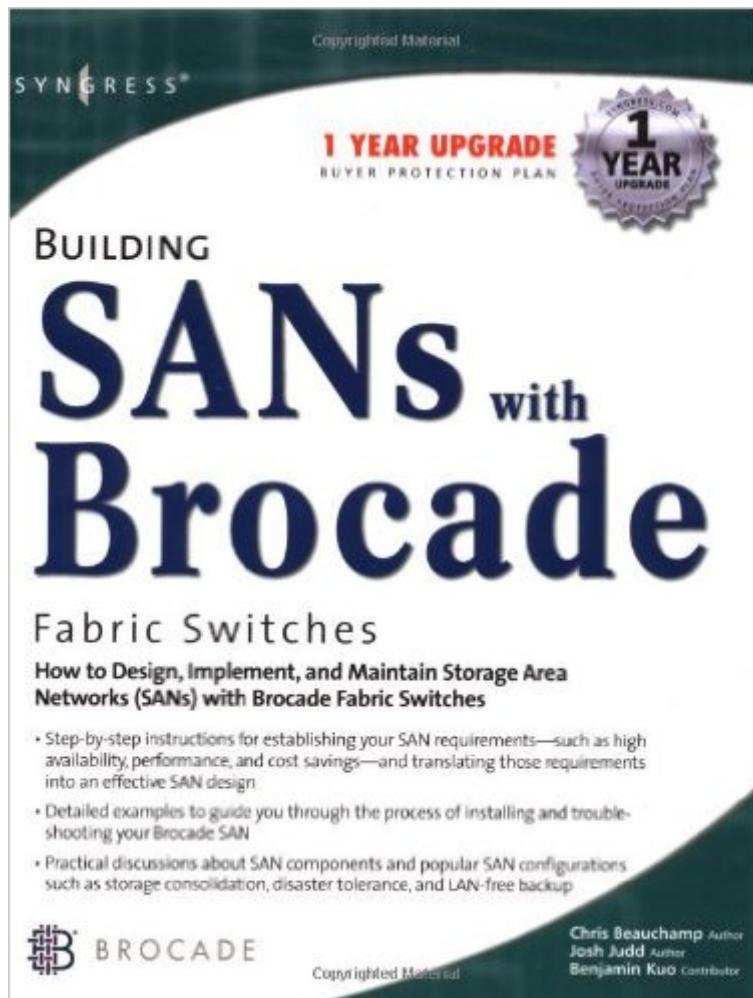


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# Building SANs With Brocade Fabric Switches



## **Synopsis**

The first book to focus on Brocade products - an innovative technology company to watch out for! Brocade Switches provide the intelligent architecture that connects Storage Area Networks (SANs) to Local Area Networks and Wide Area Networks. Brocade switches provide the same functionality to Storage Area Networks as Cisco switches provide to the Internet - Brocade Communications, Inc is the dominant company in this rapidly expanding market. Building SANs with Brocade Fibre Channel Fabric Switches is written for system administrators who are designing, building, and maintaining Storage Area Networks with Brocade fibre switches. The book provides the reader with all of the techniques necessary to integrate fibre-based switches with an IP-based network. The first vendor-specific book on configuring industry standard technologies Practical approach; competitive books are mostly theoretical IT Professionals must know how to design and build a SAN. Often over 50% of IT budgets are devoted to storage. Fibre-switched SANs are the market standard

## **Book Information**

Hardcover: 448 pages

Publisher: Syngress; 1 edition (January 15, 2001)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 192899430X

ISBN-13: 978-1928994305

Product Dimensions: 7.4 x 1 x 9.3 inches

Shipping Weight: 2.5 pounds

Average Customer Review: 3.8 out of 5 stars See all reviews (15 customer reviews)

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## **Customer Reviews**

This book is a primer for passing BCFP and BCSD. It contains very useful information and very readable. With this book and the references below, I was 80% ready for the BCSD exam, the other 20% being work experience. The other references are from [...] (free access with a sign-in account) : Home > Technical Resource Center > Documentation Library > Technical "How To" Guides > The

main reference:<sup>\*</sup> Brocade SilkWorm Design, Deployment, and Management Guide Version 3.0 (PDF, 7.26 MB) And for those short on experience, it will be useful to comb thru:<sup>#</sup> Brocade Guide to Understanding Zoning (PDF, 301.81 KB)<sup>#</sup> Brocade PortlogDump Reference Guide Version 1.0 (PDF, 1.71 MB)<sup>#</sup> Brocade SilkWorm Multiprotocol Router SAN Design Guide Version 1.0 (PDF, 9.83 MB)<sup>#</sup> Cable Management Guidelines Version 1.0 (PDF, 1.49 MB)<sup>#</sup> Fabric Watch Guidelines Version 1.0 (PDF, 925.01 KB)<sup>#</sup> LAN Guidelines For Brocade SilkWorm Switches (PDF, 920.8 KB)<sup>#</sup> Long-distance Technologies for Storage Area Networks Version 2.0 (PDF, 130.1 KB)<sup>#</sup> SAN Migration Guide Version 1.1 (PDF, 2.63 MB)<sup>#</sup> SAN Security Best Practices Guide (PDF, 6.84 MB) Having gone thru the experience of going in blindly for the BCSD exam, I thought I would help the initiated by providing more info:<sup>1)</sup> There are 65 questions, to be completed within 90 minutes. Honestly I barely have time to finish all. Tip is to skip those you are unsure and return later.<sup>2)</sup> The question's format consists of multiple choices, multiple answers, exhibits to click on.<sup>3)</sup> I believe you need 70% to pass, at least for my case. The 4 Sections examined are:<sup>\*</sup> Define SAN requirements/Interview End User<sup>\*</sup> Create a successful SAN design to suite requirements<sup>\*</sup> Implement SAN solutions<sup>\*</sup> Understand Impact of a SAN design upon Management Wish y'all all the best :-)

This is by far the best book available on SAN design, and it is the only book that goes into specifics on configuring Brocade products, which is incredibly importnat considering their products are the most common. I found the generic SAN stuff increbibly useful and the Brocade specific stuff invaluable. I'm not sure what the 1-star reviews are about. I guess those guys know everything.

All of our field engineers carry a copy of this book. It is straightforward and is really the only resource out there other than the documentation and the Brocade web site.

I just finished reading this book, and I highly recommend it for anyone doing SAN design or implementation. The book clearly explains all of the different topology options and details all of the complexities of the insallations and provides an entire chapter on troubleshooting (incredibly useful).

I have two other generic books on SANs--pretty good books that lack in certain areas. I find that this book covers all areas and since it also has Brocade-specific coverage, it's the best of the lot. I could have saved some money on the others if I bought this one first. Ebay here I come...

The book is excellent, excellent price, just taking one start off because of some writing by the previous owner. However, i still recommend it, it covers all you need to know to start digging into the SAN's world!!

I have read every SAN book out there and am working on one of my own (watch for a new book from O'Reilly later this year/ early next), and this particular book gets my highest recommendation. Yes, there is a strong bias toward Brocade equipment, but most SANs are based on Brocade switches and Brocade is leading many aspects of the fibre channel switching market. The most unique feature of this book is the fibre channel troubleshooting section. The only critique I can offer is that SANs are not just about fibre channel switching. There is a lot to understand about software applications, the sub-components of the SAN, storage devices, the role of NAS and alternative file serving technologies on the SAN, etc. Some of these topics are mentioned, but not really addressed at a meaningful level. However, to be fair to the authors, the book does not promise a comprehensive overview of SANs and it fully delivers on the promise of the title. In short, this is the only book I have read that offers specific meaningful advice on the implementation and management of a SAN. It will be essential reading in my company.

If you are looking for product information (older since this book was published a while ago), OK this will do but you've got to pull the info you need out of this book.

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