

# The Case for SDS

## The Digital Transformation Imperative

Businesses are **betting big** on digital transformation:

**\$2.1T**

Estimated spending **growth** worldwide on digital transformation technologies

**by 2019**

## Transformation Requires Next Gen Infrastructure

Scalable

Agile

Operations friendly

### Software defined storage (SDS)

enables the next generation of IT infrastructure:

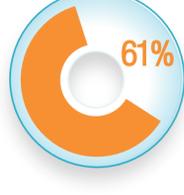


**75%** of enterprises have deployed/considering deploying SDS in the datacenter

Source: IDC's Software-Defined Infrastructure Survey, August 2015

## Why SDS?

SDS is key to deploying a hybrid cloud for metered, on-demand consumption of private/public cloud resources. Enterprises generally have a positive awareness and acceptance of SDS:



**61%** of enterprises that deployed SDS realized **tangible benefits**

### Top Benefits



n = 186, Base = respondents who have seen/experienced tangible benefits from SDS deployment  
Source: IDC's Software-Defined Infrastructure Survey, August 2015

## Workloads Drive SDS Use

SDS platforms are governed by use case. **File-based SDS is popular** as unstructured user/analytics data proliferates.

**Object-based** is growing with adoption of next-gen applications.



**File: 31.5%**



**Object: 25.9%**

**Block** and **hyperconverged** trail behind, suggesting SDS hasn't caught on yet for structured data sets.



**Block: 24.2%**



**Hyperconverged: 18.4%**

n = 302, Base = respondents who have currently deployed SDS platforms/systems  
Source: IDC's Software-Defined Infrastructure Survey, August 2015

## Challenges to SDS

Some enterprises are **slow** to adopt SDS platforms despite the benefits.

**Challenges cited include:**



n = 300, Note: Multiple selections were permitted.  
Source: IDC's Software-Defined Infrastructure Survey, August 2015

## Vendor Considerations



For enterprises to succeed with SDS requires taking a use case-driven approach. Consider vendors – such as IBM – that provide a full spectrum of SDS solutions.



IBM offers a full-service SDS portfolio that approaches storage as a use case. Its Spectrum Storage family is a well-thought out framework with solutions that solve storage-related challenges in a consistent manner.



IBM is a leader in IDC's Software-defined Storage Controller Software market in terms of market share and revenue.



To learn more about how SDS platforms add value -- and how IBM's full-service SDS portfolio supports the digital transformation of business -- download the IDC white paper, "[Software-Defined Storage – Opportunities for the Enterprise](#)," sponsored by IBM.