

How to Use Virtual Disk on the Cisco Smart Storage



The unique **Virtual Disk Drive** adds flexibility to expand the capacity of NAS. By using the built-in iSCSI initiator, the NAS can connect to other iSCSI targets on the network and turn them into virtual disks, which become multiple single volumes on the NAS. Up to 8 virtual disks can be stacked. The NAS serves as the storage stack chaining master. The user only needs to connect to this single entry (Cisco Smart Storage) and is able to reach and use all the iSCSI target storages on the network. This application note will show you how to use the virtual disk to expand your storage.

Contents

Virtual Disk Drive (VDD)	2
Create a Virtual Disk	2
Use Virtual Disk on Your Cisco Smart Storage	3
For More Information	5

Virtual Disk Drive (VDD)

This application note will show you how to use the virtual disk to expand your storage.

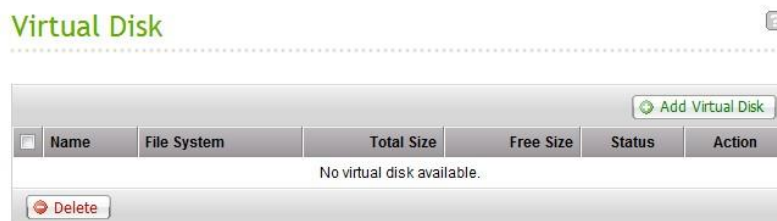
Virtual Disk Topology



Create a Virtual Disk

Choose **Disk Management > Virtual Disk** and click **Add Virtual Disk** on the Virtual Disk page.

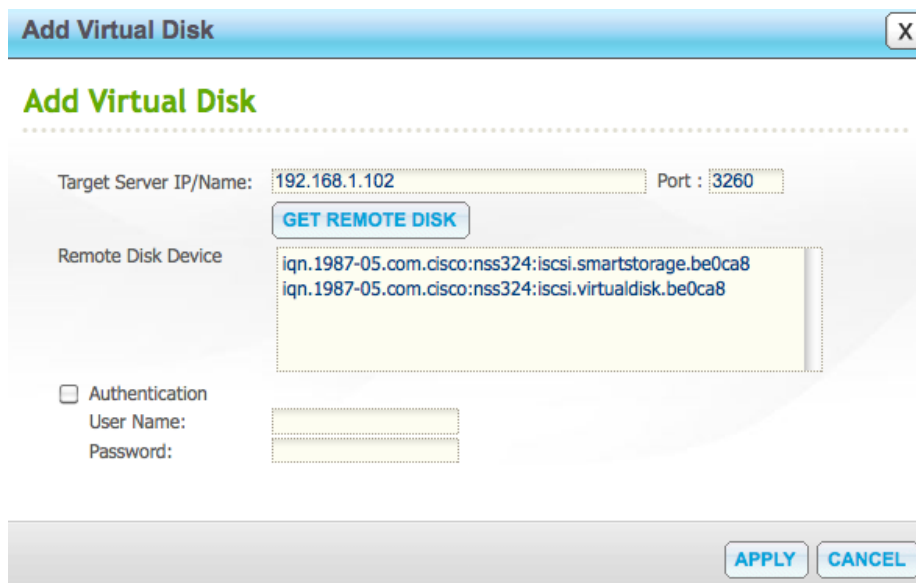
Create New Virtual Disk



Follow these four steps to connect to an iSCSI target on a remote server.

1. Enter the target server IP address (the server which has the iSCSI target on it).
 - a. Click **Get Remote Disk** to get the iSCSI target list
2. Select the iSCSI target in the Remote Disk Device that you wish to use as the virtual disk.
 - a. Click **APPLY**

Add new Virtual Disk Target



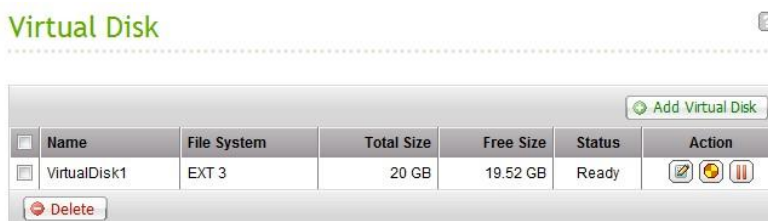
3. If this is the first time when you are connecting to the virtual disk (iSCSI target), you will have to format it before it can be mounted to the NAS.

Virtual Disk Formatting



4. When the formatting is complete, the Status will change to Ready and you are now able to use the Virtual Disk.

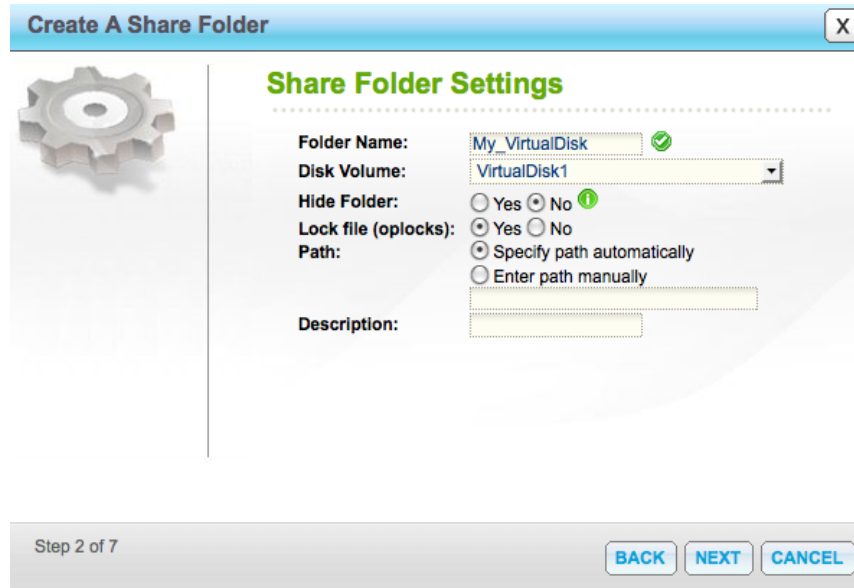
Virtual Disk Ready



Use Virtual Disk on Your Cisco Smart Storage

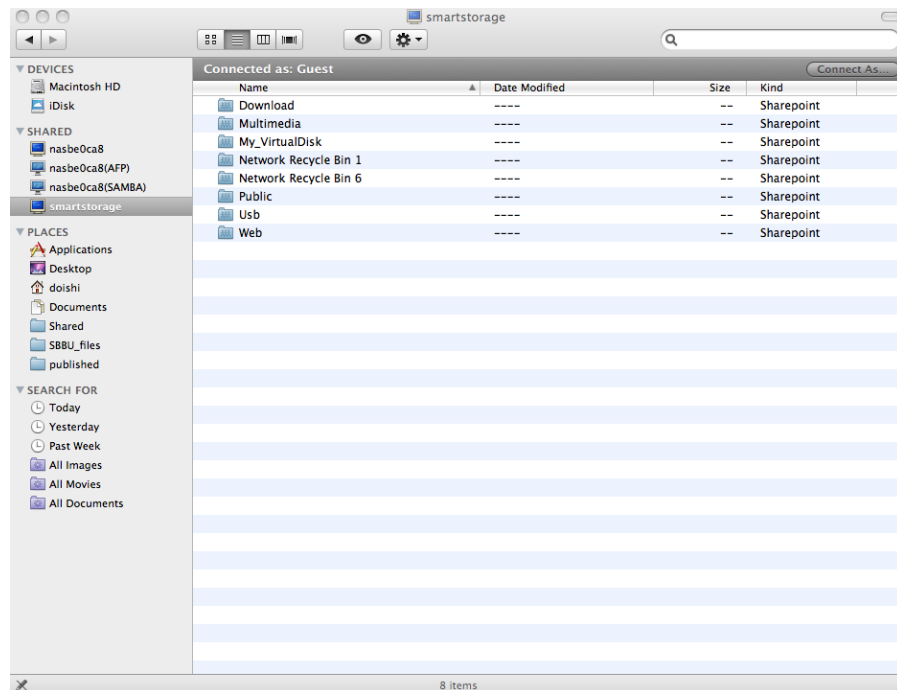
Now you can create the share folders on the virtual disk. Simply select the **VirtualDiskx** (x= 1 to 8; the maximum virtual disk number is 8) in the Disk Volume drop-down list when creating a new share folder.

Creating Share for Virtual Disk

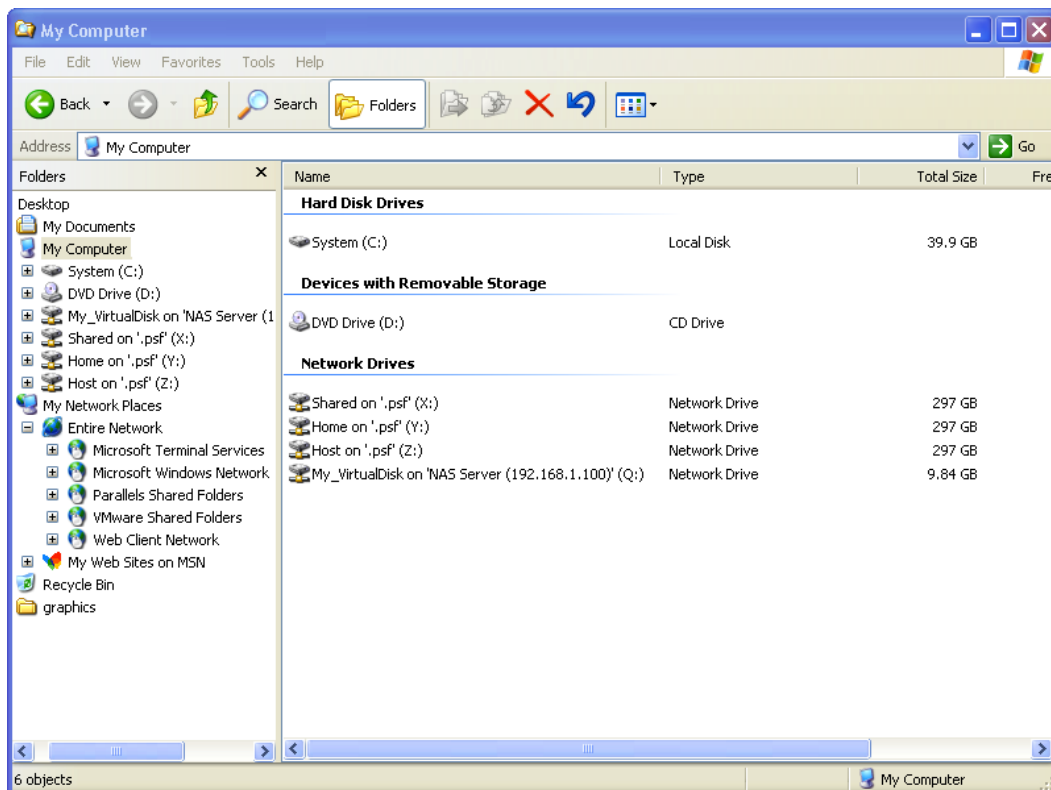


The share folder on the virtual disk has been created successfully and is ready to use.

Virtual Disk Drive appears in Shared Folders on a MAC



Virtual Disk Drive appears in Windows



For More Information

For more information about Cisco Smart Storage Applications, visit the Cisco Small Business Community forum <https://www.myciscocommunity.com/community/smallbizsupport/networkstorage>



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