

Why Customers Should Deploy Switches In Their SAN and FICON Environments

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- Brocade Communications Inc.
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- Session Number - 12078



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If there is a little balloon icon in the upper left hand corner of the slide then take your cursor and put it over the balloon and you will see the notes that I have made concerning the slide that you are viewing.

This will usually give you more information than just what the slide contains.

I hope this helps in your educational efforts!



8GIG

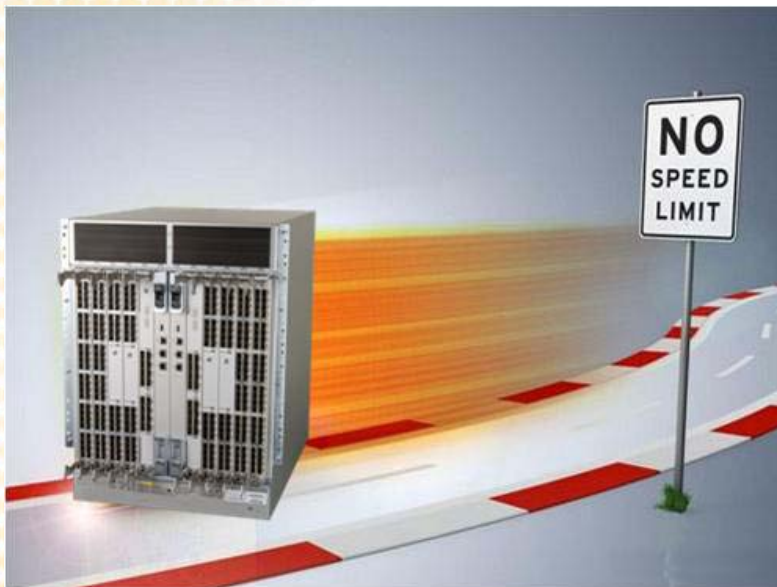
AND

16Gbps



First, an Overview of Brocade's Current Generation of FC Products

- Supported for FICON and for FCP!



After All ----
I Am A Vendor!



Brocade B-Series 8Gbps Fabric Solutions



Best-in-class solutions
for FICON

DCX and
DCX-4S



DS-5300B



48, 64, 80 ports

DS-5100B



24, 32, 40 ports

8 Gbps

FC8-16 – 16 FC Ports

FC8-32 – 32 FC Ports

FC8-48 – 48 FC Ports

FX8-24 – 12xFC, 10x1GE, and 2x10 GE

7800

FX8-24



SAN Extension
Solutions



Complete your sessions evaluation online at SHARE.org/AnaheimEval



Brocade B-Series 16Gbps Fabric Solutions



DCX 8510-8B
DCX 8510-4B



Best-in-class
Solutions
for FICON



6510 (FCP only)



24-48 ports

16 Gbps

7800



SAN
Extension
Solutions

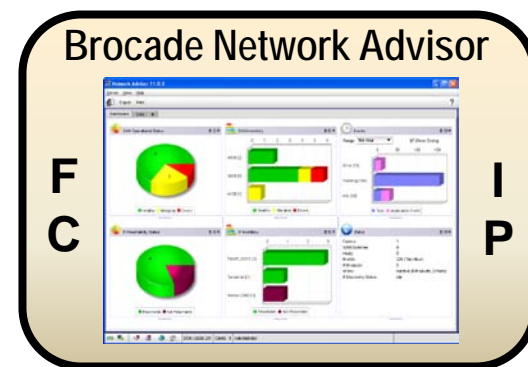
FX8-24



FC16-32 – 32 FC Ports

FC16-48 – 48 FC Ports

FX8-24 – 12xFC, 10x1GE, and 2x10 GE



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Switched-FICON is a Best Practice for System z



- Brocade FICON switching devices do not cause performance problems within a local data center
- Architected and deployed correctly, Brocade FICON switching devices do not cause performance problems even across very long distances
- In fact, use of Brocade switched-FICON and Brocade FCIP long distance connectivity solutions can even enhance DASD replication performance and long distance tape operations effectiveness and performance
- Switched-FICON is the only way to efficiently and effectively support Linux on System z connectivity
- Switched-FICON is the only way to really take advantage of the full value of the System z I/O subsystem

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Why A Customer Should Consider Deploying Switched-FICON



- A smaller or older System z can start at about US\$50,000 while an IBM System z196 can be a little more ☺
- z196 provides a max of 320 FICON Express8S CHPIDs
- z114 provides a max of 128 FICON Express8S CHPIDs
 - CHPID ports to storage ports/mainframe are limited
 - Large Sequential throughput per CHPID/System z is limited
 - z196: $320 \times 620\text{MBps} = 198,400\text{MBps}$ – or 39% of full duplex 8G
 - z114: $128 \times 620\text{MBps} = 79,360\text{MBps}$ – or 39% of full duplex 8G

Why A Customer Should Consider Deploying Switched-FICON



- Direct-attached FICON, along with direct-attached SAN, simply provides very little value for your expensive enterprise computing environment
 - Direct-attached connections lacks performance and scalability!
- Switched-FICON and/or switched-SAN can overcome these two basic limitations as well as providing many more benefits!
 - Can utilize 8Gbps Directors...or...
 - 16Gbps Directors

System z: Why Deploy Switched-FICON



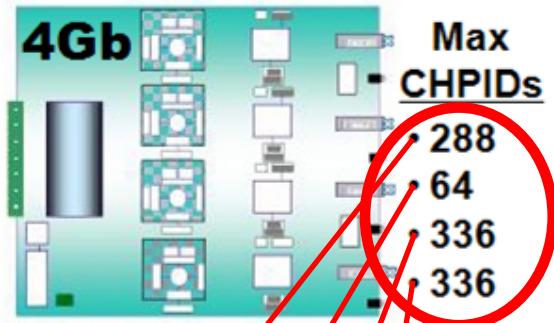
- With direct-attached FICON you must consume one CHPID to access one storage port
 - Very wasteful since neither CHPIDs nor DASD storage ports can make use of the full bandwidth of any of the channel paths
 - So CHPIDs and Storage Ports are always under-utilized resources that you have paid full price to deploy
- The CHPIDs on most mainframe channel cards cannot really perform at their listed line rate -- FICON Express8S running zHPF is the exception
 - In real use cases the data rate is about ½ the performance these channel CHPIDs are rated to achieve

....BUT....

Customer's can use switched-FICON, making use of Fan In – Fan Out, to mitigate these limitations!



Mainframe Channel Cards



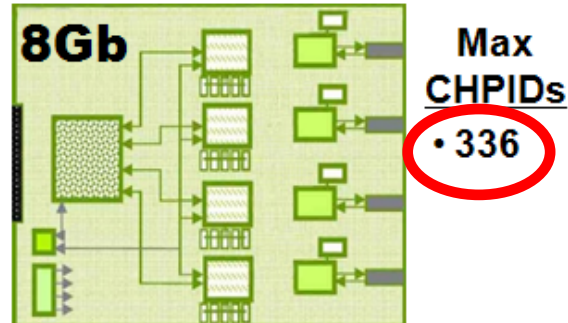
FICON Express4 – 4 ports
400MBps+400MBps = 800MBps

FICON Express4

- z196, z114, z10, z9
- 1, 2 or 4 GBps link rate
- **Cannot Perform at 4Gbps!**
- Standard FICON Mode:
≤ 350MBps Full Duplex
out of 800 MBps
- zHPF FICON Mode:
≤ 520MBps Full Duplex
out of 800 MBps
- 200 Buffer Credits per port
 - Out to 50km
assuming 1K frames

44%

65%



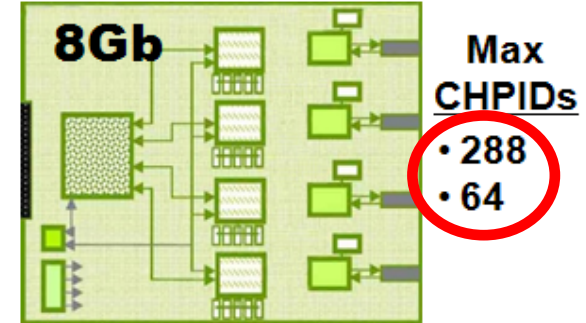
FICON Express8 – 4 ports
800MBps+800MBps = 1,600MBps

FICON Express8

- z10
- 2, 4 or 8 GBps link rate
- **Cannot Perform at 8Gbps!**
- Standard FICON Mode:
≤ 510 MBps Full Duplex
out of 1600 MBps
- zHPF FICON Mode:
≤ 740 MBps Full Duplex
out of 1600 MBps
- **40 Buffer Credits per port**
 - Out to 5km
assuming 1K frames

32%

46%



FICON Express8 – 4 ports
800MBps+800MBps = 1,600MBps

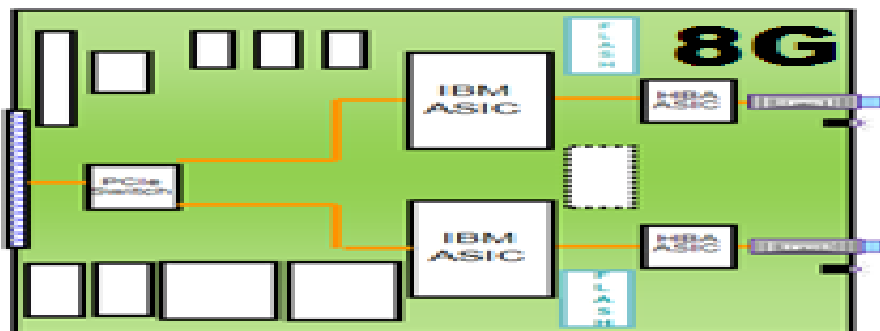
FICON Express8

- z196, z114
- 2, 4 or 8 GBps link rate
- **Cannot Perform at 8Gbps!**
- Standard FICON Mode:
≤ 510 MBps Full Duplex
out of 1600 MBps
- zHPF FICON Mode:
≤ 740 MBps Full Duplex
out of 1600 MBps
- **40 Buffer Credits per port**
 - Out to 5km
assuming 1K frames

32%

46%

Mainframe Channel Cards



320
128

Compared to System z10,
the new FICON Express8S
reduces total CHPIDs per
Channel Card and per
Mainframe

FICON Express8S – 2 ports
800MBps+800MBps=1600MBps

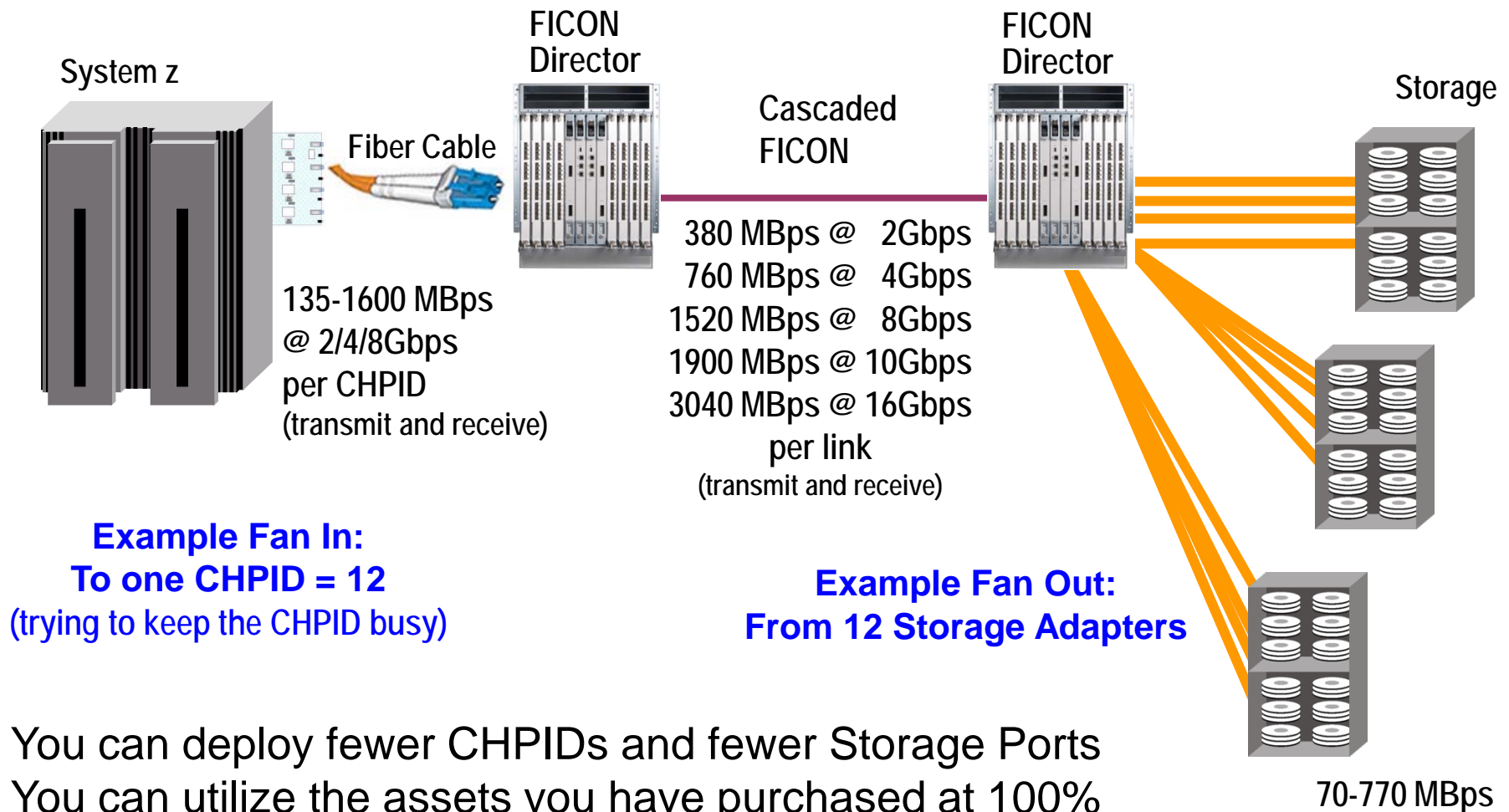
FICON Express8S

- z196, z114
- 2, 4 or 8 GBps link rate
- zHPF Performs at 8Gbps!
- Standard FICON Mode:
39% <= 620MBps Full Duplex
out of 1600 MBps
- zHPF FICON Mode:
100% <=1600 MBps Full Duplex
out of 1600 MBps
- 40 Buffer Credits per port
 - Out to 5km assuming 1K frames

- FICON Express8S (Speedy):
 - New IBM ASIC which supports...
 - PCIe 8 GBps host bus in a new...
 - PCIe I/O drawer
 - Increased start I/Os
 - Improved throughput for zHPF and FCP
 - Introduction of a hardware data router
 - Increased port granularity – 2 CHPIDs/FX8S



Fan In-Fan Out Reduces System Bottlenecks



- You can deploy fewer CHPIDs and fewer Storage Ports
- You can utilize the assets you have purchased at 100%
- You can scale up very easily without purchasing a lot of hardware
- You actually achieve a higher level of system availability

New z/OS and System z Functionality



System z functionality that REQUIRES customers to deploy switched-FICON:

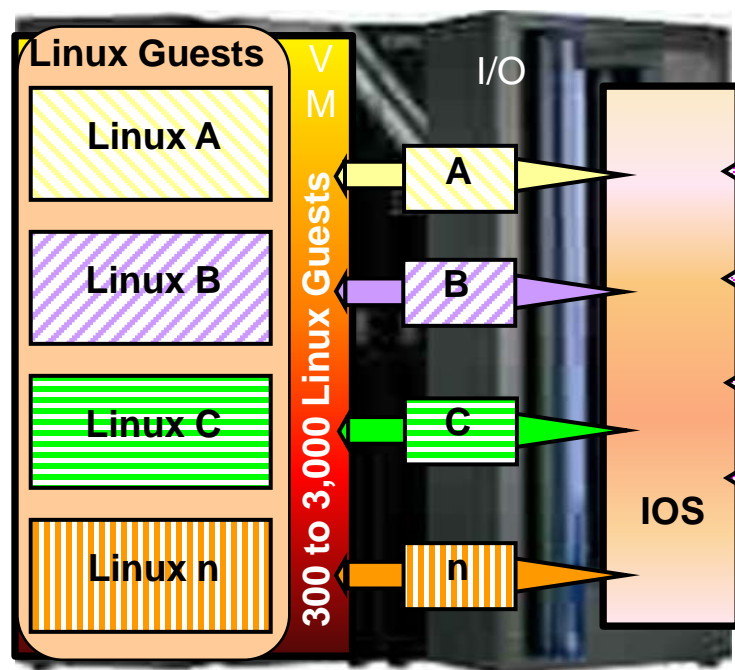
- **FICON Express8 CHPID buffer credits:** Only 40 BCs per FICON Express8 and FICON Express8S CHPID limits long distance direct connectivity to ~5km. So customers can use up to 1,300 BCs at 8G and about 7,000 BCs at 16G, on a port on FICON switching devices, for longer distances.
- **FICON Dynamic Channel Management:** Ability to dynamically add and remove channel resources at Workload Manager discretion can be accomplished only in switched-FICON environments.
- **zDAC:** Simplified configuration of FICON connected disk and tape through z/OS FICON Discovery and Auto Configuration (zDAC) capability of switched-FICON fabrics.
- **NPIV:** Excellent for Linux on the Mainframe, Node_Port ID Virtualization allows many FCP I/O users to interleave their I/O across a single physical channel path

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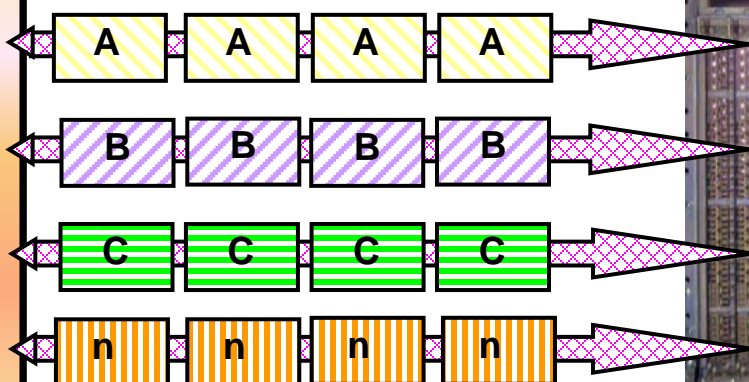
A Simplified Schematic - Linux without NPIV

An Example of Linux on System z without NPIV



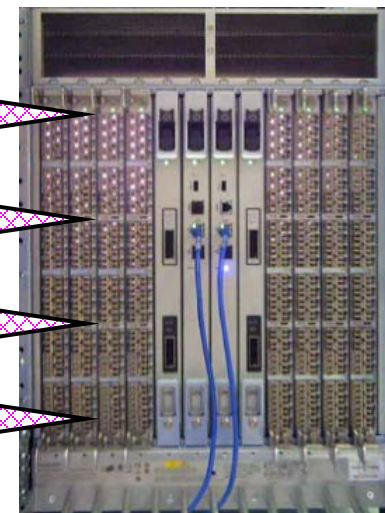
Linux on System z can run in its own LPAR(s) but usually it is deployed as guests under VM

One FCP CHPID
per Linux guest



For 300-3,000
guests,
no parallelism so it
is very difficult to
drive I/O for lots of
Linux images with
only 256 CHPIDs

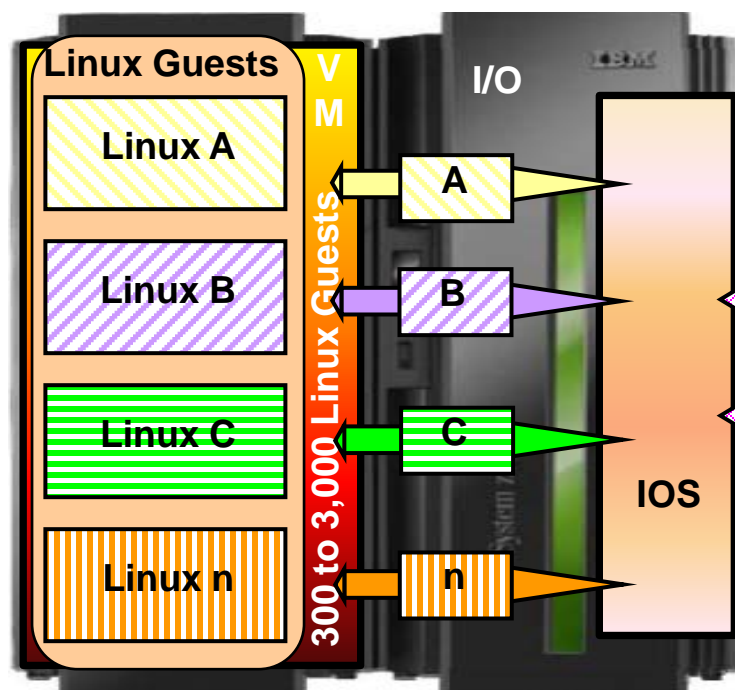
FICON
Director



Probably very little
I/O bandwidth
utilization per
CHPID and
switch port

A Simplified Schematic - Linux with NPIV

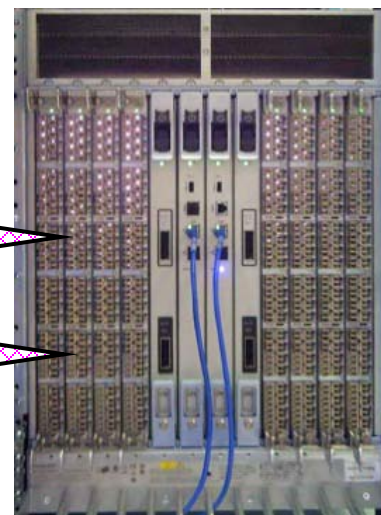
An example of System z
when using NPIV



NPIV is **ONLY** available in
a switched-FICON fabric!

One FCP
channel for
many Linux
guests

FICON Director
NPIV enabled



Lots of
Parallelism

Fewer switch
ports required!

Much better I/O
bandwidth
utilization
per path

8Gbps Is Great For NPIV!

Some of my favorite photos

In Technical Sessions, Your Brain Should Be Allowed To Take A Break!



America's
Historic Roads



Beautiful Palma de Mallorca



Looking Glass Arch, Utah



Arkansas River and its
Suspension Bridge

Brain Interlude Is Over....

Back to Work!

Using FICON Dynamic Channel Mgmt



FICON Dynamic Channel Path Management (DCM) provides the ability for the z/OS system to manage FICON channel path assignment dynamically based on current workload conditions and availability characteristics.

- z/OS allows pools of FICON CHPIDs to be unassigned so that workload manager can use them when it is operating in GOAL mode.
- But mainframe channels and control units must be Switch Attached in order to make use of Dynamic Channel management (DCM)



Using zDAC with System z196 and z114

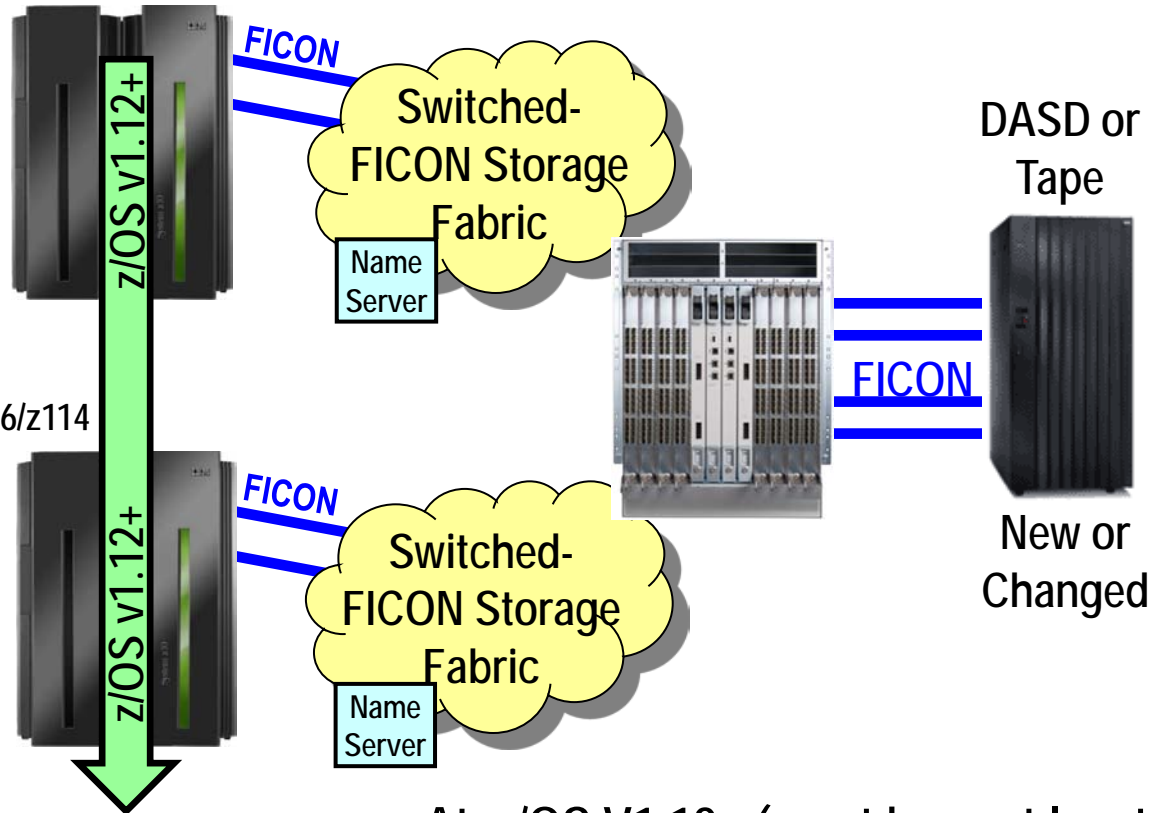


Simplified configuration for FICON connected DASD and tape through z/OS FICON Discovery and Auto Configuration (zDAC)

- zDAC is only useful for switched-FICON storage/host connections
 - zDAC must make use of the FICON fabric name server
- Uses intelligent analysis to help validate that server and storage definitions are compatible with each other
- Transparent to existing configurations and settings
- Invoked through and integrated with z/OS Hardware Configuration Definition (HCD) and z/OS Hardware Configuration Manager (HCM)
- Use on single systems or across your Sysplex's

Using zDAC with System z196 and z114

z196 or z114



At z/OS V1.12+ (must have at least 1 LPAR for Dynamic I/O capability)

Other issues are described in the notes that are a part of this slide.

- The Fabric Name Server makes it possible to automatically discover what is new or has been changed in the fabric
- When a change is discovered, zDAC proposes a channel configuration based on:
 - High availability best practices
 - Customer configuration policies
 - Existing configurations
- zDAC attempts to make a symmetric configuration:
 - And this is repeated for each server in a sysplex



More Reasons For Deploying Switched-FICON



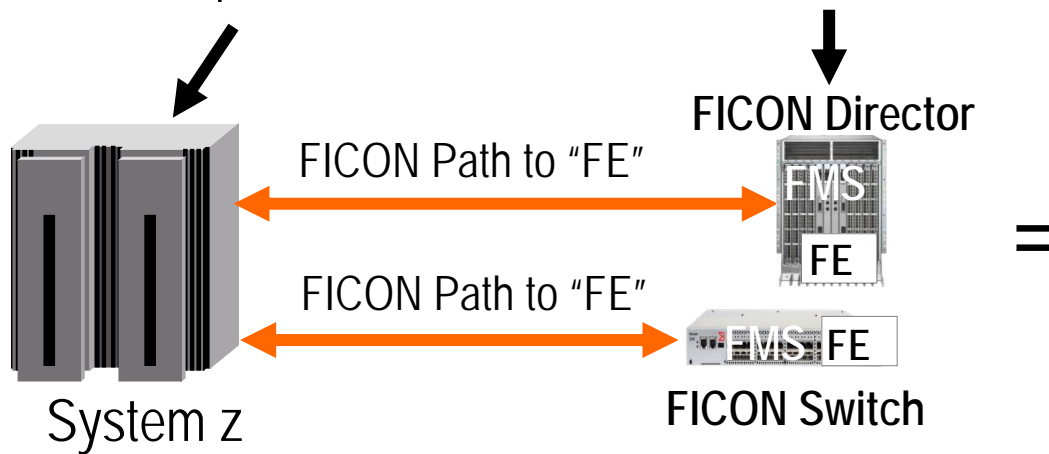
- Switched-FICON for RMF reports and z/OS Systems Automation control

CUP on a FICON Switch For Use By RMF

Sys1.Parmlib options allow RMF to produce the RMF FICON Director Activity Report

Control Unit Port (CUP) on a FICON switching device allows z/OS to access switch and fabric information and provide that into RMF

FICON Director Activity Report per FICON Domain ID per Interval



FICON DIRECTOR ACTIVITY

z/OS V1R8 SYSTEM ID PRD1 START 04/12/2009-04:30:00 INTERVAL 000.16.00
RPT VERSION V1R8 RMF END 04/12/2009-04:45:00 CYCLE 1.000 SECONDS

IOEP = A2 CR-DATE: 03/27/2009 CR-TIME: 16:45:51 ACT: ACTIVATE
SWITCH DEVICE: 052B SWITCH ID: 28 TYPE: 006140 MODEL: 001 MAN: MCD PLANT: 01 SERIAL: 00000131

PORT	-CONNECTION-	AVG FRAME	AVG FRAME SIZE	PORT BANDWIDTH (MB/SEC)	ERROR
AUDR	UNIT	ID	READING	READ WRITE	READ -- WRITE --
05	CHP	05	0	849 1436	8.63 17.34 0
07	CHP-H	65	0	1681 1595	0.87 0.32 0
09	CHP	15	7	833 1429	11.96 20.49 0
0C	CHP-H	64	0	939 1099	0.39 0.50 0
0D	CHP	65	1	1328 1823	3.56 12.73 0
0F	CHP-H	66	0	1956 1675	1.85 2.61 0
10	CHP	64	0	644 1380	0.03 0.13 0
13	CHP-H	19	0	907 885	0.58 0.45 0
16	CHP	12	0	1241 1738	0.97 1.72 0
17	CHP	05	0	655 1600	0.10 0.82 0
1A	CHP	15	0	1144 1664	0.65 1.18 0
1B	CHP	0D	0	510 1759	0.12 1.72 0
1E	CHP-H	05	0	918 894	0.59 0.45 0
1F	CHP	21	0	1243 1736	0.97 1.70 0
20	CU	E500	0	1429 049	17.66 0.85 0
	CU	E600			
	CU	E700			
22	CHP	10	0	923 1753	0.55 2.78 0
23	CHP	54	0	1805 69	0.80 0.00 0
24	CHP	64	0	89 1545	0.00 0.00 0
27	CHP	65	0	1619 82	0.01 0.00 0
28	CHP	95	27	918 1589	10.32 30.56 0
2B	CHP	70	0	69 2022	0.00 0.71 0

- FICON Management Server (FMS) is a license to enable Control Unit Port (CUP) on a FICON switching device – always uses the “embedded” port x”FE”
- FICON Director Activity Reports are very useful to customers who would like to understand their average frame sizes traversing their fabrics as well as information about how buffer credits are being utilized

Using Buffer Credits is how FC does Flow Control, also called "Frame Pacing"

FICON Director Activity Report



F I C O N D I R E C T O R A C T I V I T Y

z/OS V1R8			SYSTEM ID ABCD			START 04/12/2009-04.30.00		INTERVAL 000.15.00	
			RPT VERSION V1R8 RMF			END 04/12/2009-04.45.00		CYCLE 1.000 SECONDS	
IODF = A2 CR-DATE: 03/27/2009 CR-TIME: 18.43.51			ACT: ACTIVATE						
SWITCH DEVICE: 032B			SWITCH ID: 2B		TYPE: 006140		MODEL: 001 MAN: MCD PLANT: 01		SERIAL: 0000SHIJKLMN
PORT	-CONNECTION-		AVG FRAME PACING	AVG FRAME SIZE		PORT BANDWIDTH (MB/SEC)		ERROR	
ADDR	UNIT	ID		READ	WRITE	-- READ --	-- WRITE --	COUNT	
05	CHP-H	05	0	849	1436	8.63	17.34	0	
07	CHP	6B	1	1681	1395	50.87	10.32	0	
09	CHP	15	0	833	1429	11.96	20.49	0	
0C	CHP-H	64	0	939	1099	0.39	0.50	0	
0D	CHP	6B	0	1328	1823	3.56	12.73	0	
0F	CHP-H	66	0	1496	1675	1.85	2.61	0	
10	CHP	64	0	644	1380	0.03	0.13	0	
13	CHP-H	19	0	907	885	0.58	0.45	0	
16	CU	C800	0	1241	738	20.97	5.72	0	
	CU	CA00				70.10	3.82	0	
1A	CHP	15	0	1144	1664	0.65	1.18	0	
1B	CHP	0D	0	510	1759	0.12	1.72	0	
1E	CHP-H	05	0	918	894	0.59	0.45	0	
1F	CHP	21	0	1243	1736	0.97	1.70	0	
20	CU	E900	0	1429	849	17.66	8.85	0	
	CU	E800							
	CU	E700							
22	CHP	10	0	923	1753	0.55	2.78	0	
23	CHP	54	0	1805	69	20.80	7.30	0	
24	CHP	64	0	89	1345	0.00	0.00	0	
27	CHP	6B	0	1619	82	0.01	0.00	0	
28	SWITCH	95	270	550	789	50.32	10.56	0	
2B	CHP	70	0	69	2022	0.00	0.71	0	

In the last 15 minutes

This port had 270 frames to send but did not have an available Buffer Credit left to use to send the frames.

And this happened 270 times during the interval.

In the last 15 minutes



This port had a frame to send but did not have any Buffer Credits left to use to send them.

And this happened 270 times during the interval.

And this is an ISL Link! Indicators of Potential Buffer Credit Starvation

Fabric with zHPF Enabled





More Reasons For Deploying Switched-FICON



- Point-to-Point versus switched-FICON Reliability and Availability
- Can host both SAN and FICON on the same I/O infrastructure



Reliability versus Availability

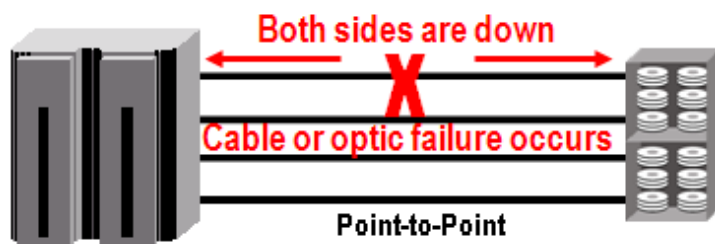


- **Reliability is NOT the same as Availability!**
- **Reliability is a measurement of the dependability of the customer's system, fabric and/or devices**
- Often characterized as Mean Time Before Failure (MTBF)
- **Availability is the ability of a system, fabric and/or device to continue to provide services when they are needed, without delay, even if reliability has failed**
- In the data center this is typically discussed as a percentage such as two-9s, three-9s, four-9s or five-9s (99.999%) of availability
- The calculation for this percentage is the length of time that a given system, fabric and/or device will be online and functioning during the course of a years worth of time – it is really an up-time ratio
- So Availability is NOT the same as Reliability and customers do realize that it is very difficult to achieve High Availability unless a system, fabric and/or device does have High Reliability!

Availability After A Component Failure

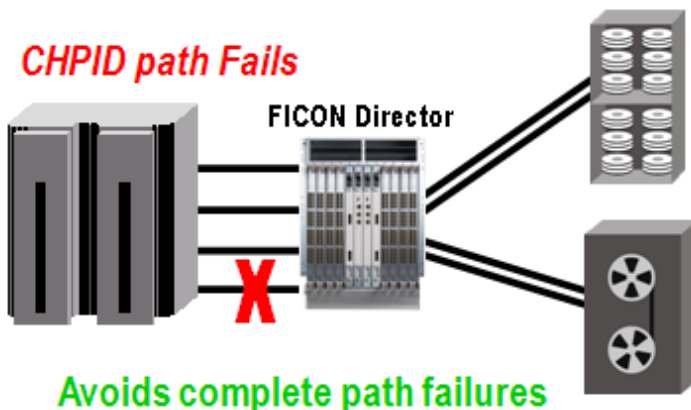


Point-to-Point Deployment of FICON



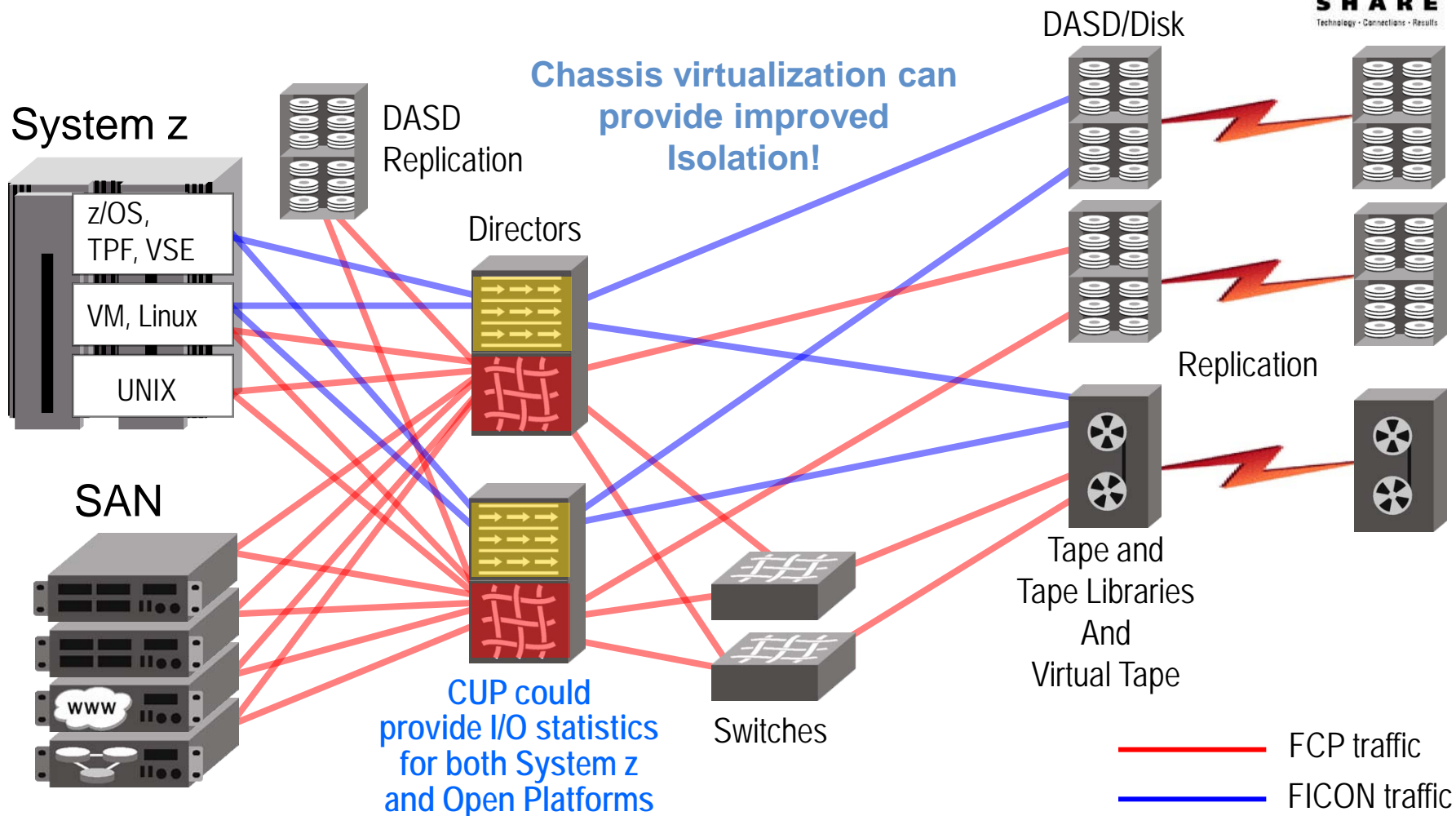
**...BUT...
Storage Port
Remains
Available!**

- A failure of a FICON CHPID or cable or storage port means that you lose two valuable resources:
 - Channel port will become unavailable AND
 - Storage port becomes unavailable for everyone!
- A failure **anywhere** affects both the mainframe connection and the storage connection
 - The WORST possible reliability and availability is provided by a direct-attached FICON and/or SAN storage topology!



- In a switched-FICON environment, only a connection segment is rendered unavailable:
 - The non-failing side remains available
 - If the storage port has not failed, its port is still available to be used by other CHPIDs
 - If the CHPID has not failed, its port is still available to be used by other storage ports

FICON and FCP Intermix



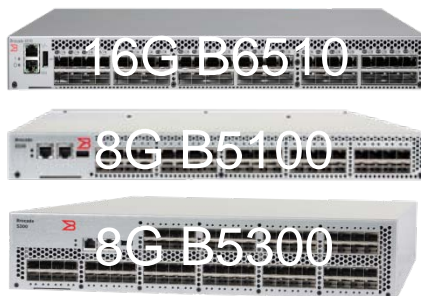
- FICON infrastructure vendors support a variety of Directors/switches that will allow you to host FICON and FCP connectivity intermixed together on the same chassis

And There Are Many More Reasons For Deploying Switched-FICON in Mainframe Shops



- Balancing workload across all the ports in a Port Group
- Intermixing Long wave and Short wave FICON Connections As You Desire
- B-Series switching devices provide lots of scalability not possible with direct attached FICON
- Consolidation of Channel Cards, CHPIDs and Storage

How Are Directors and Switches Different

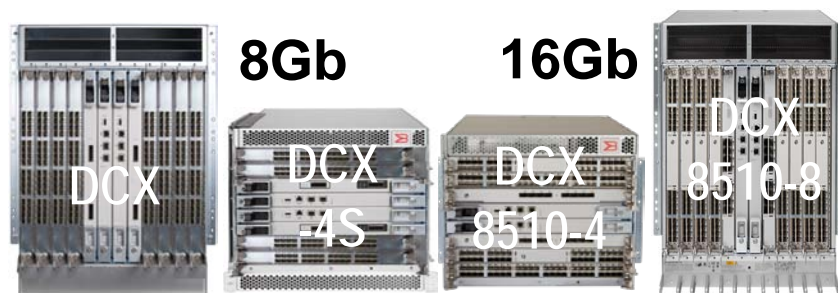


**B-Series can run
at up to 1600MBps
on a port-by-port basis**

FICON Switches

- Good Availability up to **99.99%**
- Based upon **motherboard** design
- Some redundant components like power supplies and fans
- **24-80** Fiber Channel ports
- Decent fabric Scalability (100's of ports)
- Motherboard problems will require the switch to be replaced!

**It is not when it is working, but
rather when a problem occurs,
that truly differentiates a
Director from a Switch!**



FICON Directors

- Superb Availability up to **99.999%**
- Based on **discrete, redundant** parts
- Complete Redundancy and hot swap FRUs throughout the architecture
- Highest port counts – up to **384** ports
- Superior fabric Scalability (1,000s of ports)
- + Online Error Recovery (non-disruptive failover)
- + *Online Repair of the error* (hot swap)

**99% of System z Customers should
deploy Director-based FICON Fabrics!**

How Are Directors and Switches Different Physical Differences



- Since switches are **motherboard-based**, they are engineered to run at the then current line rate – cannot be upgraded -- and
 - Each port of an 8Gbps switch can be run using 4Gbps or 8Gbps SFPs
 - Each port of a 16Gbps switch can be run using 8Gbps or 16Gbps SFPs
 - Failing SFPs can be hot-swapped but physical ports cannot be replaced
 - A switch must be completely replaced to repair a failed physical port(s) or ASIC

- Directors have **discrete, redundant components** that are engineered to run at current line rate – but can be upgraded – and non-disruptive firmware loads
 - Today each port of a 16Gbps Director can run using 8Gbps or 16Gbps SFPs
 - Failing SPFs can be hot-swap replaced (along with fans and power supplies...)
 - New blades can replace blades that have failing or failed physical ports

- It is likely that IBM will have 16Gbps CHPIDs within a couple of years
 - The next gen mainframe will probably be engineered to handle 16G CHPIDs
 - Our older 8Gbps Directors will be upgradable to 16Gbps by YE 2012 to 16Gbps
 - Once again providing our customers with investment protection!
 - But existing 8G switches will have to be completely swapped out and replaced with newer 16G capable switches in order to achieve 16G fabrics

How Are Directors and Switches Different Availability



- **Complete non-disruptive Hot Code Load is supported on Director class switches**
 - Since 2000
- **Comprehensive, non-disruptive Hot Code Load is not currently supported for FCIP blades and extension switches:**
 - On extension switches and blades, the FCIP tunnels will go down for 10-15 seconds and all traffic in the tunnels will be disrupted.
- **Brocade FICON switches do try to support non-disruptive firmware upgrades but when upgrading firmware on any fixed port, motherboard-based switch, customers may experience recoverable IFCCs.**
 - The IFCCs are for dropped frames that are part of normal fibre channel recovery so this recovery happens with FCP and FICON channels and devices as well.
 - The only difference is that mainframes report absolutely everything. For most of our mainframe customers, they just need a warning that they may see a few IFCCs during firmware upgrades
 - IFCCs, regardless of the impact to traffic flow, then their best option is to always deploy a Director-class platform.



Brocade Proudly Presents... Our Industries ONLY FICON Certification



Brocade
Certified Architect
for FICON



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Certification for Brocade Mainframe-centric Customers – Available since Sept 2008

For people who do or will work in FICON environments

Brocade provides a free on-site or in area 2-day class (Brocade Design and Implementation for FICON Environments – FCAF200), to assist customers in obtaining the knowledge to pass this certification examination – ask your local sales team about this training – also look at www.brocade.com under Education

Certification tests a person's ability to understand IBM System z I/O concepts, and demonstrate knowledge of Brocade FICON Director and switching fabric components

After the class a participant should be able to design, install, configure, maintain, manage, and troubleshoot Brocade hardware and software products for local and metro distance (100 km) environments

Check the following website for complete information:

- <http://www.brocade.com/education/certification-accreditation/certified-architect-ficon/index.page>

.....My Next Presentation.....

A First Look at the Inner Workings and Hidden Mechanisms of FICON Performance

- **David Lytle, BCAAF**
- **Brocade Communications Inc.**
- **Tuesday August 7, 2012 -- 1:30pm to 2:30pm**
- **Session Number - 12072**

SAN Sessions at SHARE this week



Tuesday:

Time-Session

0930 – 11152: DLm 'Tape on Disk' VTL Customer Experience & Benefits

1330 - 12072: A First Look at the Inner Workings and Hidden Mechanisms of FICON Performance

1500 - 12071: A Deeper Look Into the Inner Workings and Hidden Mechanisms of FICON Performance

Wednesday:

Time-Session

0800 - 12076: Buffer-to-Buffer Credits, Exchanges, and Urban Legends

1330 - 12077: ESCON I/O Will Not Be Supported On Future System z Platforms. What Do I Do?

1500 - 12075: zSeries FICON and FCP Fabrics - Intermixing Best Practices

Thursday:

Time-Session

1630 - 12084: Buzz Fibrechannel - To 16G and Beyond

Complete your sessions evaluation online at SHARE.org/AnaheimEval



Mainframe Resources For You To Use



Visit Brocade's Mainframe Blog Page at:

<http://community.brocade.com/community/brocadeblogs/mainframe>

Also Visit Brocade's New Mainframe Communities Page at:

http://community.brocade.com/community/forums/products_and_solutions/mainframe_solutions

Please Fill Out Your Evaluation Forms!!

This was session: 12078

And Please Indicate On Those Forms If There Are Other Presentations That You Would Like To See In This SAN Track At SHARE.

Thank You.



Questions?

