



## Vmeter SQM™

### *SAN QOS Manager for Apple SANs*



Looking to get more from your Apple SAN while spending less? How about ensuring business-critical video operations like playout get the bandwidth they need?

If so, look no more. Installed on SAN-attached clients, Vmeter SQM raises the overall performance of Apple SANs by controlling the I/O access rates of attached workstations. When high-priority processes such as playout are running, Vmeter SQM ensures sufficient streaming bandwidth is available by “throttling” lower-priority SAN client access rates.

The result: dramatic SAN performance improvement—as much as three times higher than with Xserve RAID alone.

### **Need for SAN QOS Management**

In a typical Xsan video environment, multiple video workstation clients are connected to the same SAN. In this configuration, each workstation accesses SAN storage devices directly rather than connecting to a central file server via Ethernet network. Direct SAN connection can increase individual system performance by eliminating I/O bottlenecks at the file server, but this can also introduce potential problems when workstation access priorities conflict and degrade SAN efficiency.

This is the case when I/O-intensive tasks such as backup compete with video operations like playout. Playout requires isochronous data delivery to achieve required performance levels and to function properly. Without adequate I/O bandwidth, frames may be dropped and playout will be interrupted. Adding Xserve RAID to the SAN to increase aggregate bandwidth is a simple, but expensive answer. Vmeter SQM eliminates need for additional storage by managing *quality of service (QOS)* on the SAN.

## Benefits

When installed on SAN-attached workstations, Vmeter SQM:

- Ensures bandwidth is continuously available for all high-priority processes
- Reduces performance-based storage requirements by as much as 3:1
- Dynamically limits workstation I/O demands according to preset levels
- Provides easy bandwidth monitoring
- Simplifies SAN capacity planning

## Licensing

Vmeter SQM installs on SAN-attached Mac OS X clients, and works with or without Xsan. Vmeter SQM software is available under single-unit and multi-client software site licenses as shown below.

### Vmeter SQM AT-A-GLANCE

Model Number	Vmeter-1	Vmeter-96
Licensed clients	1	96 (single site)
Host OS support	Mac OS X	Mac OS X
SAN support	Xserve RAID	Xserve RAID
Xsan	not required	not required
<b>Support</b>		
VSI-S3	3-year maintenance and telephone support, normal business hours, single unit	
VS96-S3	3-year maintenance and telephone support, normal business hours, 96 clients/site	

#### Vicom Systems

Vicom Systems is a privately held company in Redwood City, California. Vicom specializes in the delivery of transparent, wire speed data services for systems and storage. Vicom delivers on the long-standing promise of SANs: seamless mobility and consolidation, any-to-any connection, simplified management, and high availability. Vicom products and services have been selected by OEMs including IBM, Sun Microsystems, and Hewlett-Packard. Enterprise and video customers include Deutsche Bank, Bloomberg, Caterpillar Tractor, NFL Films, and Korea Broadcasting.

## Key Features

### **SAN QOS Management**

*Ensures adequate bandwidth is available to high-priority video processes by limiting SAN client I/O access rates.*

### **Easy Installation**

*Compact application installs on SAN-attached clients.*

### **Simple Management and Configuration**

*Client I/O limits and I/O statistics are set once and applied automatically across SAN.*

### **Compatibility**

*Works with all SAN-connected Apple workstations and servers and Xserve RAID. Xsan not required.*

