A key customer needed to improve their database performance. Their database size was growing but their application performance was getting slower and slower. They traced the issue to slow storage performance. As it was not economically feasible to totally replace that storage, they considered adding flash storage for the “hot data” they access most frequently. The challenge was that they did not know what data was the most frequently accessed.

Their large database software provider gave them a trial license of their latest product, which allowed for limited storage tiering. The new version of their database software could be configured to automatically place frequently accessed data on higher performance storage, such as SSD and Flash. While there was a performance improvement, the down side was that it required an invasive software upgrade that was expensive and required lots of DBA hours to update, tune, and potentially re-configure existing applications that interfaced with the database.

Then they tried the Nytro MegaRAID application acceleration solution. The Nytro MegaRAID solution was easily installed on their database server, intelligently determined what data was “hot,” and transparently stored it on the high-performance flash that is integrated on the Nytro MegaRAID card. This provided a 10X improvement in application performance and reduced their storage latency by 30x – and it was transparently done, no guessing required. The added benefit was that they did not need an invasive and expensive database upgrade to boost their application performance.