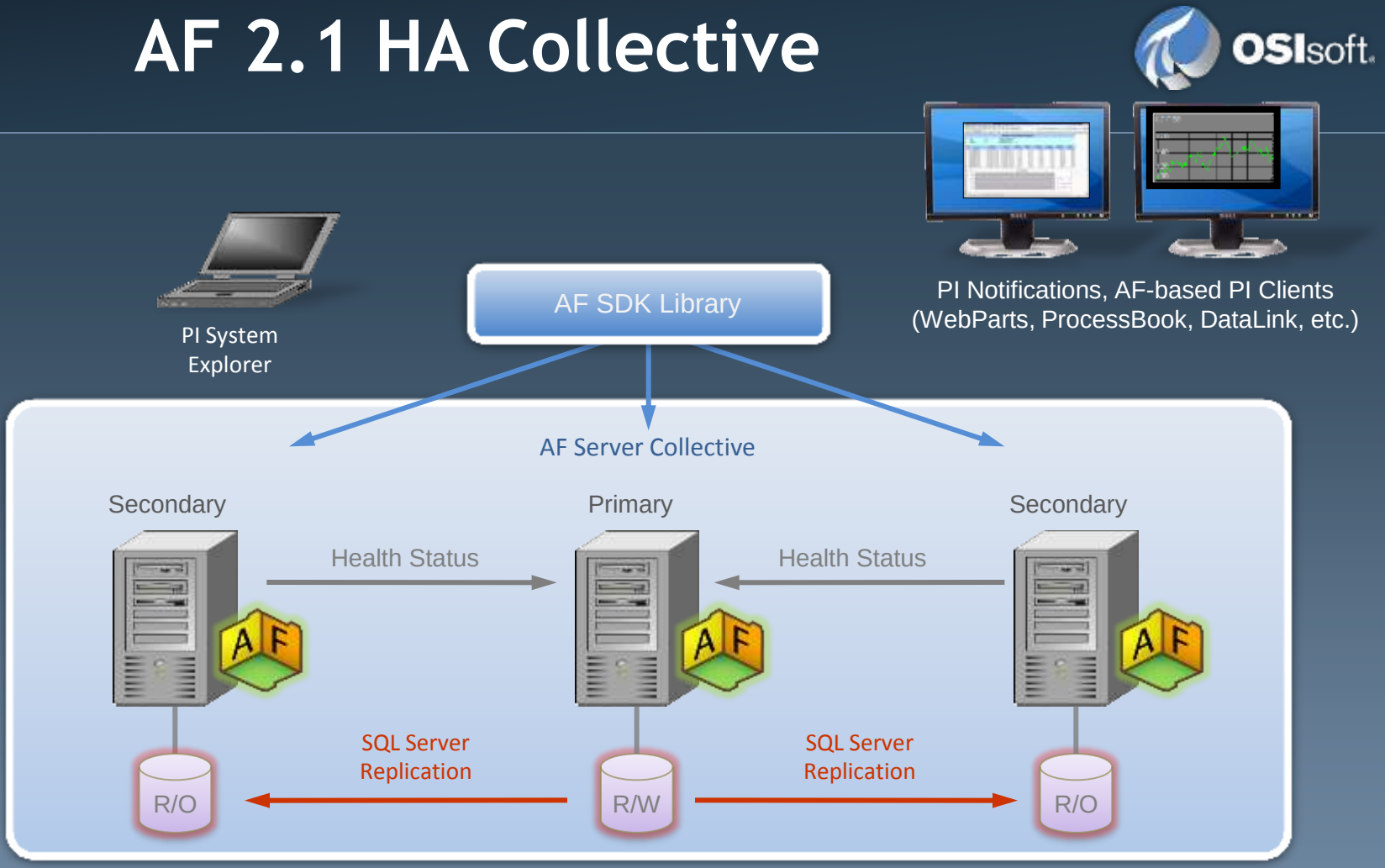
PI System Explorer



SQL Server License:	
	✗ Express
	✓ Standard
	✓ Enterprise

Value now. Value over time.

AF 2.1 HA Collective



Value now. Value over time.

AF 2.1/SQL Server HA Deployments

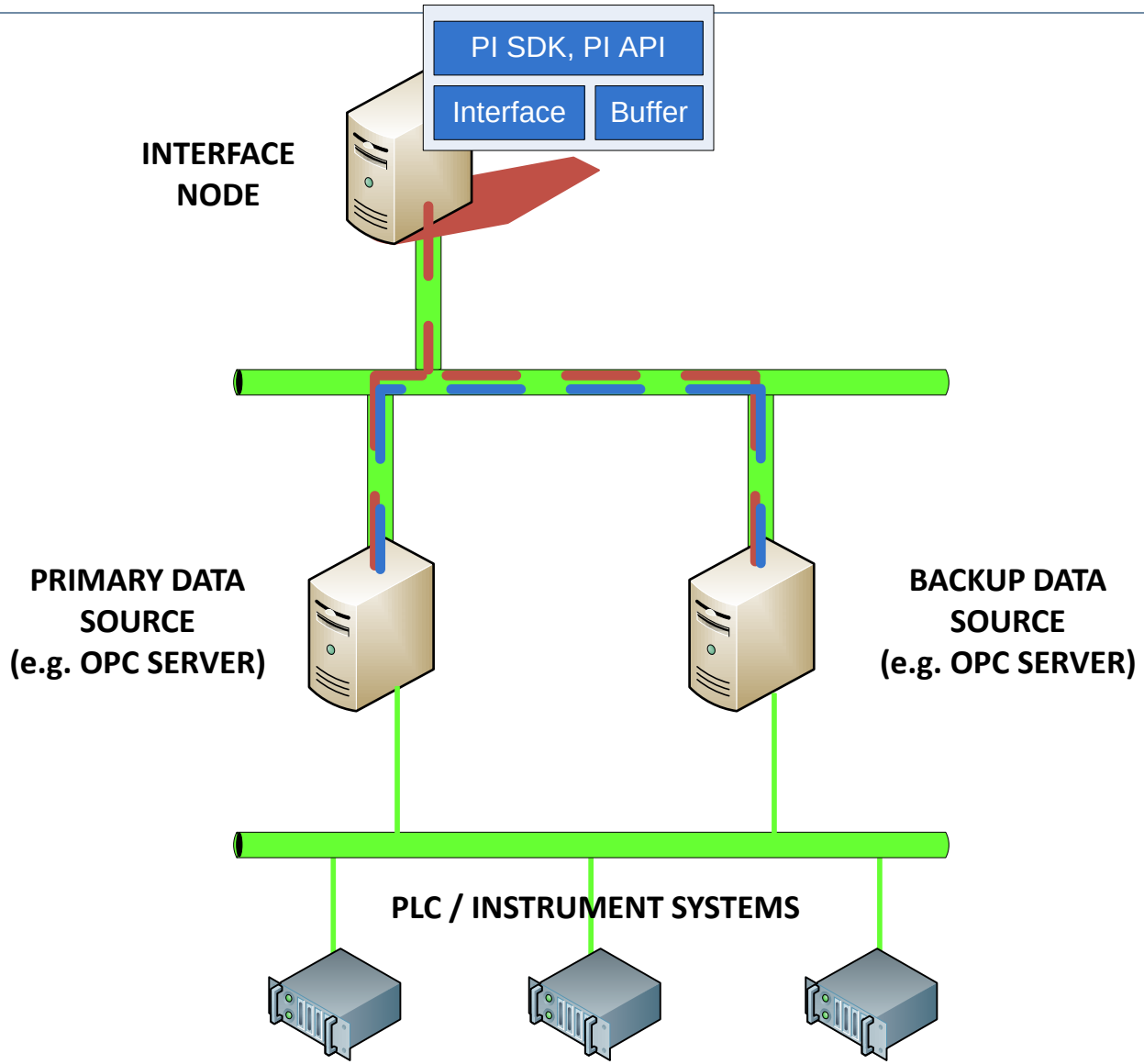
	Non-HA	SQL Cluster	SQL Mirror	AF Collective (Replication)
HA Writes	No	Yes	Yes	No
HA Reads	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
Load Balanced Reads	No	No	No	Yes
Max Distance between SQL Servers	N/A	tens of meters	km	thousands of km
Read Access during Upgrade?	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
Read/Write Access during OS/SQL Upgrade?	No	Yes	Yes	No
Read/Write Access during AF upgrade?	No	No	No	Not while upgrading Primary
Special Hardware Required?	No	Yes	No	No
Minimum SQL Server Edition Required	Express	Standard	Standard	Primary: Standard Secondary: Express

Value now. Value over time.

PI Interface Failover

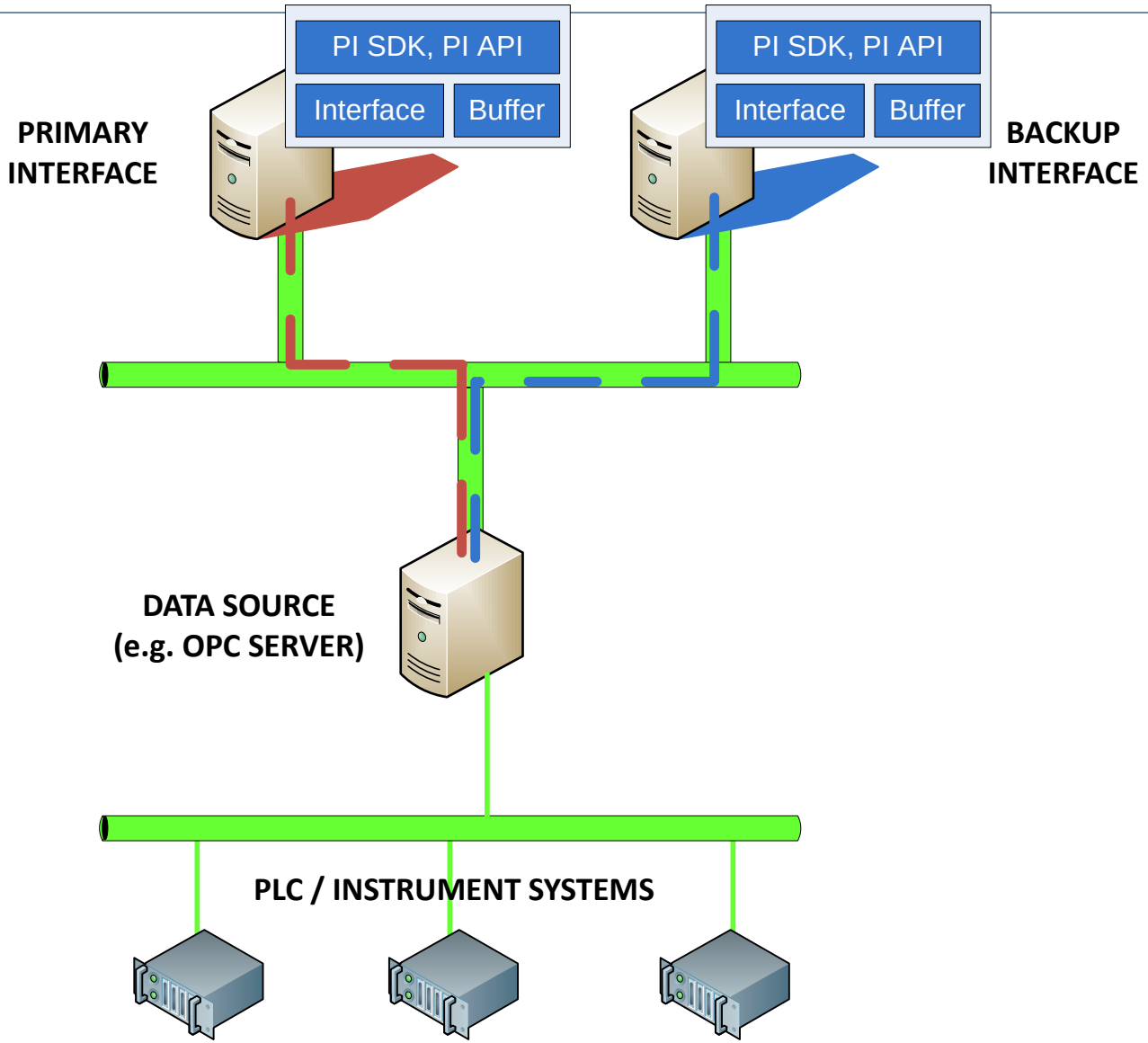
Value now. Value over time.

Native Data Source Failover for Data Collection



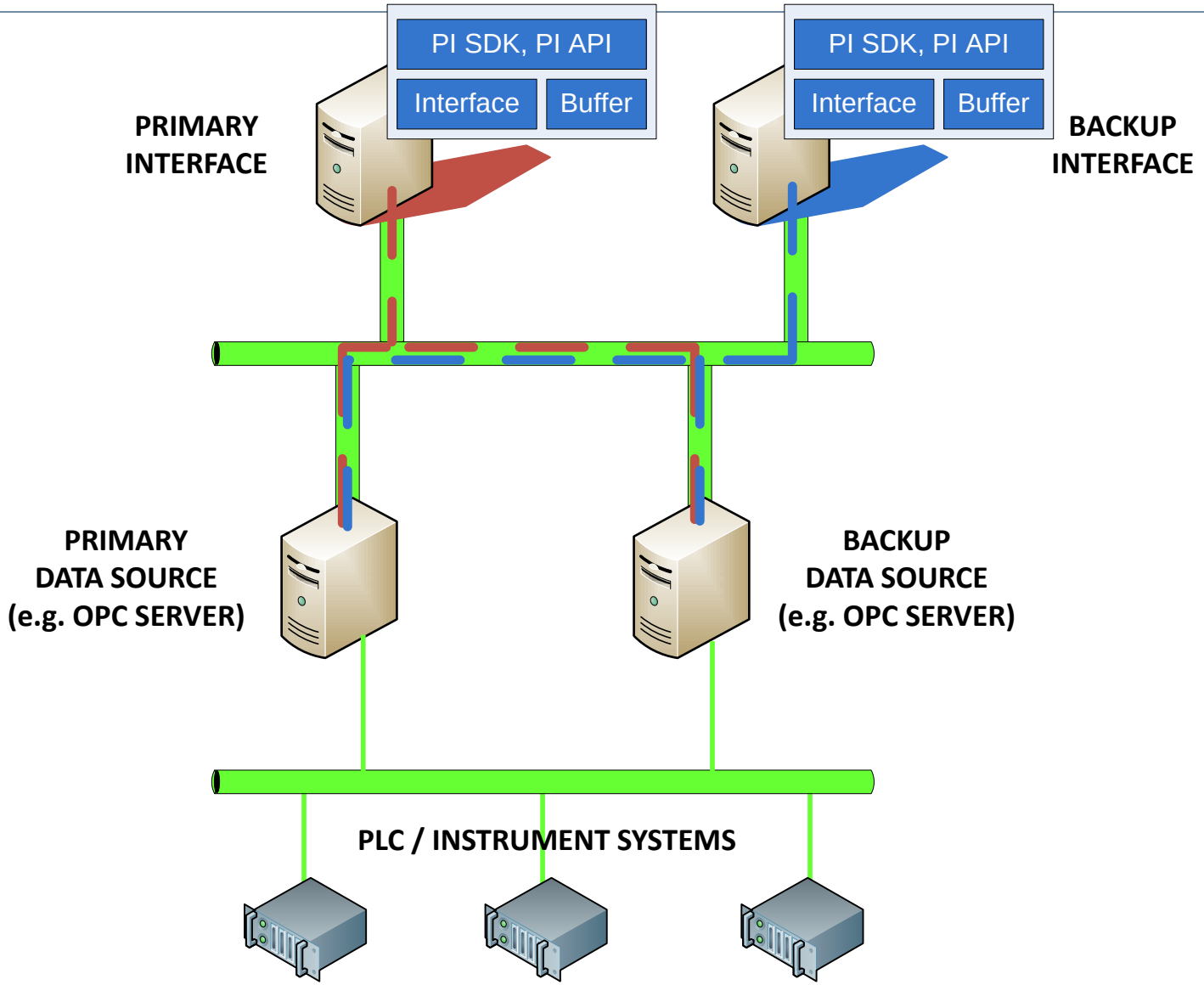
Empowering Business in Real Time.

Interface Failover for Data Collection



Empowering Business in Real Time.

Combination of native Data Source and Interface Failover

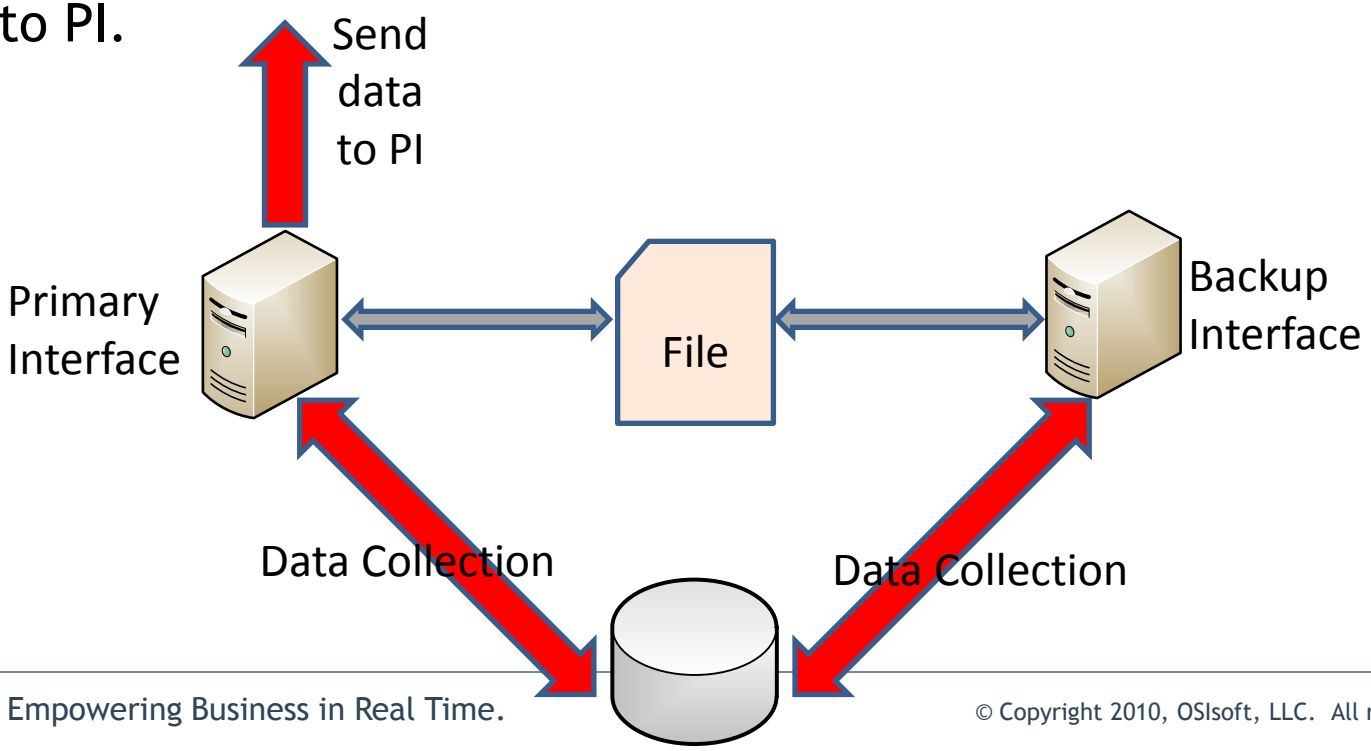


Types of Interface failover

- Phase 1
  - Maintains heartbeat via source data system
  - Only available for selected interfaces
- Phase 2
  - Maintain heartbeat via shared file
  - Many interfaces implement
  - OSIsoft recommended

PI Interface Failover

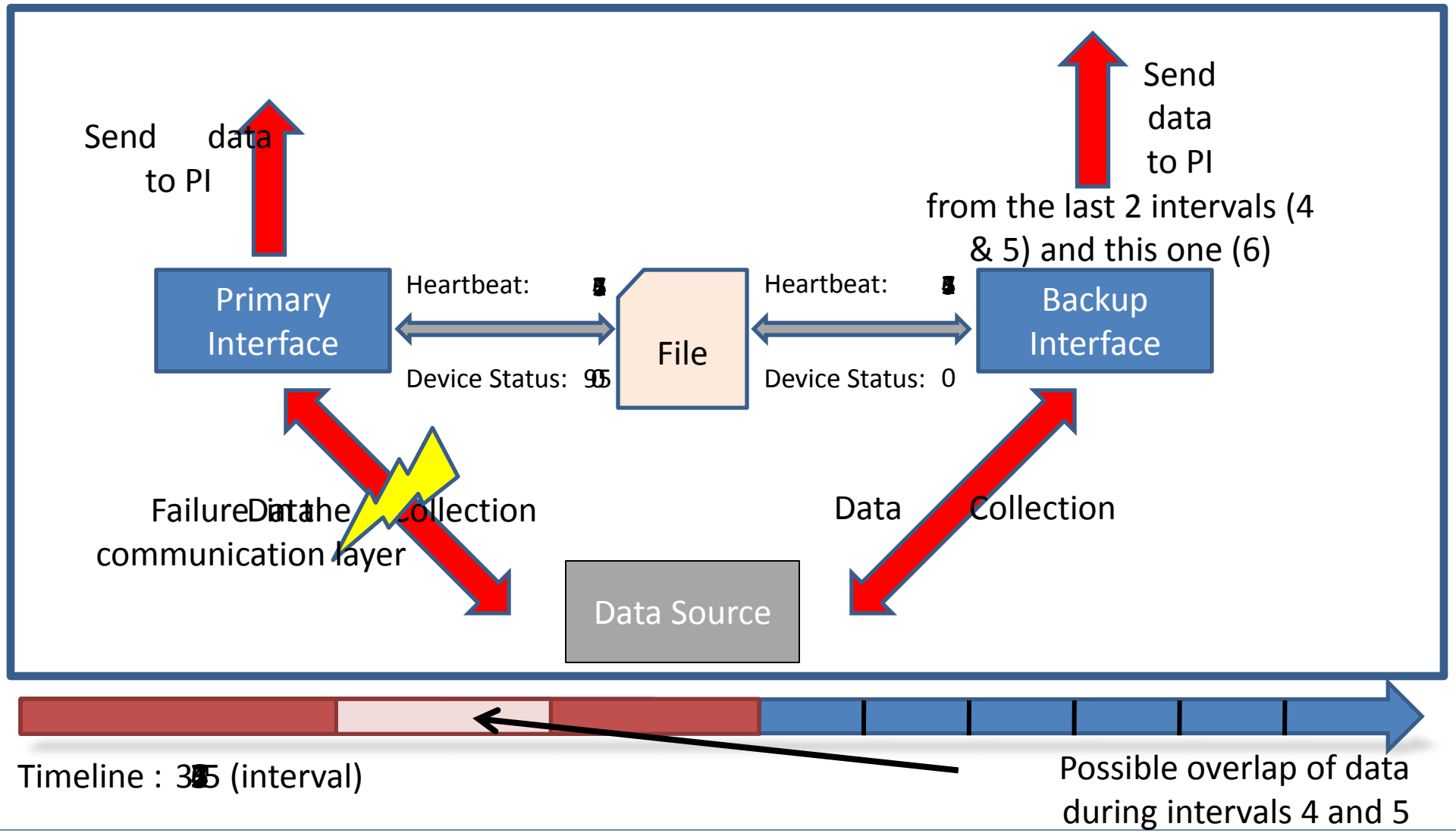
- Interface failover provides
  - 2 instances collecting the same data from the data source.
  - Communication mechanism between 2 instances of the interface.
  - Backup interface is sleeping; it means no data is sent to PI.
  - If one fails the other will recognize it, wake up and start sending data to PI.



PI Interface Failover

- Signals updated by both nodes at a defined frequency to the shared file and the PI Server:
  - Device Statuses
  - Heartbeats
  - Active ID
- 3 types of failover
  - **Hot** = Primary node sends data, secondary one does not send but has the data. There is no data loss.
  - **Warm** = Secondary node is connected, points are loaded but no collection is performed. Minimal data loss is possible.
  - **Cold** = Secondary node is only connected to the data source but nothing is done. Some data loss is possible.

Hot Failover Example



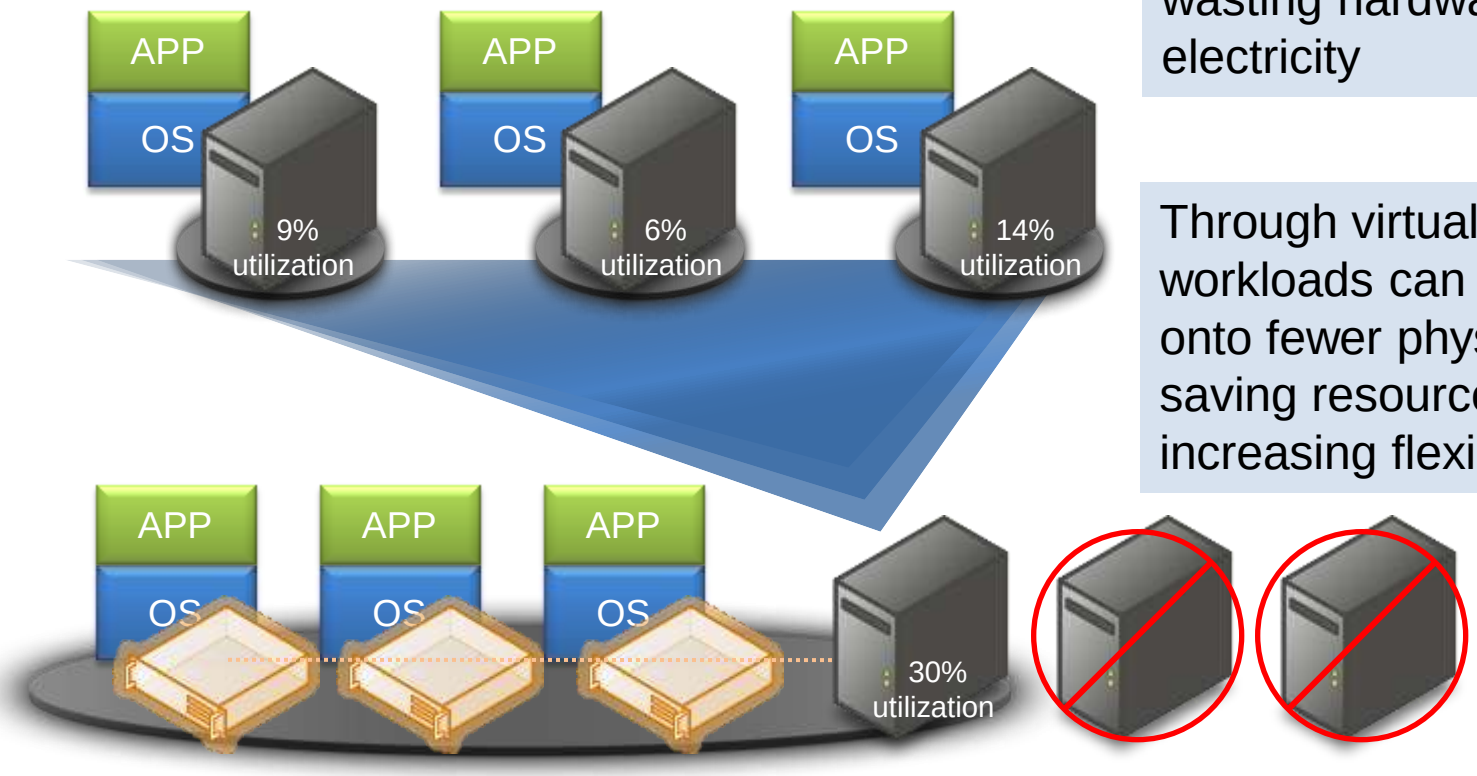
PI and Virtualization

Value now. Value over time.

Virtualization

- Servers
- Storage
- Applications

Example: Server Consolidation



Typically server workloads only consume a small fraction of total physical server capacity, wasting hardware, space, and electricity

Through virtualization, these workloads can be consolidated onto fewer physical servers, saving resources and increasing flexibility

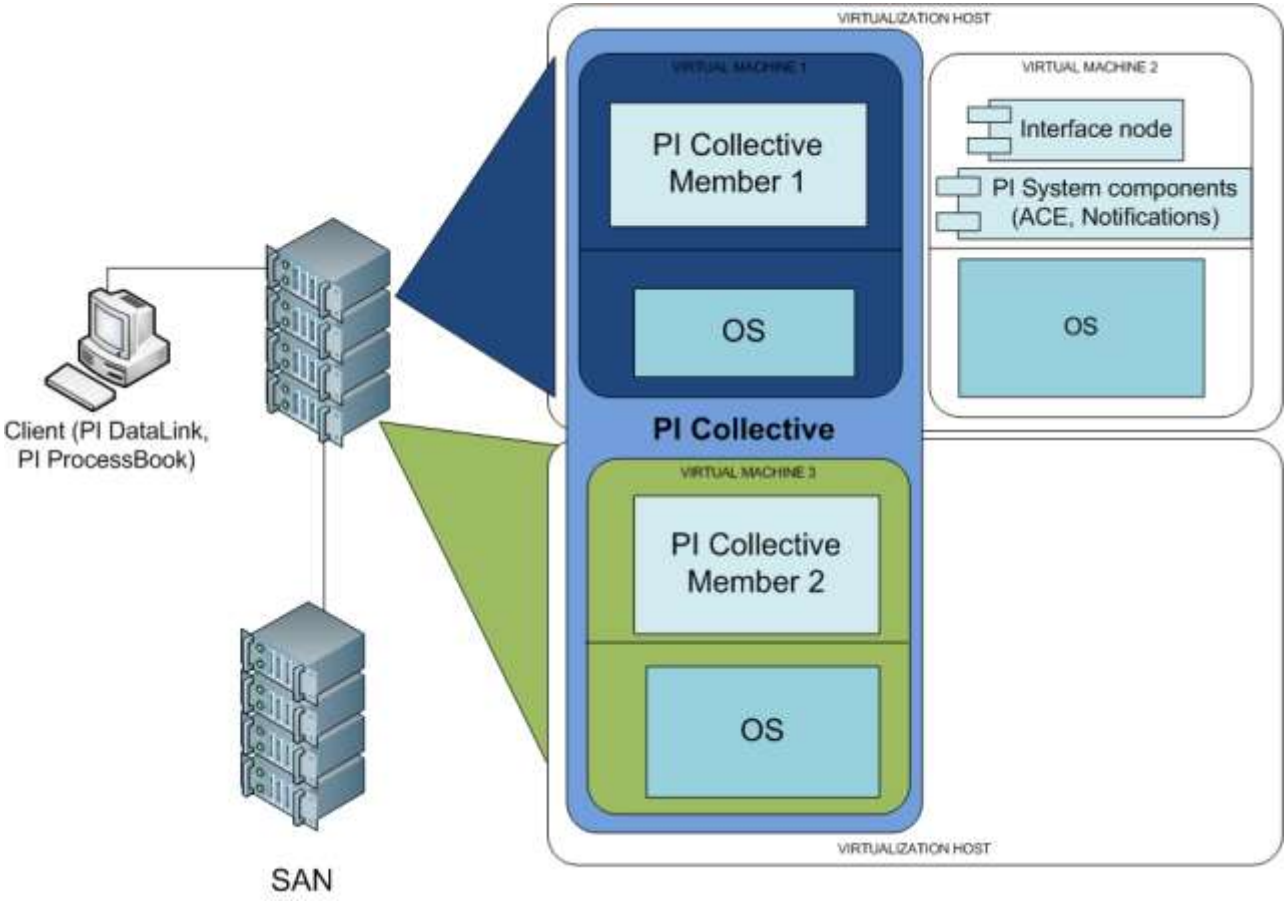
38

Benefits of Server Virtualization*

- Less hardware required (HP went from 85 data centers to 6)
  - up to 35% reduction of annual server costs per user ($100-$200K per year per server)
- Better utilization of hardware (HP decreased servers by 40%)
- Reduce power consumption (HP reduced energy by 40%)
- Provide higher availability by supporting redundancy
- Rapidly deliver adaptive and reliable IT services
- Tie diverse components together into a single managed entity
- Storage efficiency can lead to higher storage utilization

*Gillen, A., Grieser, T., Perry, R. 2008. Business Value of Virtualization: Realizing the Benefits of Integrated solutions. IDC.

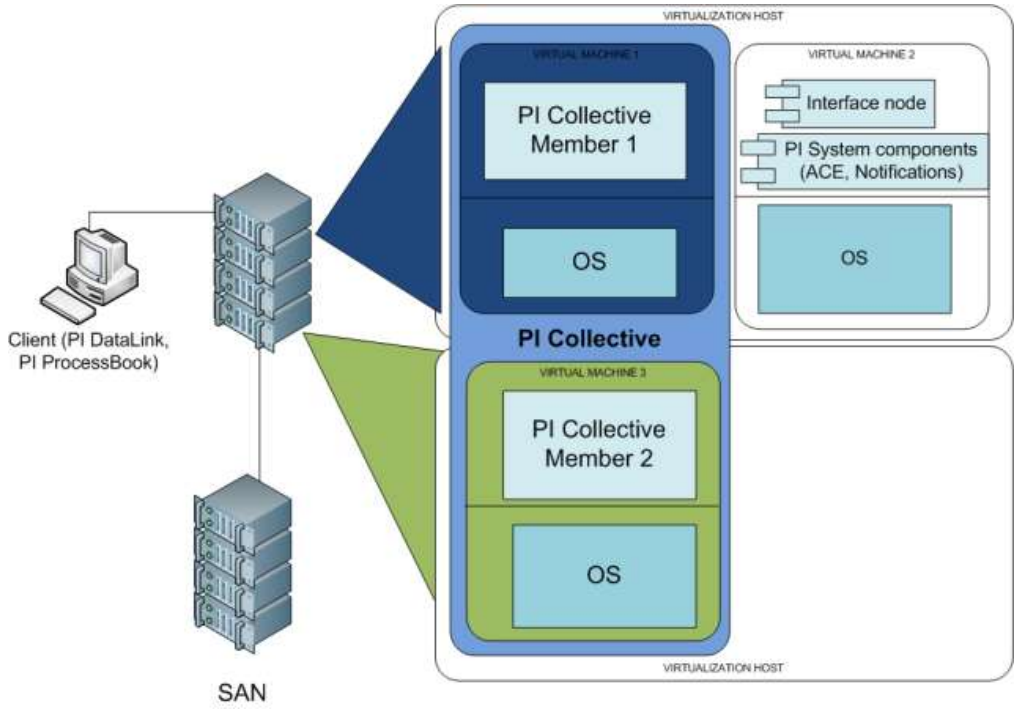
Virtualized PI



Empowering Business in Real Time.

Best Practice: Virtualized PI System

- Multiple hosts (cluster)
- Collective can be split across hosts
- PI Server components can run as separate virtual machines for scalability and performance
- SAN can offload storage

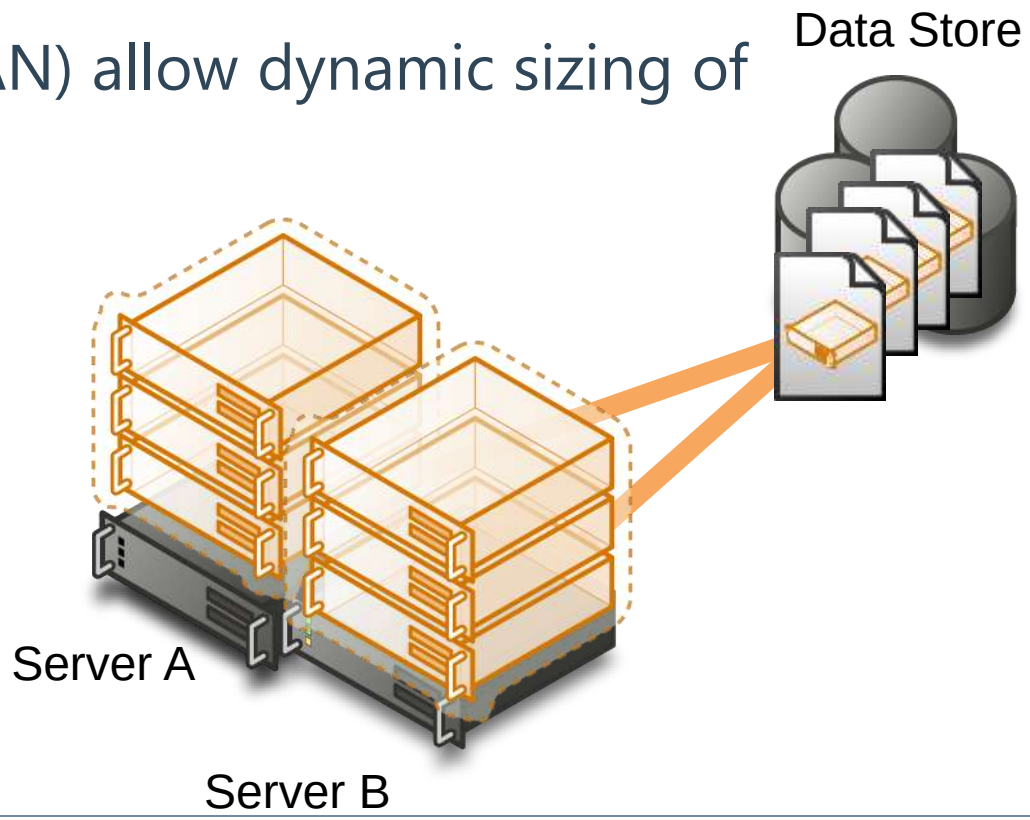


Empowering Business in Real Time.

Storage Virtualization

- Challenge:
  Grow available storage space without disrupting applications and servers

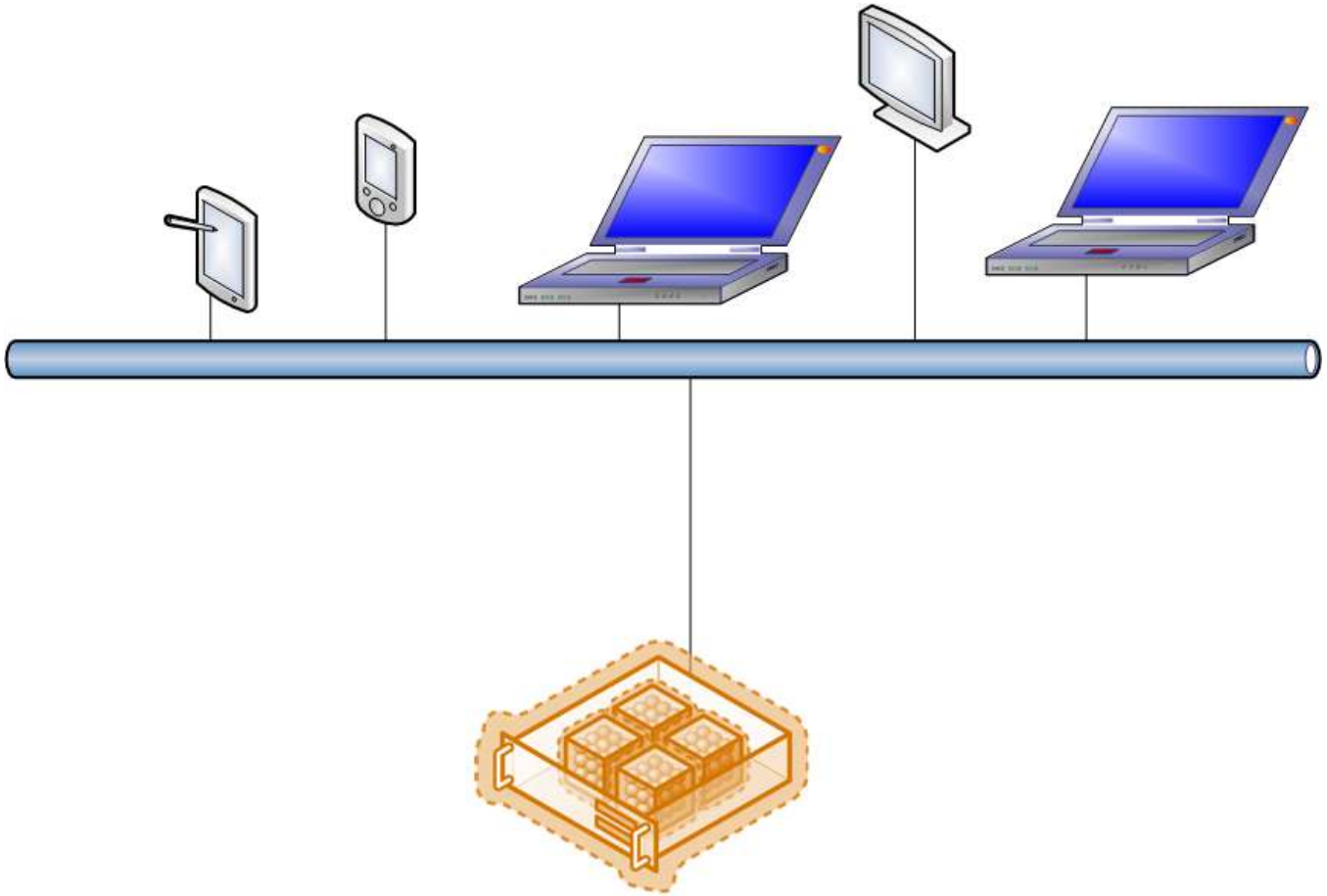
- Solution:
  Storage Area Networks (SAN) allow dynamic sizing of available storage



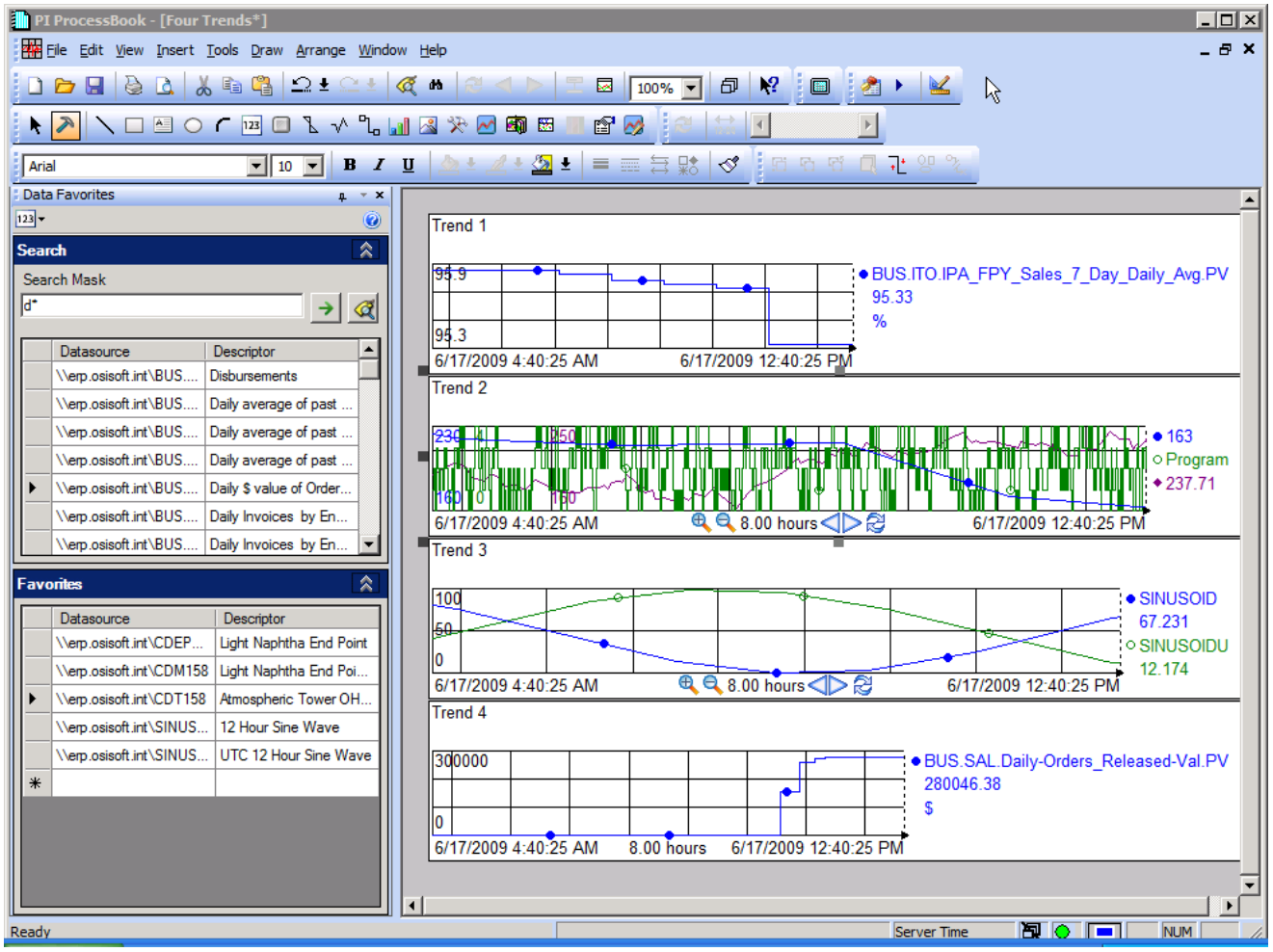
PI and Storage Virtualization

- Keep more and higher fidelity data online; add or expand PI archive files
- Support aggregated PI Systems; VSS support enables PI backups
- Store PI Client files centrally
- Backup virtualized application and data servers
- Backup virtualized Terminal Server hosts
- Complete system backup storage

Application Virtualization



PI and Application Virtualization (ProcessBook)



Empowering Business in Real Time.

Benefits of Application Virtualization

- One point of installation makes deployment simpler
- Access to applications secured
- All users have the same version of the software; no version or compatibility issues
- Casual users do not need to install anything to get started
- Save money on hardware upgrade investments by deploying client software in one place

PI and Application Virtualization

- Environments with casual client users who need low barrier to entry for system access (Inco Limited)
- Terminal Server users (a partial list)
  - Georgia Pacific, Kellogg, SASO, SAPPI Fine Paper, Wacker Chemie, Alcoa, Eli Lilly, ExxonMobil Upstream, Iberdrola, Progress Energy Services
- Citrix users (a partial list)
  - SDG&E , Water Corporation, Amgen, Bayer Material Science, Genmab, PPG, Vaxgen, Katahdin Paper, Celanese Chemicals, Novo Nordisk, Queensland Alumina, Total
- Windows 2008 Terminal Services Gateway
  - OSIsoft

Five Principles for Virtualization Success*

- 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

Benefits: PI in a Virtualization Project

- PI works as well in a virtual environment as it does on physical hardware
- PI is perfect for monitoring a virtualized environment
- If you are thinking about virtualization, it's a good time to consider the value of HA PI
- If you are thinking about network storage, it's a good time to consider the value of virtualization and PI with SAN support
- If you are thinking about problems with client software deployment, it's a good time to consider the value of Terminal Services Gateway, virtualization and PI

More Information

- Whitepapers and Tech Support bulletins on OSIsoft web site
- Vendor web sites
- OSIsoft internal expertise
- Microsoft representatives for Hyper V and Terminal Server Gateway solutions

Thank you

777 Davis St., Suite 250 San Leandro, CA 94577