

Dell XtremIO Maintenance Achievement

EMC D-XTR-MN-A-24

Version Demo

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QUESTION NO: 1

Which port should SC1-IB1 be connected to in a single X-Brick XtremIO X2?

- A. IBSW1-P01
- B. SC2-IB2
- C. SC2-IB1
- D. IBSW2-P01

ANSWER: A

Explanation:

IBSW1-P01 is the correct connection point for SC1-IB1 in a single X-Brick XtremIO X2. XtremIO X2 uses a prescribed InfiniBand back-end cabling topology, where each storage controller's numbered InfiniBand interface is connected to the corresponding InfiniBand switch and designated switch port. Following this fixed mapping is essential because the internal InfiniBand fabric carries the inter-controller and data-service traffic required by the X-Brick. Connecting SC1-IB1 to IBSW1-P01 establishes the intended first-fabric path for Storage Controller 1 and preserves the documented physical layout used during installation and service procedures. Correct port-level cabling also allows field personnel to identify paths consistently, validate topology during maintenance, and restore components without introducing an unintended fabric configuration. Dell publishes XtremIO X2 product documentation, including installation and service resources, through its [XtremIO X2 documentation portal](#). Use the platform-specific installation documentation and the system cabling labels when physically connecting or verifying an X-Brick, as those materials define the supported controller-to-switch port assignments.

QUESTION NO: 2

What is the minimum number of SSDs required to upgrade a single X-Brick XtremIO X2 cluster that contains 36 SSDs?

- A. 18
- B. 12
- C. 6
- D. 24

ANSWER: C

Explanation:

The minimum upgrade increment is **6** SSDs. XtremIO X2 supports online capacity expansion using SSD expansion packs, and a single X-Brick configuration is expanded in six-SSD increments. Therefore, when the cluster currently has 36 SSDs, the smallest supported capacity upgrade adds one six-drive increment, resulting in a 42-SSD configuration. This expansion model preserves the system's balanced data placement and allows the array to incorporate the additional flash capacity without requiring a disruptive rebuild of the cluster. The maintenance procedure must use a supported SSD type and capacity for the installed X2 configuration, and the activity should be planned and validated against the applicable XtremIO X2 documentation and support matrix before hardware is installed. Dell's XtremIO X2 product documentation is available through the [Dell XtremIO X2 documentation portal](#). For platform support, compatibility, and lifecycle guidance, consult the [Dell EMC XtremIO Support Matrix](#).

QUESTION NO: 3

A hardware inventory for an XtremIO system identifies the platform as X1, but the recorded internal SAS connection speed is 12 Gb/s. Which conclusion is correct?

- A. The recorded speed is correct because both X1 and X2 use 12 Gb/s SAS.
- B. The recorded speed is correct because X1 uses 12 Gb/s SAS and X2 uses 24 Gb/s SAS.
- C. The recorded speed indicates that the SAS link has negotiated below the X1 specification.
- D. The recorded speed is associated with X2 rather than X1 hardware.

ANSWER: D

Explanation:

The inventory is inconsistent with the XtremIO X1 hardware specification. XtremIO X1 uses 6 Gb/s SAS connectivity, while XtremIO X2 uses 12 Gb/s SAS connectivity. The reported 12 Gb/s value should prompt verification of the platform identification or the collected hardware information.

QUESTION NO: 4

Which port is used to connect to the Storage Controller (SC) to service an XtremIO X2 with the Technician Advisor tool?

- A. Dedicated serial port on the back on the SC
- B. Dedicated USB port on the front of the SC
- C. Dedicated USB port on the back of the SC
- D. Dedicated Management port on the back of the SC

ANSWER: C

Explanation:

The **Dedicated USB port on the back of the SC** is the designated physical service connection for use with the Technician Advisor tool on an XtremIO X2 Storage Controller. This interface provides the intended local, technician-facing path for service workflows, allowing authorized field personnel to establish the direct connection needed to run guided maintenance and diagnostic activities on the controller. Using the prescribed service interface is important because Technician Advisor procedures depend on the controller being accessed through the supported local connection, rather than through ordinary production data or administrative connectivity. The rear location also lets service work be performed at the controller cabling area without changing the normal operational network configuration. Dell Technologies publishes the XtremIO X2 product documentation, including hardware and service information, from its official support portal: [Dell Technologies XtremIO X2 documentation](#). The support portal should be used with the applicable XtremIO X2 maintenance documentation and the current Technician Advisor procedure for the system being serviced, since service steps and supported tooling can vary by software release and hardware configuration.

QUESTION NO: 5

An XtremIO X1 cluster has been powered down after an extended facility outage. All hardware connections have been restored, but the BBUs report a 65% charge level. What should be done before starting the cluster?

- A. Start the cluster because the BBUs are above 50% charge.
- B. Start the cluster if at least one BBU is online.
- C. Allow the BBUs to charge to at least 70% before starting the cluster.
- D. Replace all BBUs before starting the cluster.

ANSWER: C

Explanation:

The BBUs must be charged to at least 70% before an XtremIO X1 cluster can start. The BBU charge requirement ensures that sufficient protected power is available for the controller protection sequence if another power interruption occurs. Restoring power feeds or controller connectivity does not override this startup prerequisite.

QUESTION NO: 6 - (SIMULATION)

What is the correct sequence of steps to power up an XtremIO X1 cluster after an emergency shutdown?

Steps	Answer Area
Start the cluster	
Power up the XMS	
Power up the Battery Backup Units	
Determine the cause of the shutdown	
Power up the Storage Controllers	

ANSWER: Check the explanation for the answer

Explanation:

Correct sequence:

Verify and resolve the condition that caused the emergency shutdown before restoring power. The BBUs must be powered first so that backup power protection is available before the storage controllers are powered on. Bring up the XMS, then the storage controllers, and finally start the XtremIO cluster.

QUESTION NO: 7

What is the cluster tolerance for the failure of one DAE Controller SAS port in an XtremIO X1 cluster?

- A. Loss of service
- B. Degraded service
- C. Data loss
- D. No impact

ANSWER: D

Explanation:

No impact is correct. XtremIO X1 was engineered with redundant, highly available backend connectivity between its Storage Controllers and Data Array Enclosures (DAEs). A single DAE Controller SAS-port failure is within the platform's designed fault-tolerance envelope: alternate SAS paths continue to provide access to the DAE and its SSDs. Consequently, host I/O remains available and the cluster continues operating without a service interruption, performance state classification, or loss of data attributable to that one failed port. The event should still be investigated and the failed hardware path restored promptly, because redundancy has been reduced until repair; however, the expected cluster-tolerance result for this specific single-component failure is no impact. Dell's XtremIO X1 documentation portal provides the hardware installation, maintenance, and service materials that describe the platform's redundant hardware architecture and service procedures. Refer to the [Dell XtremIO X1 documentation page](#) and the [Dell Support portal](#) for the applicable XtremIO X1 hardware maintenance documentation for the installed code and hardware revision.