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The IBM TotalStorage SAN Volume Controller (SVC) is a member of the IBM TotalStorage Open Software Family and a component of the IBM Virtualization Engine. Using storage virtualization technology, SVC dramatically simplifies administration of SAN-based storage and substantially reduces application outages caused by storage configuration changes. SVC also centralizes management and brings common replication functions to heterogeneous SANs, enabling clients to take a more “business oriented” view of their storage rather than a traditional “box oriented” view. In this presentation the benefits of the TotalStorage SAN Volume Controller will be described in more detail and the characteristics and operating environments of the system explained.