

# Riverbed SteelFusion and NetApp Storage

Extend the virtual edge of the data center to the branch

Riverbed® SteelFusion™ storage delivery appliances empower IT to consolidate remote office applications, servers, and data to NetApp® unified storage systems in the data center while providing local speed access at the edge across the WAN. Branch office users get uncompromised performance, while IT teams achieve centralized provisioning, management, and backup. Together Riverbed and NetApp radically reduce the operational burden on IT managers while massively increasing their control over the infrastructure, all at a lower total cost of ownership.

A significant amount of IT infrastructure remains in branch offices to serve the needs of local users. Managing servers and storage at the edge comes at a cost, increasing the IT support burden and introducing risk to valuable corporate data assets managed outside the data center. SteelFusion delivers breakthrough file system-aware block acceleration that enables IT to extend NetApp unified storage systems in the

data center over the WAN while making sure of LAN performance for virtualized applications running in the branch. IT departments can take advantage of greater cost efficiencies at data centers while gaining new levels of flexibility to serve business needs.

SteelFusion decouples storage from computing, even over thousands of miles, enabling branch local execution of centrally managed servers and local speed access to consolidated data. Data and servers that used to be distributed can now be virtualized and consolidated in the data center to reduce complexity while achieving better security, scalability, and cost savings. Further benefit is derived from applying NetApp Data ONTAP® advanced features such as thin provisioning and virtual storage tiering to centrally manage and flexibly provision the storage for the entire enterprise organization from the data center.

## KEY BENEFITS

- Lower cost and complexity by simplifying branch IT infrastructure
- Reduce risk by managing, protecting, and securing data centrally
- Make sure of business continuity with fast branch recovery from the data center

## STEELFUSION COMPONENTS

The SteelFusion solution consists of two components:

- **SteelFusion Core:** physical or virtual appliances in the data center that connect to your centralized storage area network and project storage LUNs to branch offices
- **SteelFusion Edge:** a standalone branch office appliance that provides high-speed local access to projected data center storage and servers

## Benefits

### Complete server and storage consolidation

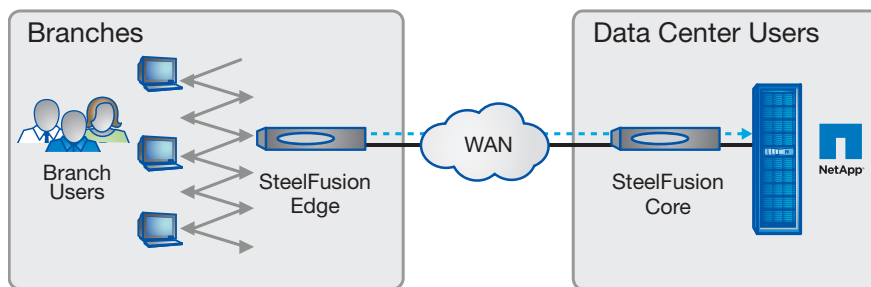
Certain business applications still require local servers and storage to meet the performance requirements of end users. With SteelFusion, IT can successfully separate branch computing from data storage, eliminating the need to purchase and support servers and storage traditionally hosted in branch offices for performance requirements of end users.

### Near-instant provisioning and recovery

With SteelFusion, virtual machine images maintained in the data center on NetApp storage can be booted into service in the branch in minutes. IT organizations can now provision, upgrade, and patch branch systems centrally and resume operations with minimal disruption. In the event of disaster in the branch, recovery is as simple—and fast—as rebooting a server to a new appliance in the branch or to a temporary alternate location.

### Resiliency to WAN outages

Though storage has been completely centralized, SteelFusion appliances enable remote office workers to have local access to data even when the WAN link to the office goes down.



RIVERBED STEELFUSION EXTENDS NETAPP STORAGE FROM THE DATA CENTER TO THE BRANCH.

### LAN performance for virtual desktops

SteelFusion projects virtual desktops stored on NetApp storage to the branch office, enabling local performance even in the event of WAN outages, while making sure of remote user productivity and satisfaction.

### Centralized data protection

Services and data are protected and secured in the data center, leveraging the same tools and methodologies applied to all corporate data. This eliminates the need to purchase, install, and manage a backup solution in the branch office.

### Secured data

With storage in the branch, data is exposed to risk. SteelFusion products enable organizations to centrally control

all data and include strong authentication and encryption to make sure of the security of data assets while in flight from the data center as well as in the branch.

### Simplified management

By eliminating the need to maintain storage in branch offices, organizations can reduce administration costs by leveraging standardized data center-centric policies and procedures. All data management and support activities can take place in the data center. Branch-based IT personnel and “fly and fix” missions are no longer required.

#### ABOUT RIVERBED

Riverbed is the leader in Application Performance Infrastructure, delivering the most complete platform for Location-Independent Computing. Riverbed's 25,000+ customers include 97% of both the Fortune 100 and the Forbes Global 100. Learn more at [www.riverbed.com](http://www.riverbed.com).

#### ABOUT NETAPP

Leading organizations worldwide count on NetApp for software, systems and services to manage and store their data. Customers value our teamwork, expertise and passion for helping them succeed now and into the future. [www.netapp.com](http://www.netapp.com).