



## Cheap parts: *The “commodification” of networked storage*

IP SAN and iSCSI technologies help drive down the cost of storage area networks by employing off-the-shelf components throughout the various tiers of a storage area network. These days agencies can use relatively inexpensive parts virtually anywhere, such as (1) commodity network adapters in their servers, (2) commercially available IP switches throughout the infrastructure and (3) low-cost disk drives—including serial ATA drives—in their storage arrays.