


# Advantech ASR-5200E: Ideal for VMware Environments

Efficient, high-performing virtualized  
storage for small and medium businesses

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Many businesses already have deployed or are considering VMware virtualization solutions to reduce costs through server consolidation while increasing the efficiency, utilization and flexibility of their IT infrastructure. Realizing the full benefits associated with server virtualization also requires a complementary and robust shared storage foundation. Advantech delivers smarter storage solutions for businesses of all sizes that help optimize the VMware infrastructure and maximize the benefits while also addressing today's ongoing explosion of data.

## **Raising the bar with Advantech ASR-5200E**

Advantech ASR-5200E is a highly efficient and easy-to-use storage system based on the innovative architecture of ASR-5200E. Raising the bar for entry-level disk systems, this virtualized storage system is designed to deliver superior performance and address growing data requirements and consolidation needs. By improving the efficiency, resiliency and agility of VMware infrastructures, Advantech ASR-5200E can help lower costs while keeping the business on track and positioned for the future.

### **Built-in storage efficiencies**


The efficiency features included with ASR-5200E can deliver significant benefits for VMware environments and mixed workloads. Like server virtualization, storage virtualization can boost asset utilization while optimizing expenditures and capabilities. Thin provisioning leverages virtualization technology, enabling applications to consume only the space they are actually using, not the total space that has been allocated to them. Higher utilization can be realized by reducing the need to install physical disk capacity that would otherwise be unused. Dynamic migration is also included with ASR-5200E0 and enables non-disruptive data movement to the system for consolidation efforts or when upgrading to new technology.

### **VAAI integration improves performance**

Through integrated support for vSphere Storage APIs for Array Integration (VAAI), ASR-5200E can improve performance and consolidation capabilities. vSphere can execute operations faster and consume less server resources and storage bandwidth with VAAI enabled. Processing for certain I/O-intensive operations like virtual machine cloning can be offloaded from VMware ESX hosts to ASR-5200E when utilizing VAAI, which eliminates redundant data flows between the physical server and storage. Reducing the workload on the server also allows more virtual machines to be deployed for consolidation purposes or growing business needs.

### **Essential snapshot technology**

ASR-5200E includes a rich Flash Copy function that is designed to create an almost instant copy of active data, which then can be used for data protection purposes or parallel processing activities. Flash Copy can help you recover from situations where data has been lost because of application or user error. For example, Flash Copy can be used to take a snapshot of critical data at regular intervals before beginning any maintenance activity to protect against possible



accidental deletion. The ability to clone virtual machines is one major advantage that virtual machines have over physical servers. New systems can be quickly provisioned, or existing systems can be cloned for testing. vSphere can be used to create a clone; however, by using the Flash Copy capability built into ASR-5200E instead of server resources, individual virtual machines or entire virtual environments can be quickly cloned. Leveraging Flash Copy to create writeable snapshots or space-efficient copies can also boost performance for virtual desktop infrastructure (VDI) deployments.

## **Easy to deploy and manage**

Small and medium businesses (SMBs) typically have IT departments with limited resources, experience and time to dedicate to system deployment and data management. With this in mind, ASR-5200E has been designed for exceptional ease of use and includes a highly graphical and intuitive user interface. The initial system setup typically only takes minutes and volumes can be provisioned with only a few clicks.

## **The Advantech-VMware Relationship**

As established leaders in the virtualization space, Advantech and VMware are long-time partners with hundreds of thousands of successful deployments. Advantech continues to be a VMware Global Alliance Partner and one of the largest OEMs of VMware software. Continued strong investment and active involvement in joint development initiatives and partner programs ensures that Advantech solutions like ASR-5200E are supportable and designed with optimal performance and functionality in mind.

## **For more information**

To learn more about Advantech ASR-5200E storage system, please contact your Advantech representative or visit our website at <http://www.advantech.com/intelligent-systems/>.