

# Hitachi RapidXchange™

For the Hitachi Freedom Storage™  
Lightning 9900™ Series

**HITACHI**  
DATA SYSTEMS

MAXIMIZE YOUR  
INVESTMENT  
MINIMIZE YOUR  
RISK

The connected economy is information-intensive. That's why the world's most successful organizations make accessing, sharing, and moving information the primary focus of their IT strategies. With Hitachi RapidXchange™ and the Hitachi Freedom Storage™ Lightning 9900™ Series, your company can overcome today's data sharing obstacles, accelerate access to information across the enterprise, and empower the transformation of information into knowledge.

## Information Ensures the Competitive Edge in Today's Economy

Information is the pulse of today's business—and requests for information are increasing. As a result, sizeable volumes of data traffic are moving through your systems at an all-time high. The proliferation of new applications, such as the Internet, rich media, data warehousing and data mining, is placing new burdens on your existing infrastructure. With core business systems residing on a mix of mainframe and open systems, efficiently sharing and moving information between heterogeneous environments is vital.

Information needs to be exchanged regularly for such tasks as data synchronization, populating data warehousing systems, or application development. Typically, data is exchanged in either direction, between mainframe and open systems. However,

the ever-diminishing mainframe batch window, coupled with increasing volumes of information, impedes this process. Your challenge—exchanging and sharing information while delivering an always-available environment that operates at peak efficiency.

### *Overcoming heterogeneous information exchange obstacles*

The solution—Hitachi RapidXchange™ eliminates many of the constraints related to exchanging information in heterogeneous environments. By improving exchange processes between mainframe and open systems, the threat of over-stressing the network is reduced. The LAN and the WAN were not designed to handle large bulk data transfers. Therefore, they do not allow information exchanges to be performed with maximum effectiveness. RapidXchange revolutionizes the way you exchange information by using high-speed ESCON® and Fibre Channel connections to transport data through the Hitachi

Freedom Storage™ Lightning 9900™ Series. File transfer speeds are amplified five-to-ten times. Users in multi-platform environments can now easily and rapidly access information anywhere—and at any time.

RapidXchange increases productivity by keeping LAN resources available to your end users. A consistent flow of information throughout the enterprise gives you the power to rapidly share and deliver information more efficiently, make timely business decisions, and move your products to market faster to increase profitability.

## Exploiting the value of your information

The capacity to share and move information between heterogeneous environments without placing roadblocks on your networks is a significant asset. RapidXchange delivers maximum flexibility for rapid, reliable data transfers, making it especially useful for data warehousing and data mining applications. Vast amounts of information can be moved quickly from mainframe to open environments for analysis without requiring access to networking resources or intermediate tape media. Accurate information can then be used to generate, analyze, and explore new possibilities for your business. This positions you to make better decisions in less time, and swiftly restructure your offerings based upon real-time trends.

## Increasing flexibility with access options

RapidXchange offers two different options for accessing information from open systems platforms:

- > **File Access Library (API).** The File Access Library provides basic API functionality in the form of open, read/write, and close commands. You can develop your own UNIX®, IBM®, AIX®, Microsoft® Windows NT® or Windows® 2000, Sun™ Solaris™, or HP-UX® applications to read MVS™ information directly from a RapidXchange disk volume, and then process that information accordingly. In many cases, existing programs that currently use tape input can be modified easily to read that data directly from the MVS system. This eliminates the step of migrating supplementary information and secures valuable resource and file transfer time.
- > **File Conversion Utility (FCU).** The File Conversion Utility provides a GUI-based display of the intermediate MVS volume. From this display, you can select individual sequential datasets, and make simple modifications to the information prior to rewriting it as a simple UNIX flat file.

## Storage—No Limits

In today's knowledge-based economy, information is central to the successful enterprise. Hitachi Data Systems will help you build an intelligent information infrastructure to provide your enterprise with the availability, scalability, and performance you need to transform data into knowledge. This bulletproof architecture combines our industry-leading enterprise storage and software with Hitachi-developed solutions and strategic alliances. We embrace industry standards and protocols, while capitalizing on advances in storage area networks and storage resource management. With our intelligent information infrastructure, our ability to deliver the "Storage—No Limits" vision is fully realized. Where will it take you? You will acquire a powerful, truly open alternative that allows you to enhance your business agility, improve capital utilization, achieve operational excellence, and minimize risk.

Transformation options include converting data from EBCDIC to ASCII and padding out variable-length records. The UNIX flat file receiving the modified data can reside on any UNIX volume, including non-Hitachi storage. This offers a more convenient way of converting information from a mainframe server to an open systems host—and vice versa.

## Automating performance for enhanced speed

Hitachi Data Systems makes the way you exchange information more efficient by providing solutions from industry leaders around the world. For increased performance, Tantia™ Technologies HARBOR® File Transfer (HFT) works with RapidXchange to automate the process of transferring large data files—at ultra-high speeds—between open systems and mainframe servers. HFT enables UNIX, Windows NT, and Windows 2000 applications to work with up-to-the-minute information extracted from S/390® environments. HFT automatically fragments large volumes of information into more manageable pieces. Using RapidXchange data-pathing capabilities, HFT then directs information in multiple streams through a Lightning 9900 Series system with increased transfer speeds. HFT employs network lines only to transfer information between open systems and mainframes, so they remain more fully available for your business activity. As a result, you have a more efficient transfer process than the much slower network line methods used in conventional solutions.

## Superlative Service and Support – Ranked Number One

When you partner with Hitachi Data Systems, we're with you every step of the way. Our storage experts provide experienced consultation—backed by comprehensive assessment, planning, and implementation services—to help you develop your enterprise information strategies and deploy your systems. In fact, respondents to recent surveys by FIND/SVP and Wit SoundView placed Hitachi Data Systems number one in overall service and support as well as technical performance.

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