



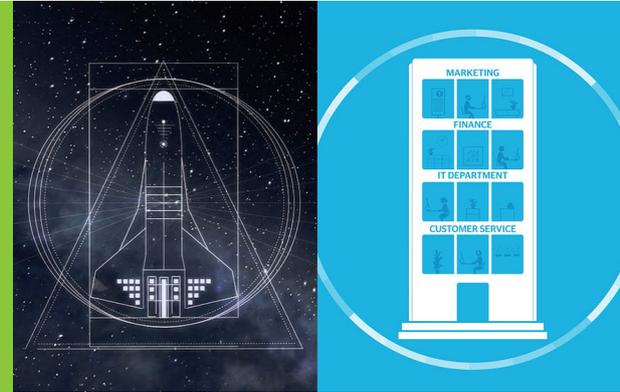
# Istudios Visuals

## Case Study



**Istudios uses Compuverde's scale-out storage solution in post production to obtain high performance, reliability and scalability.**

**Media and Entertainment**



- Challenge:** Increasing media usage led to capacity issues and declining performance and reliability issues.
- Solution:** Compuverde vNAS
- Platform:** SuperMicro
- Use Case:** High Performance and Availability for Post-production

**Benefits:**

- High Performance
- IOPS increased: 9.6 times
- 800 MB/s read & write per node
- No more offline editing
- Reduction of costs
- Easily add storage capacity within minutes
- Improved and more agile availability
- High reliability

### Business overview

Istudios Visuals is a post-production company located in Sweden. Istudios loves to express itself in cinematography, motion graphics and visual effects. Istudios Visuals produces motion graphics, commercials and 3D for companies in all industries and sizes.

### Challenges

With the company's strong background in post-production and motion graphics, Istudios Visuals previously used a single NAS solution for storage of all media content. It was a constant shuffling of content between various storage solutions depending on their needs at the moment, such as rendering, backing up or archiving. However, the system had no high availability, complicating maintenance and scalability. With an extremely high rate of daily data creation, along with high throughput requirements from network clients, performance and capacity issues arose. Seeking to replace its outgrown storage solutions with a more flexible and robust storage system, Istudios Visuals took a closer look at Compuverde.

*Just the ability to completely skip offline editing and use of proxies says it all!*

**Anton Johansson**  
**Co-founder and Director of IT-Infrastructure at Istudios Visuals**



Carl-Henric Möllerström, vice president at Compuverde, explains: “Istudios has very specific needs with a big turnover of data on a daily basis. Reaching high availability was just one factor, albeit the most important one. High performance, high flexibility, and advanced storage features were also essential.”

## Solution and Benefits

### Solution

Istudios wanted a storage solution that allowed it to do real-time editing and playback without having to migrate its projects to local workstations.

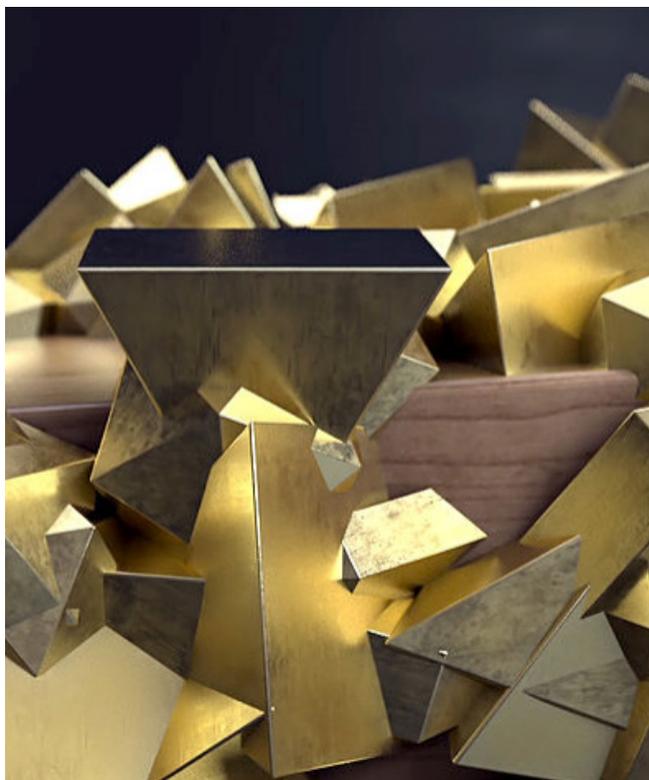
The value of the data is very high since creation of media is the core business, so redundancy is key. When you work directly within your storage solution on a day-to-day basis, the user-friendliness becomes very important. It also has to be futureproof and easy to grow as the business grows.

Software-defined storage made it possible to tweak the hardware to fit into different needs and that was one thing that made Istudios look closer at software-defined storage. They evaluated both storage appliances and other software-defined storage solutions and didn't really find anything that fulfilled all their requirements. The traditional appliances just seemed too expensive and inflexible. The software-defined storage solution wasn't really there yet, either when it came to the features or when it came to actually deliver what was promised.

Anton Johansson, co-founder and director of IT-Infrastructure at Istudios Visuals, said: “Our nodes are focused on being as cost-efficient as possible, without a loss of performance. With a midclass 8-core processor along with an Intel NVMe SSD used as cache we got the performance we needed. Then we added storage disks of 3TB and got a lot of capacity, along with that performance. Spreading all of this out on a four node cluster with a 2+1 erasure coding we got the availability and reliability we wanted. Compuverde provided satisfaction on all levels.”

The erasure coding of 2+1 gives a data footprint of 150 percent and still allows a node failure without data loss. Now that the cluster has been in production for about one year, it's time to double up the capacity. This will allow for more erasure coding options with more redundancy and an even lower data footprint.

*With 10Gbit copper we get greater performance, allowing us to have real-time playback and editing even for 5K raw footage*



## Benefits

“With 10Gbit copper we get greater performance, allowing us to have real-time playback and editing even for 5K raw footage,” Anton said. “That is not something you could achieve without a really huge investment when looking at other solutions! The cost-efficiency and performance of the Compuverde solution cannot be compared.”

Moving to Compuverde solutions have had a positive impact throughout the whole company, from team satisfaction to the reduction of OPEX and a huge reduction of latency just waiting for files to be read or written. With Compuverde vNAS, the Istudios Visuals team gets improvement on everything from performance, to agility, capacity and redundancy.

Performance and capacity are no longer tethered to a storage provider’s hardware limitations and policies.

“And all of this together helps our efficiency, since we are able to do everything on one storage solution without shuffling media between different storage solutions whether it is for archiving or real-time playback and editing of raw footage.”

“Compuverde’s unique approach to software- defined storage frees us to provide better service to our customers today. The benefits of Compuverde have gone far beyond the realm of storage. I view Compuverde as a partner that is helping us fulfill

our business potential and win in the marketplace”, Johansson concludes. “Just the ability to completely skip offline editing and use of proxies says it all!”

With Compuverde software-defined storage, Istudios gains significant benefits including the following:



High performance, allowing real-time editing directly on the source material.



Compatibility with existing hardware and software.



Hardware agnostic solution that made tweaking possible to fit the exact requirements.



Linear scaling in capacity and performance by adding nodes.



User-friendly, easy to set up and maintain through the Management tool.



Advanced features for redundancy, failover, file policies and archiving.



Reduced OPEX, footprint and no need for surplus overhead.

