

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

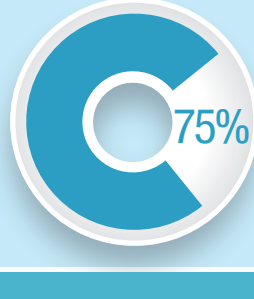
Scalable

Agile

Operations friendly

Software defined storage (SDS)

enables the next generation of IT infrastructure:

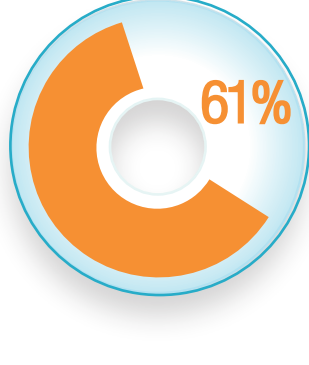


75% of enterprises have deployed/considering deploying SDS in the datacenter

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

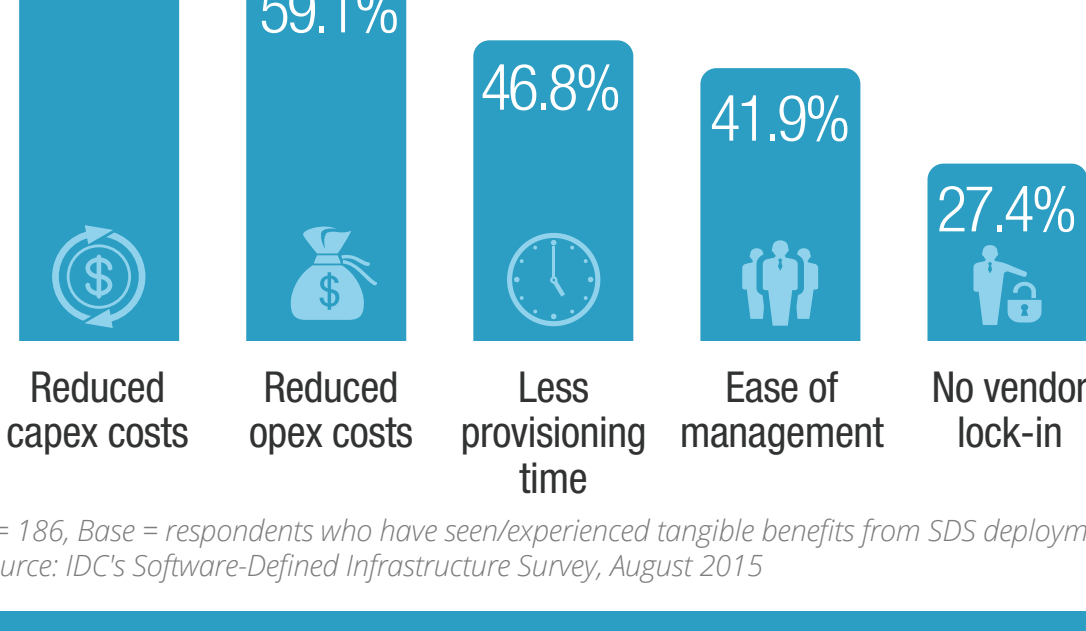
Why SDS?

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.

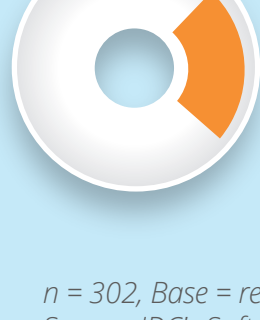


File:
31.5%



Object:
25.9%

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



Block:
24.2%



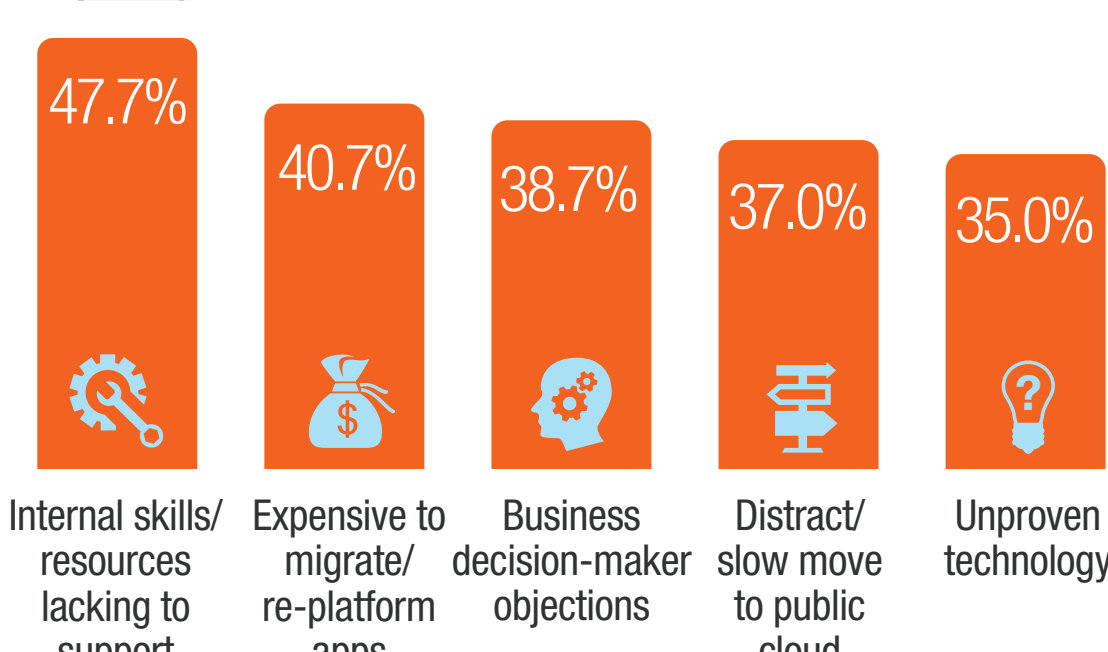
Hyperconverged:
18.4%

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.