# 11th USENIX Conference on File and Storage Technologies (FAST '13)

**Sponsored by USENIX in cooperation with ACM SIGOPS**

*www.usenix.org/conference/fast13*

**February 12–15, 2013**                                            **San Jose, CA**

## Important Dates

Paper titles and abstracts due: *Tuesday, September 18, 2012, 9:00 p.m. PDT*

Paper submissions due: *Monday, September 24, 2012, 9:00 p.m. PDT (Hard deadline, no extensions)*

Notification of acceptance: *Thursday, December 6, 2012*

Final paper files due: *Tuesday, January 15, 2013*

## Conference Organizers

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Keith A. Smith, *NetApp*
Yuanyuan Zhou, *University of California, San Diego*

### Program Committee
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Marcos K. Aguilera, *Microsoft Research Silicon Valley*
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## Overview

The 11th USENIX Conference on File and Storage Technologies (FAST '13) brings together storage-system researchers and practitioners to explore new directions in the design, implementation, evaluation, and deployment of storage systems. The program committee will interpret "storage systems" broadly; everything from low-level storage devices to information management is of interest. The conference will consist of technical presentations, including refereed papers, Work-in-Progress (WiP) reports, poster sessions, and tutorials.

FAST accepts both full-length and short papers. Both types of submissions are reviewed to the same standards and differ primarily in the scope of the ideas expressed. Short papers are limited to half the space of full-length papers. The program committee will not accept a full paper on the condition that it is cut down to fit in a short paper slot, nor will it invite short papers to be extended to full length. Submissions will be considered only in the category in which they are submitted.

## Topics

Topics of interest include but are not limited to:

- Archival storage systems
- Auditing and provenance
- Caching, replication, and consistency
- Cloud storage
- Data deduplication
- Database storage
- Distributed I/O (wide-area, grid, peer-to-peer)
- Empirical evaluation of storage systems
- Experience with deployed systems
- File system design
- Key-value and NoSQL storage
- Memory-only storage systems
- Mobile and personal storage
- Parallel I/O
- Power-aware storage architectures
- RAID and erasure coding

- Reliability, availability, and disaster tolerance
- Search and data retrieval
- Solid state storage technologies and uses (e.g., flash, PCM)
- Storage management
- Storage performance and QoS
- Storage security
- The challenges of "big data"

## Submission Instructions

Please submit paper titles and abstracts by 9:00 p.m. PDT on September 18, 2012, via the Web form on the FAST '13 Call for Papers Web site, www.usenix.org/conference/fast13. Full and short paper submissions (no extended abstracts), must be submitted by 9:00 p.m. PDT on September 24, 2012, in PDF format via the Web form also. Do not email submissions.

- The complete submission must be no longer than twelve (12) pages for full papers and six (6) for short papers, *excluding references*. The program committee will value conciseness, so if an idea can be expressed in fewer pages than the limit, please do so. Papers should be typeset in two-column format in 10 point Times Roman type on 12 point leading (single-spaced), with the text block being no more than 6.5" wide by 9" deep. As references do not count against the page limit, they should *not* be set in a smaller font. **Submissions that violate any of these restrictions will not be reviewed.** The limits will be interpreted strictly. No extensions will be given for reformatting.

- There are no formal restrictions on the use of color in graphs or charts, but please use them sparingly—not everybody has access to a color printer.

- Authors must not be identified in the submissions, either explicitly or by implication. When it is necessary to cite your own work, cite it as if it were written by a third party. Do not say "reference removed for blind review."

- Simultaneous submission of the same work to multiple venues, submission of previously published work, or plagiarism constitutes dishonesty or fraud. USENIX, like other scientific and technical conferences and journals, prohibits these practices and may take action against authors who have committed them. See the USENIX Conference Submissions Policy at www.usenix.org/conferences/submissions-policy for details.

- If you are uncertain whether your submission meets USENIX's guidelines, please contact the program co-chairs, fast13chairs@usenix.org, or the USENIX office, submissionspolicy@usenix.org.

- Papers accompanied by nondisclosure agreement forms will not be considered.

The program committee and external reviewers will judge papers on technical merit, significance, relevance, and presentation. A good paper will demonstrate that the authors:

- are attacking a significant problem,
- have devised an interesting, compelling solution,
- have demonstrated the practicality and benefits of the solution,
- have drawn appropriate conclusions,

- have clearly described what they have done, and
- have clearly articulated the advances beyond previous work.

Blind reviewing of all papers will be done by the program committee, assisted by outside referees when necessary. Each accepted paper will be shepherded through an editorial review process by a member of the program committee.

Authors will be notified of paper acceptance or rejection no later than Thursday, December 6, 2012. If your paper is accepted and you need an invitation letter to apply for a visa to attend the conference, please contact conference@usenix.org as soon as possible. (Visa applications can take at least 30 working days to process.) Please identify yourself as a presenter and include your mailing address in your email.

All papers will be available online to registered attendees, no earlier than January 16, 2013. If your accepted paper should not be published prior to the event, please notify production@usenix.org. The papers will be available online to everyone beginning on the first day of the main conference, February 13, 2013. Accepted submissions will be treated as confidential prior to publication on the USENIX FAST '13 Web site; rejected submissions will be permanently treated as confidential.

By submitting a paper, you agree that at least one of the authors will attend the conference to present it. If the conference registration fee will pose a hardship for the presenter of the accepted paper, please contact conference@usenix.org.

## Best Paper Awards

Awards will be given for the best paper(s) at the conference. A small, selected set of papers will be forwarded for publication in ACM *Transactions on Storage* (TOS) via a fast-path editorial process. Both full and short papers will be considered.

## Test of Time Award

We will award a FAST paper from a conference at least ten years earlier with the "Test of Time" award, in recognition of its lasting impact on the field.

## Work-in-Progress Reports and Poster Sessions

The FAST technical sessions will include a slot for short Work-in-Progress (WiP) reports presenting preliminary results and opinion statements. We are particularly interested in presentations of student work and topics that will provoke informative debate. While WiP proposals will be evaluated for appropriateness, they are not peer reviewed in the same sense that papers are.

We will also hold poster sessions each evening. WiP submissions will automatically be considered for a poster slot, and authors of all accepted full papers will be asked to present a poster on their paper. Other poster submissions are very welcome.

Arrangements for submitting posters and WiPs will be announced later.

## Birds-of-a-Feather Sessions

Birds-of-a-Feather sessions (BoFs) are informal gatherings organized by attendees interested in a particular topic; they are held in the evenings. BoFs may be scheduled in advance by emailing the Conference Department at bofs@usenix.org. BoFs may also be scheduled at the conference.

## Tutorial Sessions

Tutorial sessions will be held on February 12, 2013. Please send tutorial proposals to fasttutorials@usenix.org.