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Sommario/riassunto

In this IBM Redbooks publication, we visit some of the core components and technologies that underpin a storage area network (SAN). We cover some of the latest additions to the IBM SAN portfolio, discuss general SAN design considerations, and build these considerations into a selection of real-world case studies. We realize that there are many ways to design a SAN and put all the components together. In our examples, we have incorporated the major considerations that you need to think about, but still left room to maneuver on the SAN field of play. This book focuses on the SAN products that are generally considered to form the backbone of the SAN fabric today: switches and directors. With this backbone, development has prompted discrete approaches to the design of a SAN fabric. The bespoke vendor implementation of technology that is characteristic in the design footprint of switches and directors means that we have an opportunity to answer challenges in different ways. We will show examples where strength can be built into the SAN using the network and the features of the components themselves. Our aim is to show that you can customize your SAN fabric according to your preferences.