

Ground Breaking Technology Preview from Azaleos

First highly available Enterprise E-mail Solution to use Microsoft iSCSI boot capabilities and IBM Storage Virtualization

Redmond, WA. April 4, 2006. Azaleos Corporation, the leading supplier of e-mail solution appliances, showcased today a technology preview of the first e-mail solution appliance for Microsoft Exchange 2003, designed to boot without disks directly from an IP Storage Area Network. Through diskless boot capabilities planned to be available in 2Q2006 on IBM BladeCenter hardware supported by storage area network solutions such as the IBM System Storage N Series, Network Appliance storage solutions, and newly announced Microsoft software-based iSCSI boot capabilities, customers can ruthlessly standardize the hardware on which they operate their enterprise infrastructure, creating the core building blocks for highly available applications such as enterprise e-mail.

As a mission-critical application, e-mail places heavy demands on IT administrators. IT administrators need to ensure that their messaging system achieves the highest level of availability and can be easily scaled to add users with limited additional costs. Azaleos OneServer technology provides an optimized solution for operating an enterprise e-mail environment, and when combined with a blade-based architecture and virtualized storage provides a solution that scales to meet the e-mail requirements of all sizes of companies.

"Over the past few years, customers have begun to leverage iSCSI-based storage solutions for near-line e-mail solutions, such as archiving" said Lee Benjamin, Analyst, Ferris Research. "The combination of managed solutions by e-mail experts Azaleos, backed by industry heavyweights IBM, Microsoft, and Network Appliance, will drive customer adoption of iSCSI technologies in production in mission critical business solutions such as Microsoft Exchange."

Many customers today are trying to reach 99.999% availability of their e-mail infrastructure, in the face of an ever increasing number of patches to applications, operating systems, and hardware. iSCSI connected storage, combined with the new Microsoft iSCSI boot capabilities, enables customers to test new versions of applications and operating systems before applying updates to operating production systems.

"With Microsoft iSCSI boot capabilities and managed solutions such as the Azaleos OneServer, we can leverage our existing infrastructure to keep our system management overhead to a minimum," said Lee Hudson, Technology Director, Zumiez. "Fully utilizing the storage virtualization capabilities of our SAN combined with a blade-centric approach will help us to simplify our server environment and enhance our disaster recovery strategy."

Storage virtualization helps simplify infrastructures by managing the complexities of the underlying storage environments and dramatically reduces IT management costs using techniques such as creating a single virtual pool of information across the enterprise. Storage virtualization is a key component of IBM's Information On Demand strategy which is enabling clients to integrate their business processes to better meet core functional requirements.

"We are pleased to support Azaleos as it brings to market a powerful Microsoft Exchange management solution," said Patrick Rogers, vice president of Products and Partners at Network Appliance. "NetApp is in the business of bringing customers unmatched simplicity when managing their data. We do so by embracing open standards and working closely with partners—such as IBM and Azaleos. In this case, we are providing customers with high availability and

performance in Exchange environments, complemented with powerful and comprehensive disaster recovery capabilities."

A whitepaper describing the Azaleos OneServer technology preview running on IBM BladeCenter hardware and Network Appliance storage solution enabled with Microsoft iSCSI boot technologies can be found at <http://www.azaleos.com>.

About Azaleos

Azaleos provides the only enterprise-class managed messaging solution combining a Microsoft® Exchange 2003 appliance with 24-7 remote maintenance, ensuring high reliability, availability and performance for your Exchange 2003 environment.

The Azaleos OneServer appliance and OneStop managed service offer unmatched uptime, proactive monitoring by Exchange experts, patch management, system fixes, and reporting. With Azaleos, your Exchange environment remains in your network and messaging just works, enabling your IT staff to focus on new initiatives that help you grow your business. A standardized, scalable solution, Azaleos messaging management can be installed and running in less than a day.

Microsoft Gold Certified and Redmond, WA–based Azaleos Corporation, founded by Exchange experts in 2004, is led by senior executives from leading technology companies such as Microsoft, IBM and Lotus.