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# **Pure Storage FAAA\_004 Exam Syllabus Topics:**

| Topic Details |  |
|---------------|--|
|---------------|--|

| Topic 1 | <ul> <li>Array Monitoring and Architecture: This section measures the skills of Storage Architects and covers explaining FlashArray's high availability architecture, defining FlashArray features (e.g., ActiveCluster, ActiveDR), explaining data reduction methods, identifying components of FlashArrays, and analyzing performance metrics and capacity usage using Pure1 Manage3. A crucial skill evaluated is "analyzing performance metrics".</li> </ul>  |
|---------|---|
| Topic 2 | <ul> <li>Subscriptions and DX: This section evaluates the competencies of Account Managers regarding Pure Storage's subscription services and digital experience. It focuses on identifying the benefits of Pure's Evergreen program (Evergreen</li> <li>One,</li> <li>Forever,</li> <li>Flex) and Love Your Storage Guarantee, as well as determining future capacity, performance, and upgrade requirements through workload and hardware simulations.</li> </ul>   |
| Topic 3 | <ul> <li>Qualify, Sell, and Architect: This section of the exam assesses the skills of Technical Sales Engineers and covers identifying solutions based on customer requirements, sizing solutions based on customer needs using tools like Pure FlashArray Sizer, identifying market trends and opportunities (e.g., Ransomware and Portworx Solution Centers), demonstrating an understanding of FlashArray use cases, and demonstrating an understanding of unified storage on FlashArray37. A key skill measured is "identifying solutions based on customer requirements.</li> </ul> |

# Pure Storage FlashArray Architect Associate Sample Questions (Q13-Q18):

#### **NEW QUESTION #13**

Which Pure Storage offering can be deployed in AWS?

- A. Cloud Block Store
- B. ObjectEngine
- C. CloudSnap

#### Answer: A

## Explanation:

The Pure Storage offering that can be deployed in AWS is Cloud Block Store.

Why This Matters:

Cloud Block Store:

Cloud Block Store is a cloud-native block storage solution that runs in public clouds like AWS and Azure.

It provides enterprise-grade storage features, including deduplication, compression, and thin provisioning, while seamlessly integrating with on-premises FlashArray environments.

Why Not the Other Options?

# A . ObjectEngine:

ObjectEngine is a backup and recovery solution designed for rapid restores and backups. It is not a storage solution that can be deployed in AWS.

# C . CloudSnap:

CloudSnap is a feature that offloads snapshots to cloud storage (e.g., AWS S3 or Azure Blob). It is not a standalone storage solution but rather a feature of FlashArray.

**Key Points:** 

Cloud Block Store: Provides block storage in AWS with enterprise-grade features.

Integration: Seamlessly integrates with on-premises FlashArray environments for hybrid cloud architectures.

Scalability: Enables scalable and cost-effective storage in the cloud.

#### Reference:

Pure Storage Cloud Block Store Documentation: "Deploying Cloud Block Store in AWS" Pure Storage Whitepaper: "Hybrid Cloud Architectures with FlashArray and Cloud Block Store" Pure Storage Knowledge Base: "Cloud Block Store Use Cases and Deployment"

#### **NEW OUESTION #14**

An admin is setting up replication and has set up a Protection Group. What are the three choices when adding Members? (Select three.)

- A. AddHBAWWN
- B. Add Host Groups
- C. Add Snapshots
- D. Add Volumes
- E. Add Hosts

#### Answer: B,C,D

#### Explanation:

When setting up replication on a Pure Storage FlashArray, an admin creates a Protection Group to define which entities will be replicated to a remote FlashArray. When adding members to a Protection Group, there are three valid choices: Volumes, Snapshots, and Host Groups. Here's a breakdown of each option:

Choices for Adding Members:

#### Add Volumes:

Volumes are the primary entities that can be added to a Protection Group. Replication ensures that the data within these volumes is copied to the remote FlashArray.

This is the most common use case for replication, especially for protecting critical data such as databases or virtual machine disks. Add Snapshots:

Snapshots of volumes can also be added to a Protection Group. This allows point-in-time copies of the data to be replicated to the remote array.

Snapshots are useful for disaster recovery scenarios where you need to restore data to a specific point in time.

#### Add Host Groups:

Host Groups can be added to a Protection Group to replicate all volumes associated with the host group. This simplifies management when multiple volumes are tied to a single application or server.

Replicating Host Groups ensures that all related volumes are protected together, maintaining consistency across the workload. Incorrect Options:

#### A . Add Hosts:

Hosts themselves cannot be directly added to a Protection Group. Instead, replication focuses on the data (volumes) or logical groupings (host groups) associated with the hosts.

#### E. Add HBA WWN:

HBA WWNs (World Wide Names) are identifiers for Fibre Channel adapters and are not relevant to replication or Protection Groups. They are used for zoning and connectivity but do not play a role in defining replication members.

#### Final Recommendation:

The correct options are B. Add Volumes , C. Add Snapshots , and D. Add Host Groups , as these are the valid entities that can be added to a Protection Group for replication.

#### Reference:

Pure Storage Protection Groups Documentation:

Pure Storage Protection Groups

Provides detailed guidance on creating and managing Protection Groups.

Pure Storage Replication Best Practices:

Pure Storage Replication Best Practices

Explains how to configure replication for volumes, snapshots, and host groups.

Pure Storage Architectural Guides:

Pure Storage Architectural Guides

Covers architectural considerations for replication and disaster recovery.

# **NEW QUESTION #15**

Refer to the exhibit.



A customer is assessing the health of their FlashArray.

What should the customer discuss with their SE based on this information?

- A. Adding more network ports
- B. Adding a second shelf of NVMe DirectFlash modules
- C. Upgrading the controller to the //X90R3 model

#### Answer: B

#### Explanation:

Based on the exhibit (referenced via the link), the customer should discuss adding a second shelf of NVMe DirectFlash modules with their SE. This recommendation is based on the assumption that the exhibit indicates the array is nearing its capacity limits or requires additional storage to accommodate future growth.

Why This Matters:

Capacity Planning:

FlashArray uses DirectFlash Modules to provide high-performance, low-latency storage. If the array is approaching its physical capacity, adding a second shelf of NVMe modules is the most effective way to expand storage without requiring a full hardware upgrade.

This approach ensures the array can continue to meet the customer's growing storage needs while maintaining performance and reliability.

Scalability:

Pure Storage arrays are designed to scale seamlessly by adding expansion shelves. This allows customers to increase capacity without disrupting operations or replacing existing hardware.

Why Not the Other Options?

A. Upgrading the controller to the //X90R3 model:

Upgrading the controller is only necessary if the current controller is nearing its performance limits. The exhibit does not indicate performance bottlenecks, so this step is likely unnecessary.

C . Adding more network ports:

Adding network ports is relevant for improving connectivity or bandwidth but does not address capacity concerns. If the array is running out of storage space, adding network ports will not resolve the issue.

Key Points:

Capacity Expansion: Adding a second shelf of NVMe modules provides additional storage capacity to support future growth. Non-Disruptive Scaling: Expansion shelves can be added without downtime, ensuring continuous availability.

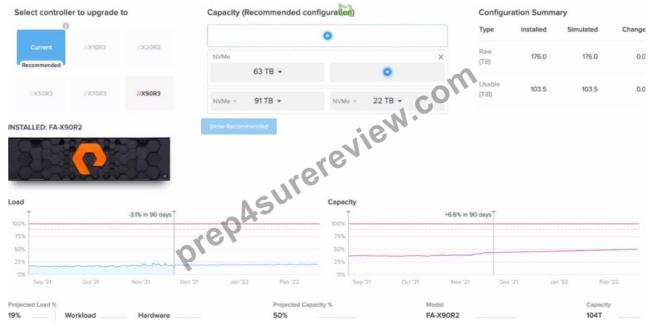
Cost Efficiency: Avoids unnecessary upgrades or replacements, optimizing costs while meeting capacity requirements.

Reference:

Pure Storage FlashArray Documentation: "Expanding FlashArray Capacity with DirectFlash Modules" Pure Storage Whitepaper: "Scaling Storage with FlashArray Expansion Shelves" Pure Storage Knowledge Base: "Best Practices for Capacity Planning and Expansion"

#### **NEW QUESTION #16**

Refer to the exhibit.



The customer wants to add an additional 10 TB of test/dev workload to this array. What should the SE recommend?

- A. Upgrade the controller to an //X90R3 to handle the additional workload.
- B. The workload can be added, but the admin should continue monitoring performance and capacity.
- C. Add more DirectFlash NVMe modules to the expansion shelf to handle the additional capacity.
- D. Upgrade the 22 TB DirectFlash NVMe modules to a higher capacity to handle the additional workload.

#### Answer: B

#### Explanation:

SE should recommend adding the 10 TB test/dev workload to the array while advising the admin to monitor performance and capacity. This recommendation assumes that the array has sufficient resources (e.g., available capacity, performance headroom) to handle the additional workload without requiring immediate upgrades or changes.

# Why This Matters:

Current Array Capacity and Performance:

Pure Storage FlashArray is designed to efficiently handle workloads with advanced data reduction techniques (deduplication, compression, etc.) and high-performance NVMe storage.

If the array has sufficient unused capacity and performance headroom, adding a 10 TB test/dev workload is feasible without requiring hardware upgrades.

# Monitoring:

After adding the workload, it is critical to monitor both performance metrics (e.g., latency, IOPS, throughput) and capacity utilization to ensure the array continues to meet SLAs and does not exceed its limits.

# Why Not the Other Options?

A. Upgrade the controller to an //X90R3 to handle the additional workload:

Upgrading the controller is unnecessary unless the current controller is nearing its performance limits. Test/dev workloads are typically less demanding than production workloads, so this step would likely be premature.

B. Add more DirectFlash NVMe modules to the expansion shelf to handle the additional capacity:

Adding more NVMe modules is only necessary if the array is running out of physical capacity. If the array already has sufficient capacity, this step is not required.

C. Upgrade the 22 TB DirectFlash NVMe modules to a higher capacity to handle the additional workload:

Upgrading the NVMe modules to higher-capacity ones is a significant investment and is only justified if the array is consistently running out of capacity. For a 10 TB workload, this step is likely excessive.

#### **Key Points:**

Feasibility of Adding Workload: The array can likely handle the additional 10 TB workload without immediate upgrades.

Monitoring: Continuous monitoring ensures that performance and capacity remain within acceptable limits.

Cost Efficiency: Avoiding unnecessary upgrades or changes helps optimize costs while meeting the customer's needs. Reference:

Pure Storage FlashArray Documentation: "Capacity Planning and Workload Sizing" Pure Storage Whitepaper: "Best Practices for Managing Test/Dev Workloads" Pure Storage Knowledge Base: "Adding Workloads to FlashArray Without Disruption"

### **NEW QUESTION #17**

Which FlashArray feature allows snapshots to be sent to a public cloud target?

- A. ActiveCluster
- B. Cloud Block Store
- C. CloudSnap

#### Answer: C

Explanation:

The FlashArray feature that allows snapshots to be sent to a public cloud target is CloudSnap.

Why This Matters:

CloudSnap:

CloudSnap is a feature that offloads snapshots to cloud storage providers like AWS S3 or Azure Blob.

It provides a cost-effective and scalable solution for storing backups or archival data in the cloud, ensuring offsite protection and long-term retention.

Public Cloud Integration:

By leveraging public cloud storage, customers can reduce on-premises storage costs while maintaining secure and accessible backups.

Why Not the Other Options?

A. Cloud Block Store:

Cloud Block Store is a cloud-native block storage solution that runs in public clouds (e.g., AWS, Azure). It does not involve sending snapshots to a public cloud target.

C . ActiveCluster:

ActiveCluster provides synchronous replication between two sites for high availability. It does not involve offloading snapshots to the cloud.

**Key Points:** 

CloudSnap: Offloads snapshots to public cloud storage for cost-effective and scalable backups.

Offsite Protection: Ensures data is securely stored in the cloud for disaster recovery or archival purposes.

Integration: Seamlessly integrates with popular cloud providers like AWS and Azure.

Reference:

Pure Storage FlashArray Documentation: "CloudSnap for Offsite Backups"

Pure Storage Whitepaper: "Cost-Effective Backup Strategies with FlashArray" Pure Storage Knowledge Base: "Using CloudSnap to Offload Snapshots"

# **NEW QUESTION #18**

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