The evolution of flash storage solutions in recent years has changed their role in the data center. These solutions, also known as solid-state storage drives (SSDs), have quadrupled in capacity while dropping steadily in price. Along the way, they’ve become a necessity in the data center.

**Superspeed**
SSDs conduct input-output operations per second (IOPS) much more quickly than hard disk-based storage, providing significantly faster performance for tasks such as booting up or writing data to memory.

**Heroic Dependability**
Because they are based on electronic media, flash drives are far more reliable than mechanical hard disk drives.

**Sensational Efficiency**
SSDs are smaller than hard drives and use less power, enabling them to deliver greater value at a lower cost.

**The People’s Champion**
At one time, flash was much more expensive than other storage. But lower prices have made it a more common choice for added workloads.

**Trusted Sidekick**
As flash storage adoption increases, a third-party provider such as CDW can help organizations deploy these solutions to optimize data center operations.

**Sources:**
1. IDC, “Justifying Investment in All-Flash Arrays,” August 2016
3. The Register, “The all-flash market will grotesquely distend in five years, says Gartner,” June 2015

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