

Gen 7 Fibre Channel

A resilient, autonomous SAN

The potential speed of business is faster than ever. But only if the infrastructure can support it.

Next-generation servers and storage are pumping more data through enterprise infrastructure than ever before. Flash and NVMe can process that data at unimaginable speeds, but their success relies on the network.

With the advent of Brocade® Gen 7 technology, the SAN is making a quantum leap of its own. Not only is it twice as fast—it's also smarter—enabling you to realize an autonomous SAN that will unleash the performance of your server and storage investments, maximizing your ROI.

Keep up with new innovations and demands with Brocade Gen 7

A single issue in the SAN can cost millions of dollars in lost transactions and productivity. You need to lay the foundation for the future now. Because very soon, what was working well will no longer be sufficient.

Brocade Gen 7 combines hardware and powerful analytics software to create a SAN that provides double the bandwidth of Gen 6 with 64G links and half the latency—down to 460 nanoseconds.

The added intelligence also enables the SAN to perform functions not possible before. It has created an automated network that can take the pain out of protecting and managing your data center. Integrated security and autonomous SAN technology safeguards your SAN against cyber attacks, IT disruptions, and disasters, while self-learning, self-optimizing, and self-healing on its own. These capabilities automate processes to ensure optimal performance and enable non-stop operations. At the same time, they strengthen the level of security in your network to protect against security threats.

The 5 must-have capabilities of the modern SAN



1. Speed

An aging network can impede the performance of next-generation servers and NVMe, creating a bottleneck. A modern network will help you to maximize the ROI of new storage investments. Brocade Gen 7 provides 64G line-rate speed along with a 50-percent reduction in latency to unleash performance and maximize your investments for years to come.



2. Scalability

Your SAN must be able to cope with the next surge of devices, applications, and workloads that will hit the network. Gen 7, providing double the throughput of Gen 6, has the bandwidth needed to support data growth, increased workloads, and data center consolidation.



3. Intelligence

Your admins need instant access to data to make informed decisions. Brocade Gen 7 comes with intelligence built in. It automatically collates millions of data points from across the fabric and translates them into actionable insights. This enables storage admins to optimize their infrastructure and resolve issues faster than ever before.



4. Resiliency

The rising speed and complexity of traffic increases the impact of disruption and downtime. Coupled with hundreds of IT security vulnerabilities uncovered every year, it's important to keep up on the latest technology or risk leaving your infrastructure exposed. Gen 7 acts autonomously to protect against security threats while quickly and efficiently maintaining optimal conditions, maximizing availability of your storage resources, and ensuring the highest levels of resiliency. This not only simplifies day-to-day management tasks, but helps to reduce costly network disruptions and outages.



5. Flexibility

Migration should not cause wasted investment. Brocade Gen 7 makes it easy to run NVMe and SCSI data traffic concurrently on the same network. Plus, the mixed blade flexibility of the Brocade X7 Director also allows you to utilize both Gen 7 and Gen 6 blades within a single chassis—for migration on your terms.

Gen 7 feature highlights:

- 2X the performance of Gen 6
- 50% lower latency
- Actionable intelligence
- Powerful analytics
- Integrated security
- Autonomous capabilities
- Continuous availability
- Investment protection

Feature	Gen 6	Gen 7
Maximum supported speed	32G	64G
Latency (local switching)	780 ns	460 ns
Traffic Optimizer	N/A	Available
Hardware congestion signalling	N/A	Available
Advanced telemetry (fabric latency, SCSI errors, read oversubscription, etc)	N/A	Available
NVMe analytics	N/A	Available

Lay the intelligent foundation for a resilient, autonomous SAN

Brocade Gen 7 not only provides the speed that business needs today, it also enables dramatic time and cost savings too. And thanks to its built-in telemetry and integrated security, it is able to optimize the network, resolve issues as fast as they happen, and protect your SAN against cybersecurity and business continuity challenges that threaten to disrupt data center operations. These are the critical capabilities that make the autonomous SAN a reality.

Explore the Gen 7 Guide to learn more >

