

# The clock is ticking

It's time to upgrade your legacy infrastructure

**Data center modernization is no longer just about keeping up with the pace of data growth, it's now a corporate imperative.**

Businesses are striving to outpace their competition and need to be able to adapt quickly to changing market demands.

While the thought of a technology refresh might not be so welcome, the benefits of upgrading to Lenovo Gen 7 from 8G, 16G or even 32G are far greater than you might imagine.

## Say **farewell to 8G** and don't delay

**In 2019 Lenovo 8G product line reached end of support**

**Aside from the obvious fact that running unsupported products in your data center can heighten your risk of downtime, legacy products will also limit potential performance gains from next-generation storage technologies like Flash and NVMe.**

Now is the time to think about refreshing your aging storage networking infrastructure with Lenovo Gen 7 Fibre Channel, to minimize downtime risks and be better prepared for application and data growth while significantly enhancing your network management and diagnostics capabilities.

# 4 reasons to upgrade to Lenovo Gen 7 Fibre Channel that you can't afford to ignore



## 1 Your network is struggling to meet today's demands let alone tomorrow's

**Don't risk your competitive edge.** Today's storage technology has short innovation cycles, so your network may need to handle multiple generations. To unlock more value from your core business and stay ahead of the competition, you need to be able to transition seamlessly from where you are today to where you're headed tomorrow.

Lenovo Gen 7 Fibre Channel protects your investments and eases migration to the latest technology. As well as getting the higher speeds and scalability your organization needs today, you'll be able to fast-track the addition of new technologies as needed. With support for NVMe, you're all set for the foreseeable future.



## 2 Legacy infrastructures can hinder performance

**You'll experience traffic bottlenecks if your network isn't up to par.** Flash and NVMe outperform hard disk drives in every storage performance measurement: latency, bandwidth and IOPs. But traditional network connections weren't built for next-gen storage arrays, so running them on an aging infrastructure can cause capacity overloads and traffic bottlenecks. Only by upgrading your storage network can you unlock the true performance of flash and NVMe.

Lenovo Gen 7 Fibre Channel combines innovative hardware and software to deliver industry-leading operational stability and 71% faster application response time, eliminating IO bottlenecks and unleashing the full performance of next-generation storage. Plus - Lenovo Gen 7 is NVMe-ready, meaning a seamless integration when you are ready to deploy NVMe storage arrays.



## 3 You're at high risk of downtime and non-compliance

**Don't put your mission-critical apps at risk.** Running unsupported products in your fabric creates high risk of downtime and non-compliance. And even if you have 16G or 32G technology that's still under contract, that hardware is aging and could fail over time with the effects of heat, vibration and dust. Older infrastructures weren't designed to handle today's workloads, and will struggle to keep up with the rate of traffic, with even a millisecond delay putting you at risk of sluggish performance and downtime for critical applications.

Beyond minimizing downtime risks, Gen 7 Fibre Channel gives you the speed you need to unlock the full performance of next-generation storage while managing slow-drain devices that still live in the network.



## 4 You may be missing out on valuable insight and diagnostics

**If you can't measure, you can't manage.** Without full visibility, it's hard to diagnose the root cause of application issues and resolve them quickly. To meet SLAs, fast, accurate measurements and analytics are critical.

Lenovo Gen 7 (64G) helps solve this too, with advanced network monitoring and diagnostics included in Fabric Vision – giving you granular visibility into IO performance, and insights for faster remediation and peace of mind. Plus, management is now even easier, with centralized controls and open automation technology including rest API support – so you can spend more time on business-critical projects and less time keeping the lights on.

## Why Lenovo Gen 7?

✓ **Greater application performance**

✓ **Granular visibility and analytics**

✓ **Simplified management**

✓ **Increased business agility**

✓ **Greater automation capabilities**

✓ **Enhanced operational stability**

| Features                                      | Gen 4 (8G)      | Gen 5 (16G)     | Gen 6 (32G)                   | Gen 7 (64G)                |
|---|-----------------|-----------------|-------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Maximum port speed                            | 8G              | 16G             | 32G                           | 64G                        |
| Fabric Vision monitoring and diagnostics      | Not available   | Available       | Advanced                      | Available                  |
| Traffic Optimizer and congestion management   | Not available   | Not available   | Not available                 | Available                  |
| SANnav management and automation capabilities | Not supported   | Supported       | Supported                     | Available                  |
| Upgradable to next-generation technology      | Not upgradeable | Not upgradeable | X6 Director upgradeable Gen 7 | Mix Gen 6 and Gen 7 blades |

Explore the benefits of upgrading to Lenovo Gen 7 Fibre Channel

Set up a call today to discuss your specific needs with our data experts.