

converting the current version of the replicated file to an appropriate format to be updated;

applying the update to the current version of the replicated file to generate the new version of the replicated file; and converting the new version of the replicated file

5 for storage into the shared file system; and

storing the new version of the replicated file into the shared file system.

12. The method of claim 11 wherein the replicated file is compressed when stored in the shared file system, and converting the current version of the replicated file to the
10 appropriate format comprises:

decompressing the current version of the replicated file stored in the shared file system with the master server; and

preloading the copy of the new version of the replicated file includes

decompressing the new version of the replicated file with ~~the~~ each slave node.

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13. The method of claim 1 further comprising:

in response to at least one of the slave nodes of the plurality of slave nodes

failing to acknowledge successful completion of the preloading, sending an error notification from the master server to a sender of the update request.

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14. The method of claim 1 wherein the shared file system comprises a network-attached storage (NAS).

15. The method of claim 1 wherein committing the data processing system to use the
25 new version of the replicated file comprises:

a master tier including a master server and a shared file system; and

an application tier including a plurality of slave nodes, each slave node having a memory and being communicatively coupled to the master tier, wherein the master server is configured to provide a notification of availability of a new version of a

5 replicated file in the shared file system to the plurality of slave nodes;

each slave ~~node-of~~node of the plurality of slave nodes is configured to, in response to receiving the notification of availability, preload a copy of the new version of the replicated file from the shared file system, and upon completion of the preloading, acknowledge successful completion of the preloading; and

10 the master server is further configured to only commit the data processing system to use the new version of the replicated file in response to all slave nodes

~~acknowledging successful~~acknowledging successful completion of the preloading.