

**Complete Benchmark Results**

# **The Adobe Version Cue CS2 Benchmark Report**

**Productivity Measures of Adobe Version Cue CS2**

**Client: Adobe Systems**

**© Pfeiffer Consulting 2005**

Reproduction and distribution prohibited without prior written permission

For information contact: [research@pfeifferreport.com](mailto:research@pfeifferreport.com)

**Pfeiffer**  
**Consulting**  
01001011

## Table of Contents

<b>About the Benchmark Project .....</b>	<b>2</b>
About this Report .....	3
About the Benchmark Project .....	3
<b>Productivity Measures: Methodology Overview .....</b>	<b>3</b>
Overview .....	3
About the methodology of the productivity benchmarks .....	3
Scripting .....	4
Keyboard shortcuts and productivity features .....	4
<b>Hardware Overview .....</b>	<b>4</b>
Hardware platform .....	4
Hardware configurations used .....	4
System software .....	4
<b>Configuration – Overview .....</b>	<b>4</b>
System setup .....	4
<b>Benchmarks and Productivity Measures: Detail .....</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Versioning and Workflow Benchmarks .....</b>	<b>6</b>
Overview .....	6
Project-based Productivity Measures .....	6
Incremental Productivity Gains .....	8
<b>Results and Charts .....</b>	<b>9</b>
Project-based Productivity Measures: Results .....	10
Project-based Productivity Measures: All Phases .....	11
Project-based Productivity Measures: Total of Project .....	12
Project-based Productivity Measures: Phase 5 .....	21
Project-based Productivity Measures: Phase 6 .....	23
Project-based Productivity Measures: Phase 6 .....	24
Incremental Productivity Gains: Results .....	25
Incremental Productivity Gains: Photoshop CS2 .....	27
Incremental Productivity Gains: InDesign CS2 .....	31
Incremental Productivity Gains: Detail .....	33
Incremental Productivity Gains: Average .....	34



Client: **Adobe Systems, Inc.**

**Benchmark Report**


**The Adobe Version Cue CS2 Benchmark Project**

## **About the Benchmark Project**

**Section: About the Benchmark Project**

For further information contact: [research@pfeifferreport.com](mailto:research@pfeifferreport.com)

**November 11, 2005**

	Client: <b>Adobe Systems, Inc.</b>	<b>Benchmark Report</b>
	<b>The Adobe Version Cue CS2 Benchmark Project</b>	

## 1 About this Report

This report presents the results of the benchmarks and productivity measures conducted for the Adobe Version Cue CS2 Productivity Benchmark Project.

## 2 About the Benchmark Project

This benchmark project was conceived and conducted to document differences in productivity between Adobe Version Cue CS2 and standard workflows, focusing specifically on the productivity impact of the integration and workflow features provided by Adobe Version Cue CS2 over unmanaged workflows.

## 3 Productivity Measures: Methodology Overview

### 3.1 Overview

The benchmarks covered a creative project involving a 4-person team, using page layout, image processing and graphic design tools to produce a brochure.

The productivity measures only recorded the time necessary for file-management tasks: saving files, saving versions, sharing elements over the local area network, creating different versions and alternates of files, reverting to previous versions, etc.

**Incremental Productivity Gains:** In order to assess the productivity gains linked to individual file management operations, a separate set of tests measured the time necessary for saving and promoting versions, as compared to similar operations using the file system.

### 3.2 About the methodology of the productivity benchmarks

Productivity Benchmarks were composed as a number of phases. Every phase of the benchmark was then defined as **several sets of clearly defined, repeatable steps**. These steps were then executed in a strictly identical way by trained professionals.

Each set of steps was executed three times; the average of all three results were used in the charts. The total times for each benchmark were obtained by **cumulating the average measures obtained for each individual set of step**.

<b>Section: About this Report</b>		<b>3</b>
For further information contact: <a href="mailto:research@pfeifferreport.com">research@pfeifferreport.com</a>	<b>November 11, 2005</b>	

### 3.3 Scripting

No scripting was used in the execution of the benchmark: The main aim of these measures was to show real-world productivity, and had to take into account the time necessary for a trained operator to perform all the steps required in a project.

### 3.4 Keyboard shortcuts and productivity features

Commonly used keyboard shortcuts and productivity features were authorized, and used in an identical way in all programs.

## 4 Hardware Overview

### 4.1 Hardware platform

The majority of benchmarks were conducted on the Macintosh platform. Productivity measures including several computers on a local area network included one PC-based workstation.

### 4.2 Hardware configurations used

- 2.5GHz Power Macintosh G5
- 3.2GHz Dell XPS

### 4.3 System software

- Mac OS 10.4
- Windows XP Professional

## 5 Configuration – Overview


### 5.1 System setup

- All tests were performed using a standard system installation and configuration.
- All computers were completely re-initialized prior to tests, using the default values for installation.
- All hard drives were re-formatted using a single partition.
- All software was installed from scratch, using default settings.
- The only software installed on the systems were the applications necessary for the benchmarks.
- No peripherals were connected to the systems during performance benchmarks.

 <b>Pfeiffer</b> Consulting 01001011	<b>Client: Adobe Systems, Inc.</b>	<b>Benchmark Report</b>
	<b>The Adobe Version Cue CS2 Benchmark Project</b>	

**Benchmarks and Productivity Measures: Detail**

<b>Section: Benchmarks and Productivity Measures: Detail</b>		<b>5</b>
For further information contact: <a href="mailto:research@pfeifferreport.com">research@pfeifferreport.com</a>	<b>November 11, 2005</b>	

	Client: <b>Adobe Systems, Inc.</b>	<b>Benchmark Report</b>
	<b>The Adobe Version Cue CS2 Benchmark Project</b>	

## 6 Versioning and Workflow Benchmarks

### 6.1 Overview

This series of productivity measures was defined in order to measure the productivity impact of Version Cue CS2 technology, as compared to manually managing files using the operating system file structure.

### 6.2 Project-based Productivity Measures

- **Versioning Project**

This assignment-based productivity benchmark consisted in setting up a small workgroup (two layout workstations, one image retouching workstation, and one Illustrator workstation), working together over a Gigabit Ethernet network.

This team collaborated on a project involving creating and saving several versions of a page layout document, image files and Postscript illustrations. In one scenario, all files of the project were accessed through the shared Version Cue CS2 workspace. In the second, all files were placed on a shared server volume on the network, and the last case the files were copied from the server to the local hard drive for each project phase, and then copied back to the server to share the new version with the group.

For the productivity measures not using Version Cue, creating versions was achieved by saving a given file in the same location under another name; promoting a previous version was achieved by closing the current work document, locating the previous file, opening it and saving it under another name.

Only the times necessary for the file management tasks were measured.

N.B. This benchmark involved both Macintosh and Windows computers exchanging files during the project.

- **Project phases and steps**

**Phase 1: Basic Design**

Save New Page Layout in Project Folder

Save Version 1

Save Version 2

Copy To Server

<b>Section: Versioning and Workflow Benchmarks</b>	
For further information contact: <a href="mailto:research@pfeifferreport.com">research@pfeifferreport.com</a>	<b>November 11, 2005</b>

**Phase 2: Photoshop**

Save Photoshop File in Project Folder

Save Version 2

Save Version 3

Copy To Server

Save Alternate File in Project Folder

Bridge : Declare as Alternate

**Phase 3: Illustrator**

Save Illustrator File in Project Folder

Save Version 2

Save Version 3

Copy To Server

**Phase 4: Integration**

Fetch Files from Server

Integrate Illustrator File

Integrate Photoshop File

Make New Version

Copy To Server

**Phase 5: New Versions**

Fetch Files from Server

Integrate Photoshop V2

Integrate Illustrator V2

VC : Update Version

Copy To Server

Fetch Files from Server

Find + Integrate Alternate

Save Version

**Phase 6: Finalization**

Fetch Files from Server


Open Page Layout V2

Open Photoshop V3, Save As

Promote Version

Save Version

Copy To Server

	Client: <b>Adobe Systems, Inc.</b>	<b>Benchmark Report</b>
	<b>The Adobe Version Cue CS2 Benchmark Project</b>	

### 6.3 Incremental Productivity Gains

An additional set of productivity tests measured the time necessary to save a new version of a work file, and to promote a previously saved version.

- **Operations Tested**

**Photoshop CS2 - Save Version**

Save Version (20MB File)

Save Version (50MB File)

Save Version (100MB File)

**Photoshop CS2 - Promote Version**

Promote Version (20MB File)

Promote Version (50MB File)

Promote Version (100MB File)

**Illustrator CS2**

Save Version

Promote Version

**InDesign CS2**

Save Version

Promote Version

<b>Section: Benchmarks and Productivity Measures: Detail</b>	
For further information contact: <a href="mailto:research@pfeifferreport.com">research@pfeifferreport.com</a>	<b>November 11, 2005</b>



Client: **Adobe Systems, Inc.**

**Benchmark Report**

**The Adobe Version Cue CS2 Benchmark Project**

## **Results and Charts**

**Section: Results and Charts**

For further information contact: [research@pfeifferreport.com](mailto:research@pfeifferreport.com)

**November 11, 2005**

## Project-based Productivity Measures: Results

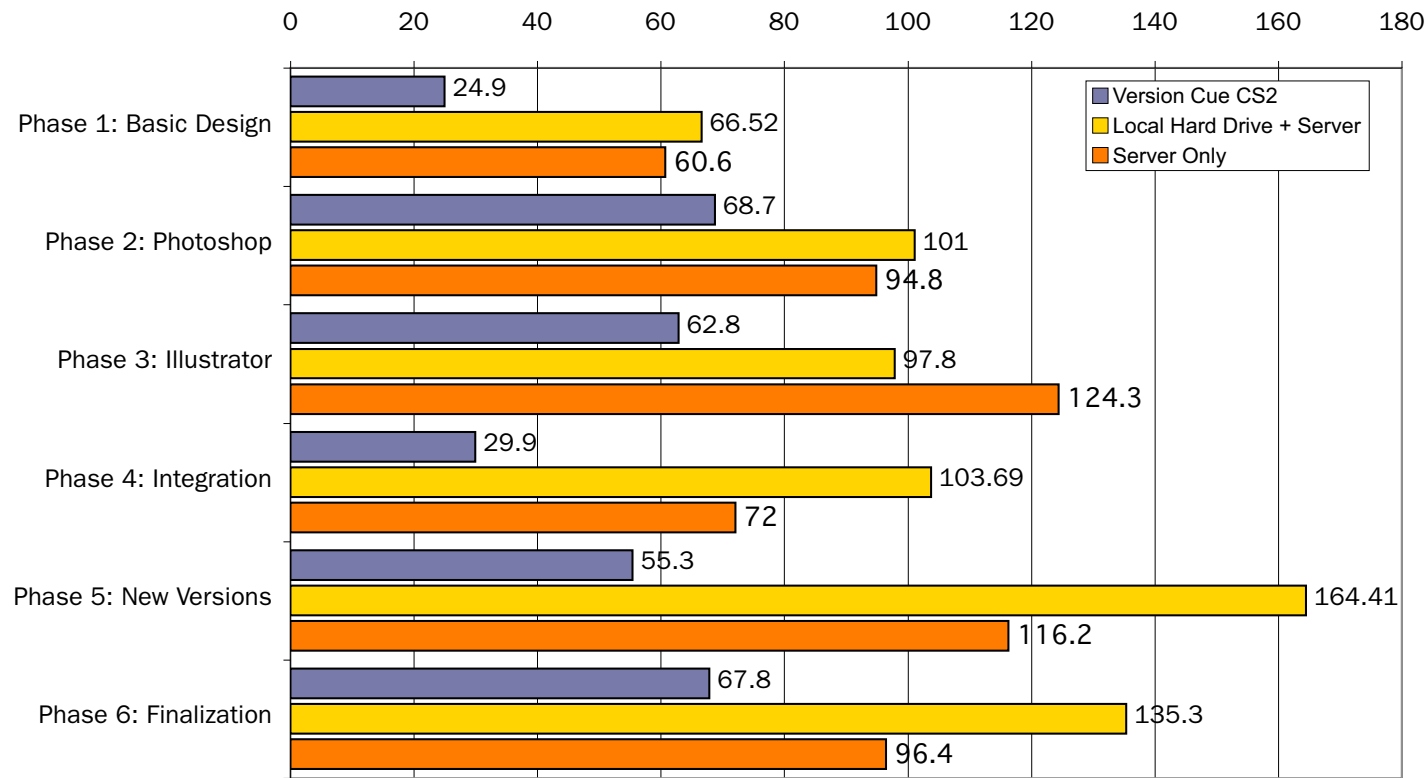
### Version Cue CS2: Project-based Productivity Measures

	Version Cue CS2	Local Hard Drive + Server	Server Only
Phase 1: Basic Design	24.9	66.52	60.6
Phase 2: Photoshop	68.7	101	94.8
Phase 3: Illustrator	62.8	97.8	124.3
Phase 4: Integration	29.9	103.69	72
Phase 5: New Versions	55.3	164.41	116.2
Phase 6: Finalization	67.8	135.3	96.4
<b>Total of Project</b>	<b>309.4</b>	<b>668.72</b>	<b>564.3</b>

Time in seconds. Shorter is better

**Project-based Productivity Measures: All Phases**

**Version Cue CS2: Project-based Productivity Measures**

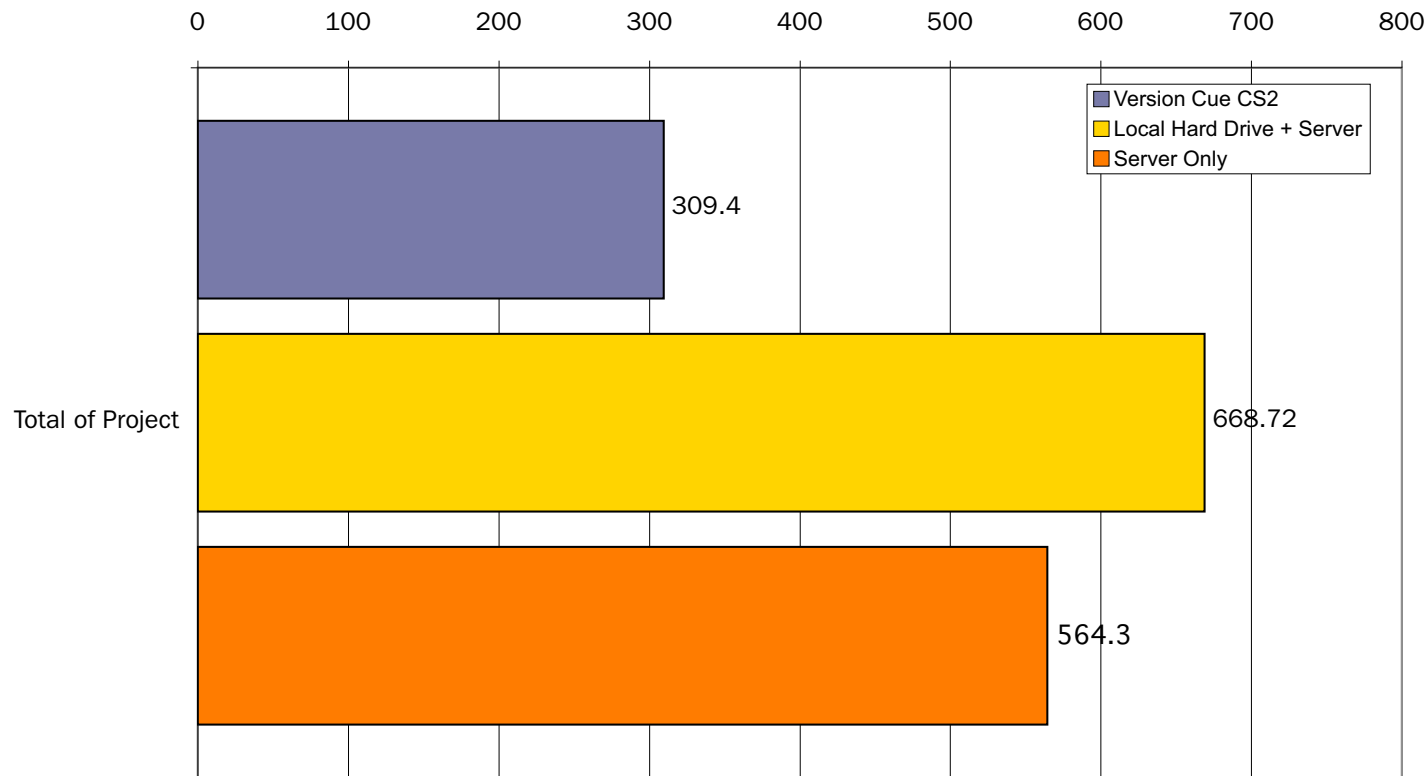


Time in seconds. Shorter is better

**Section: Results and Charts**

**Project-based Productivity Measures: Total of Project**

**Version Cue CS2: Project-based Productivity Measures**

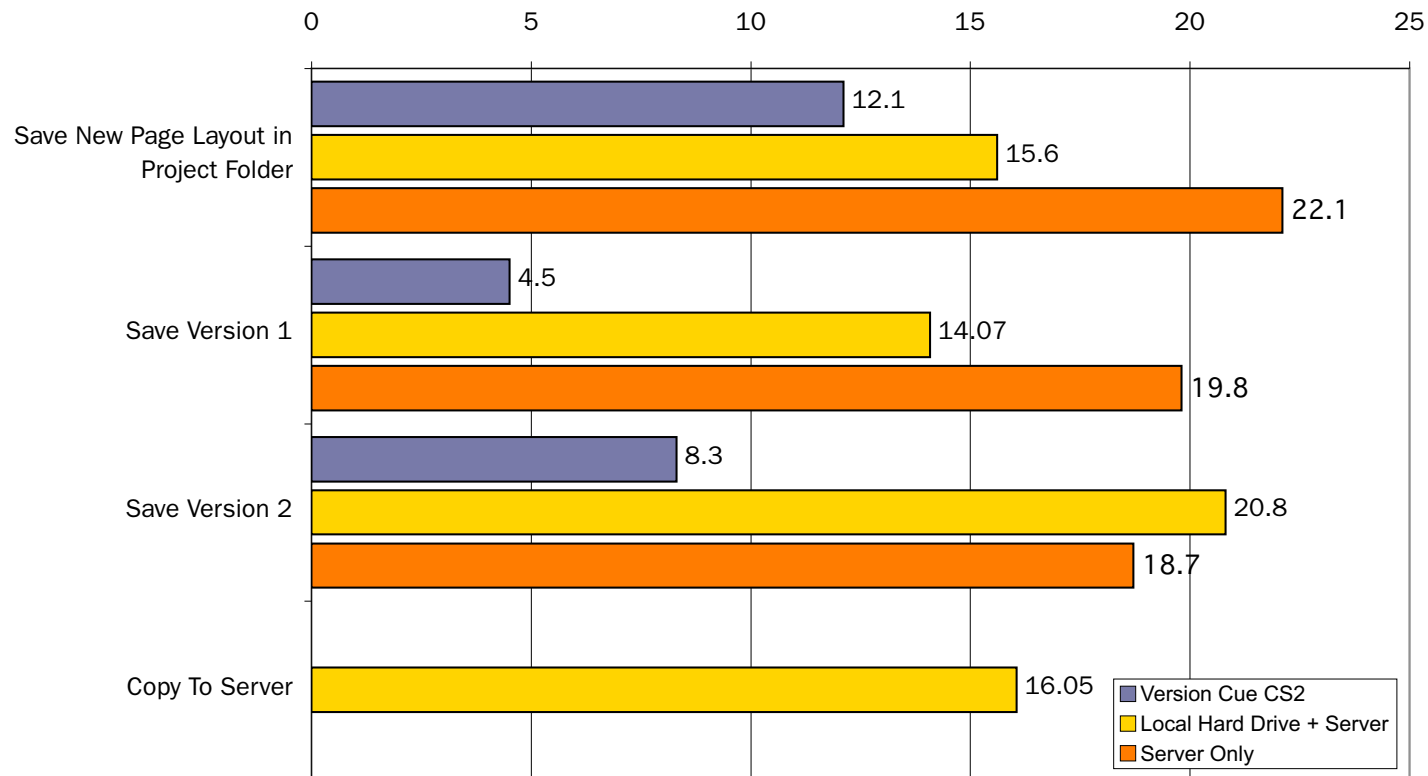


Time in seconds. Shorter is better

**Section: Results and Charts**

**Project-based Productivity Measures: Phase 1**

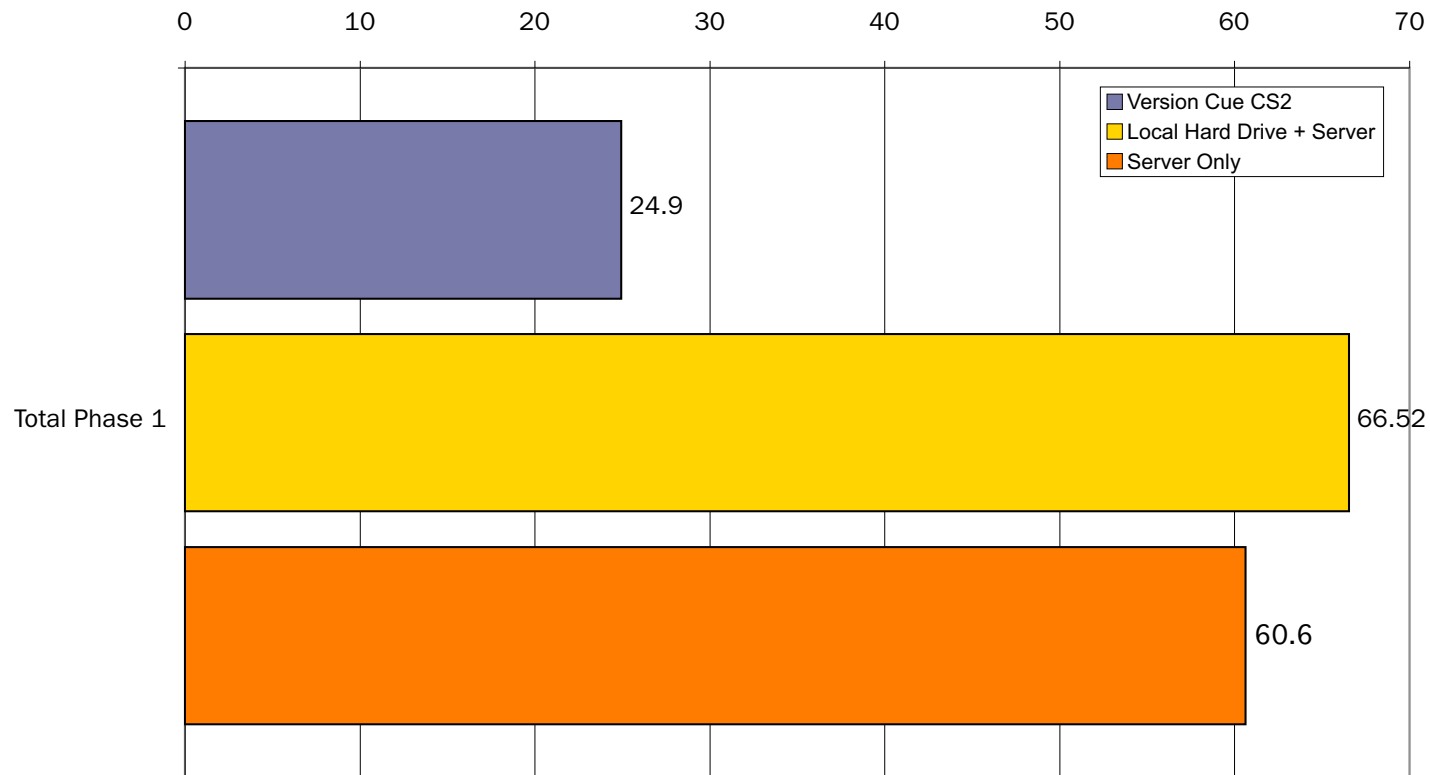
**Phase 1: Basic Design**



Time in seconds. Shorter is better

**Section: Results and Charts**

**Phase 1: Basic Design**

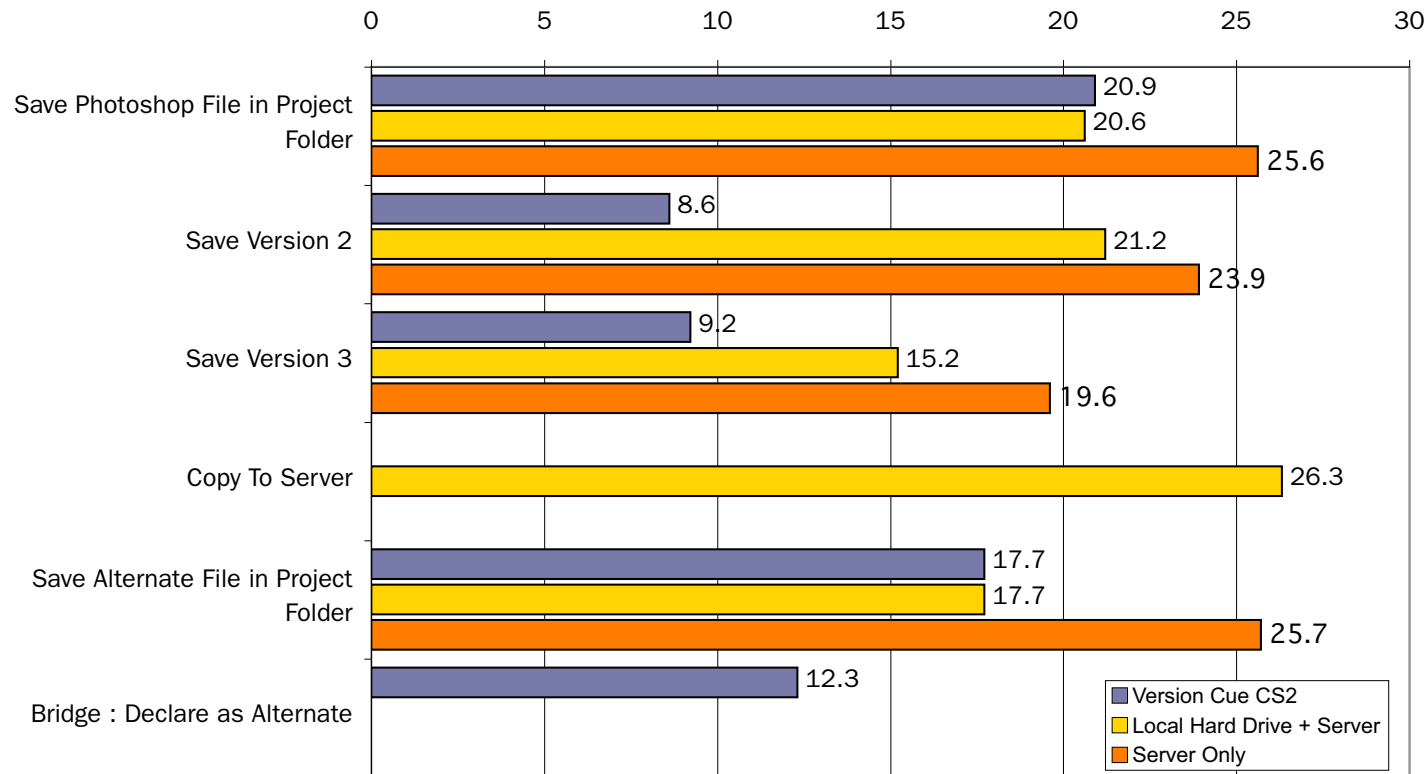


Time in seconds. Shorter is better

**Section: Results and Charts**

**Project-based Productivity Measures: Phase 2**

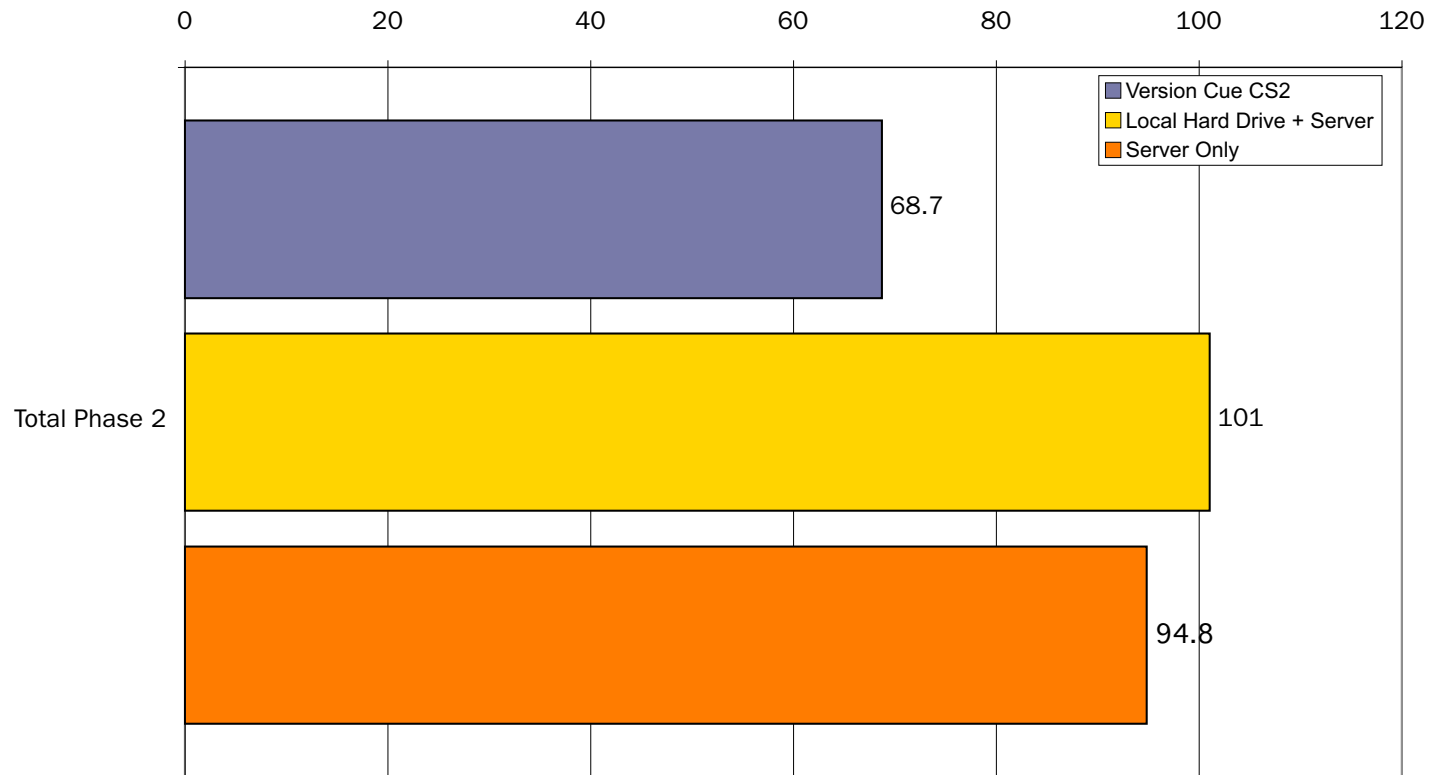
**Phase 2: Photoshop**



Time in seconds. Shorter is better

**Section: Results and Charts**

**Phase 2: Photoshop**

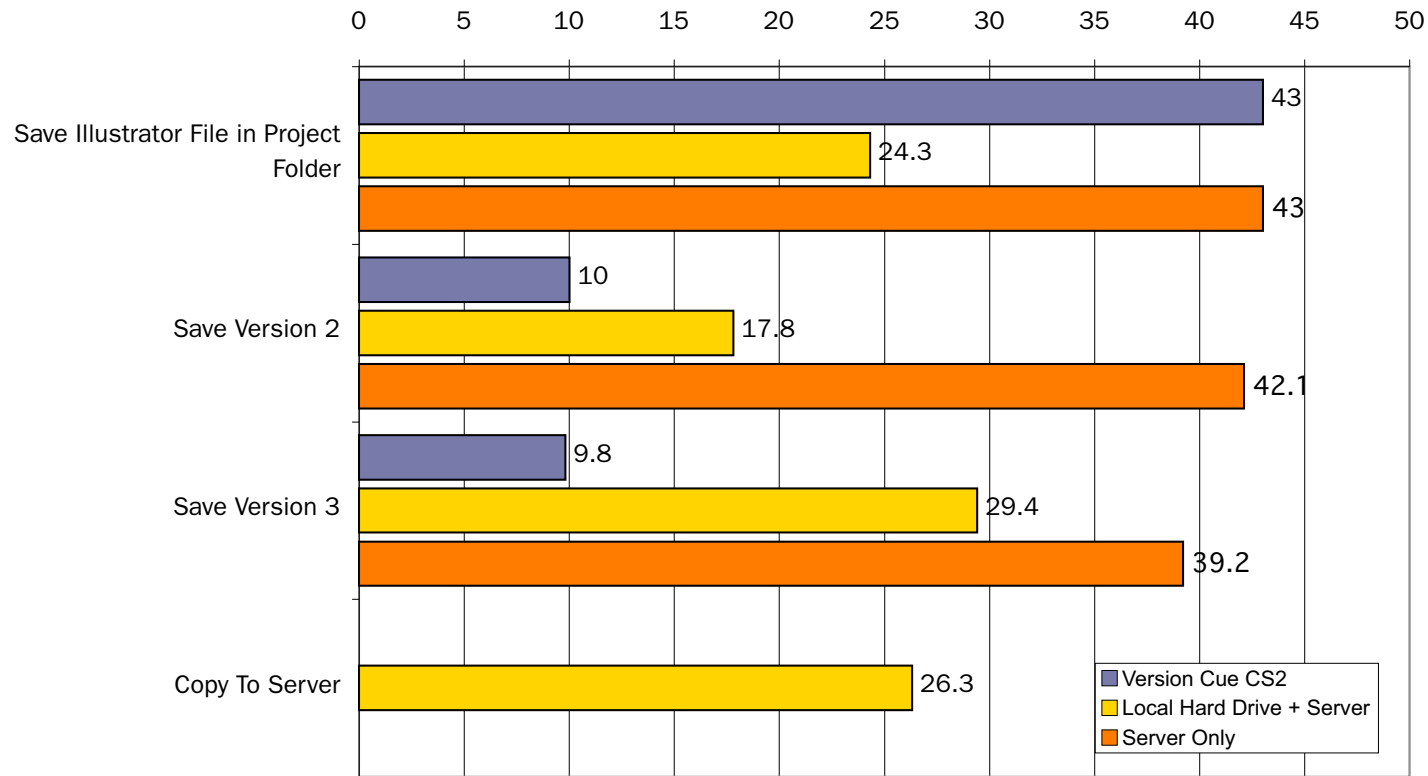


Time in seconds. Shorter is better

**Section: Results and Charts**

**Project-based Productivity Measures: Phase 3**

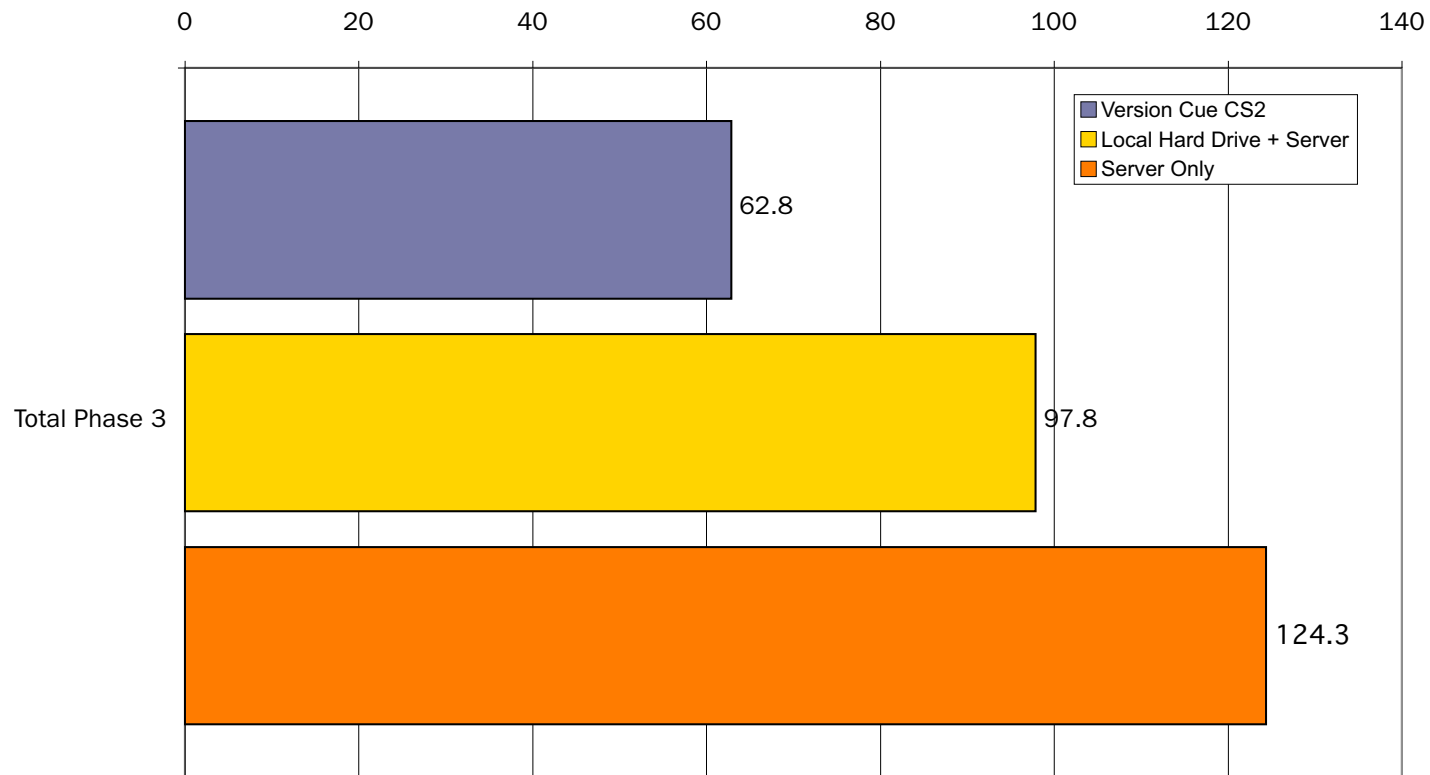
**Phase 3: Illustrator**



Time in seconds. Shorter is better

**Section: Results and Charts**

**Phase 3: Illustrator**

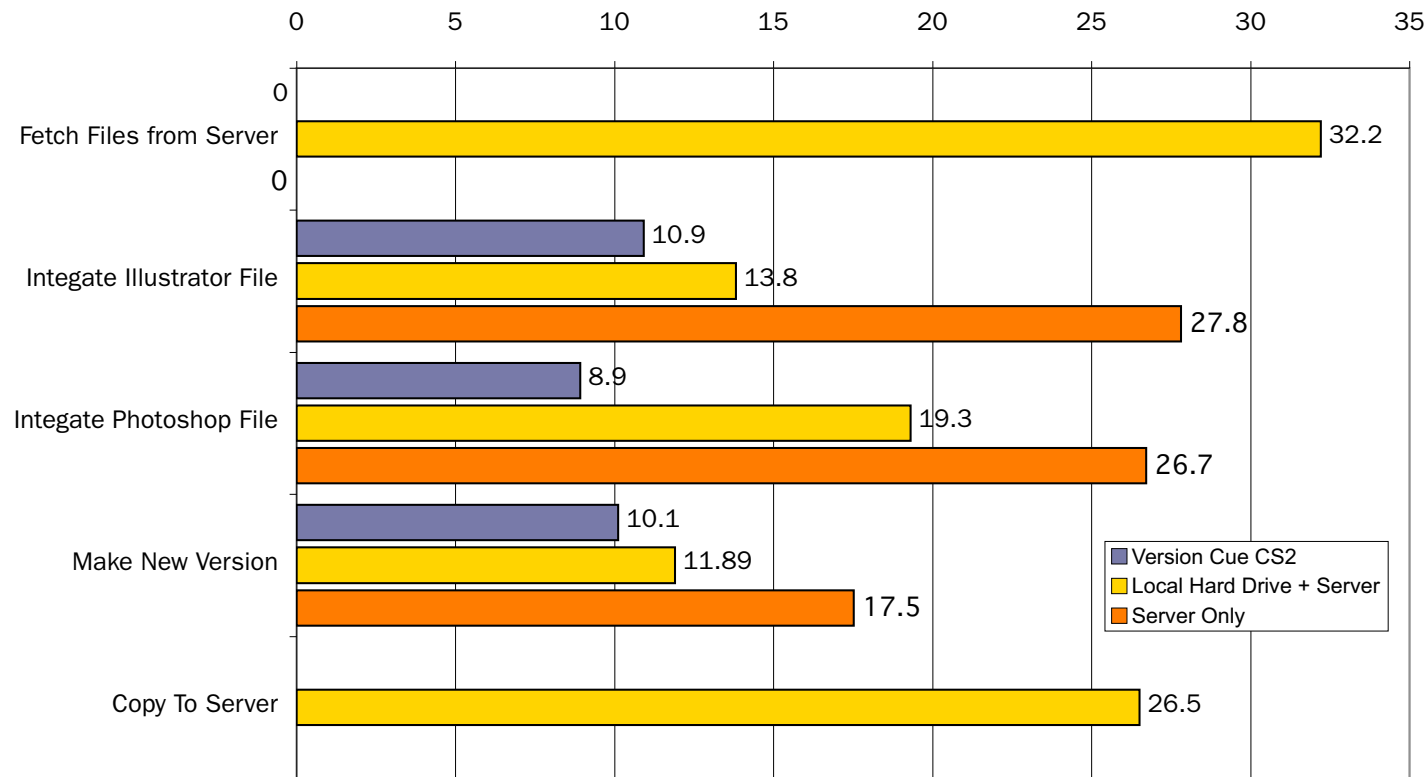


Time in seconds. Shorter is better

**Section: Results and Charts**

**Project-based Productivity Measures: Phase 4**

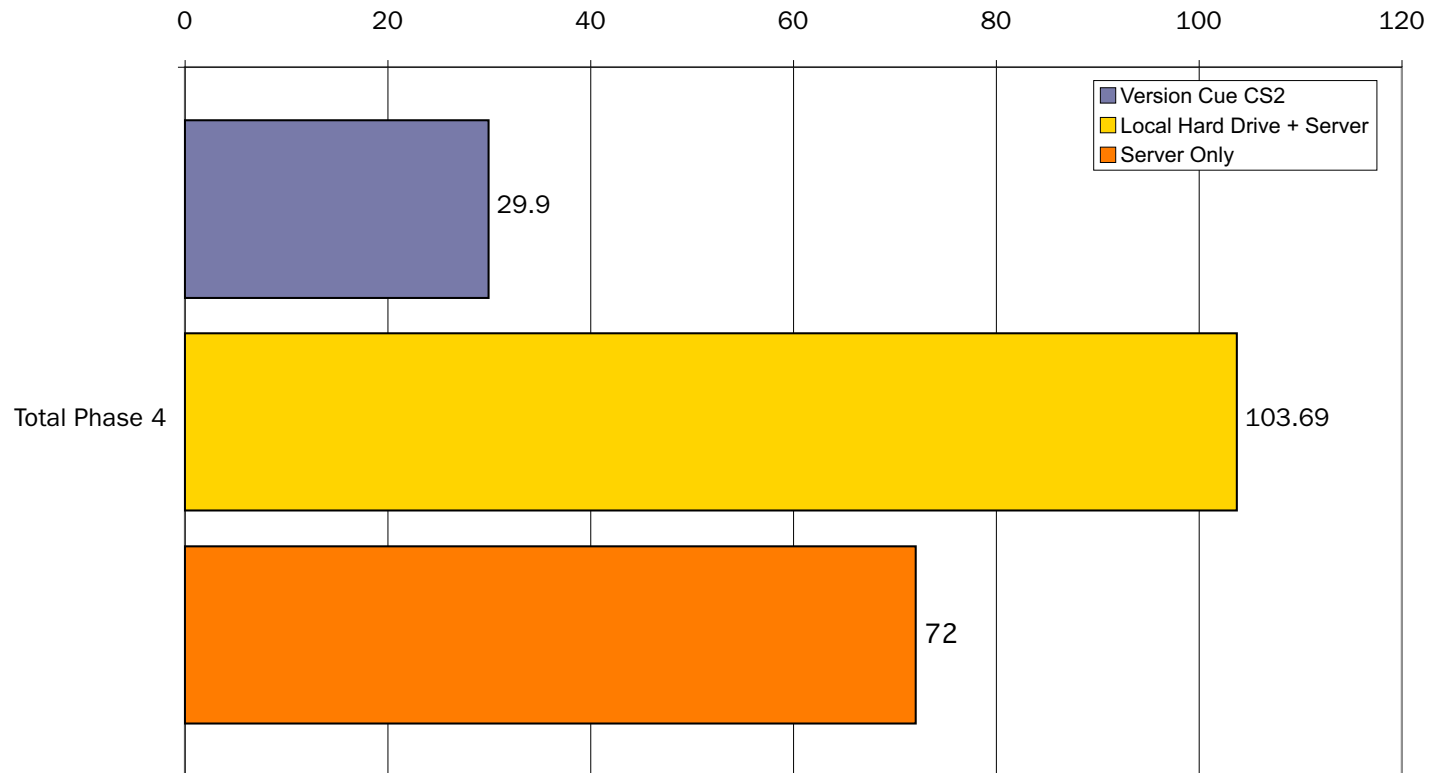
**Phase 4: Integration**



Time in seconds. Shorter is better

**Section: Results and Charts**

**Phase 4: Integration**

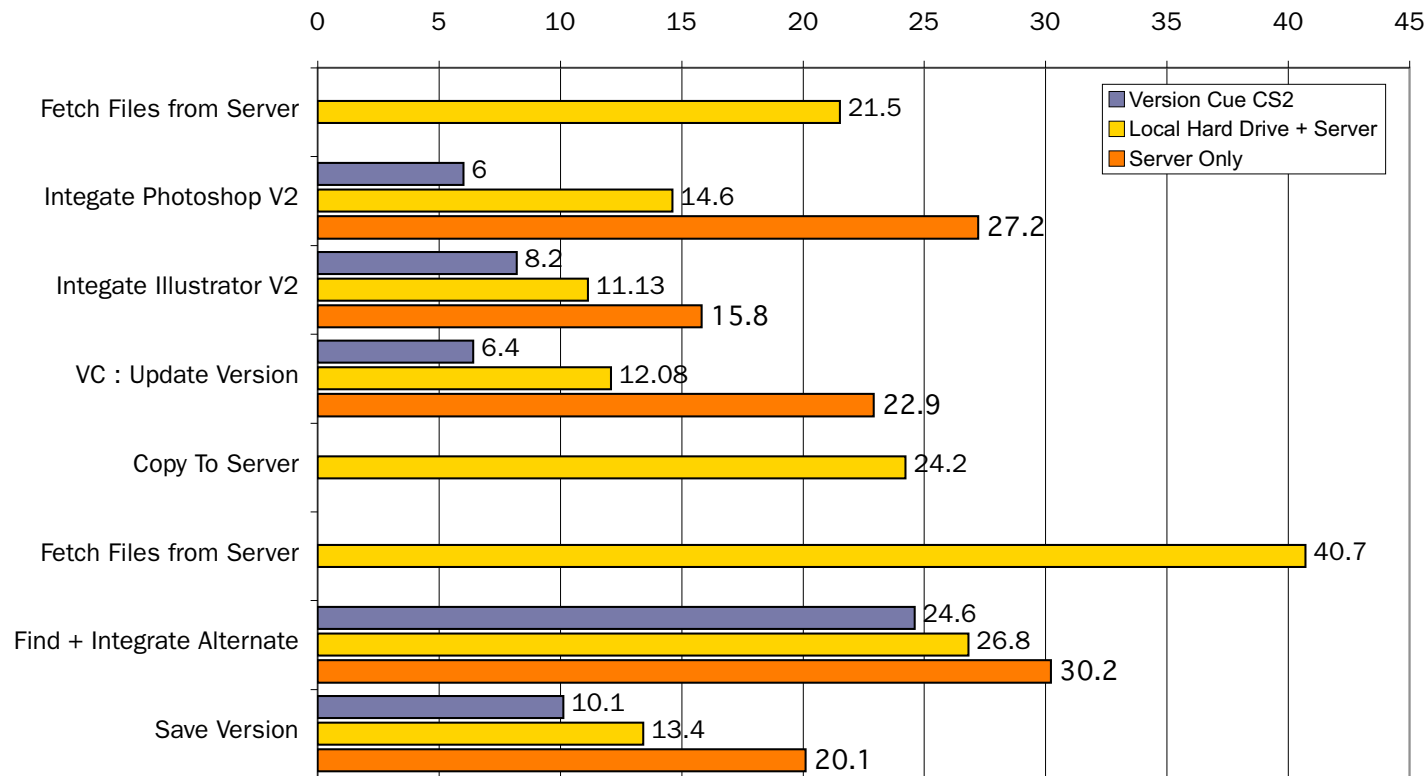


Time in seconds. Shorter is better

**Section: Results and Charts**

**Project-based Productivity Measures: Phase 5**

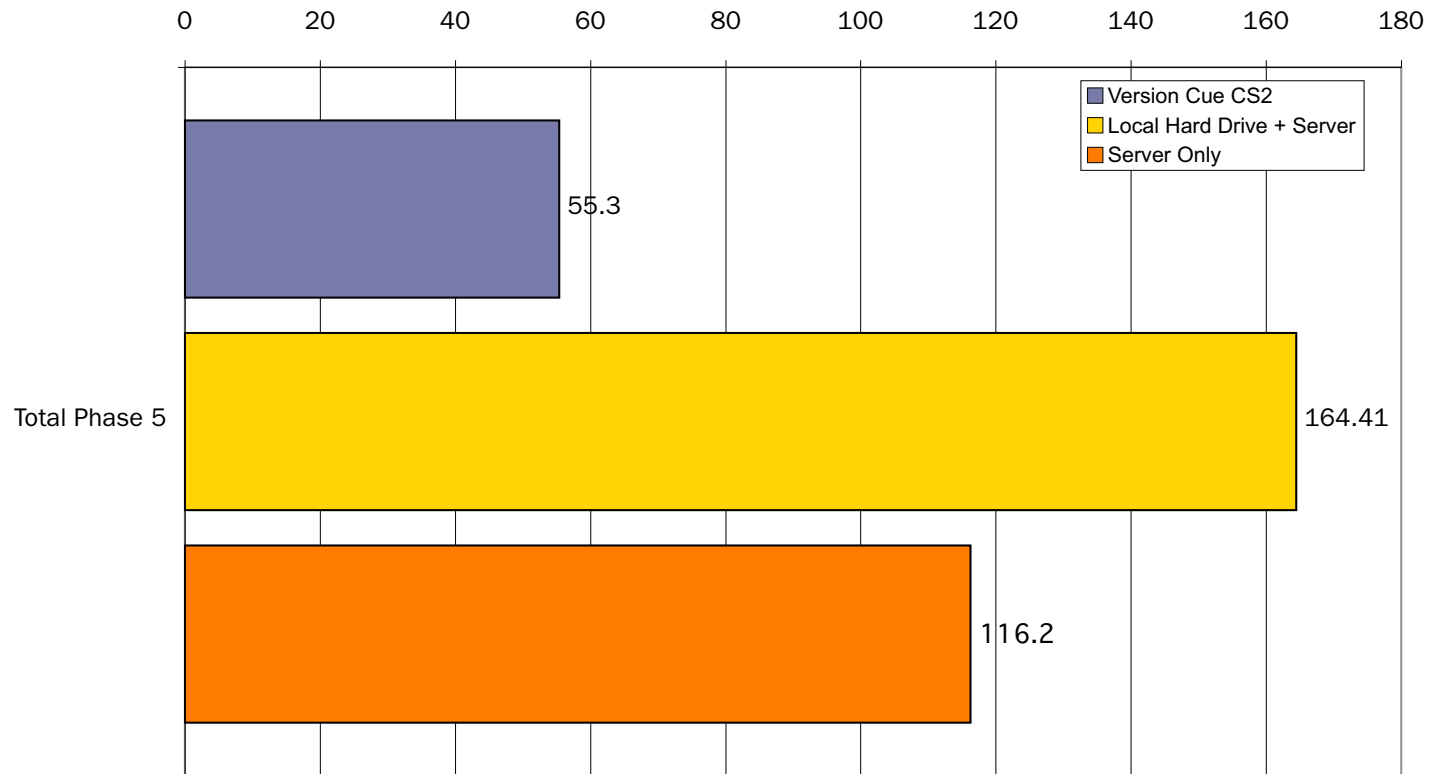
**Phase 5: New Versions**



Time in seconds. Shorter is better

**Section: Results and Charts**

**Phase 5: New Versions**

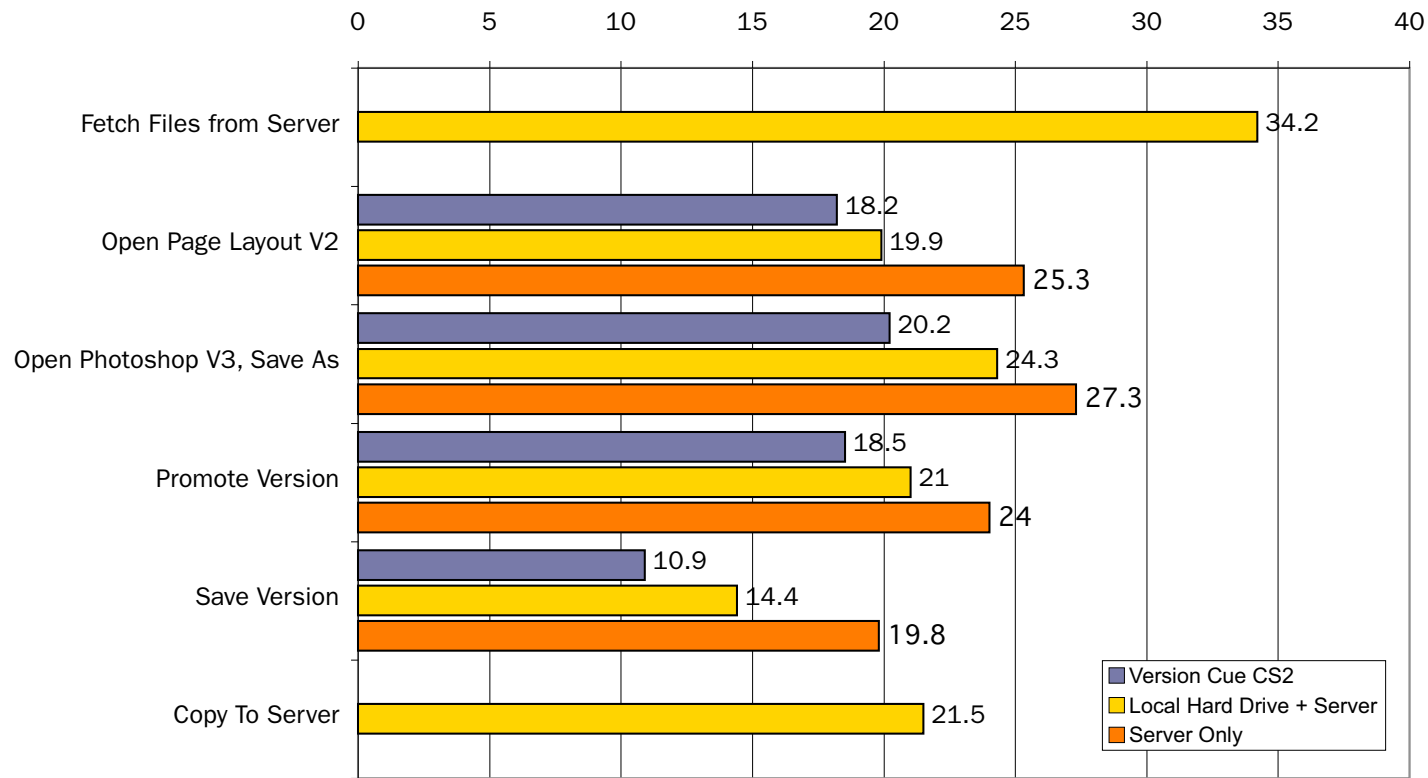


Time in seconds. Shorter is better

**Section: Results and Charts**

**Project-based Productivity Measures: Phase 6**

**Phase 6: Finalization**

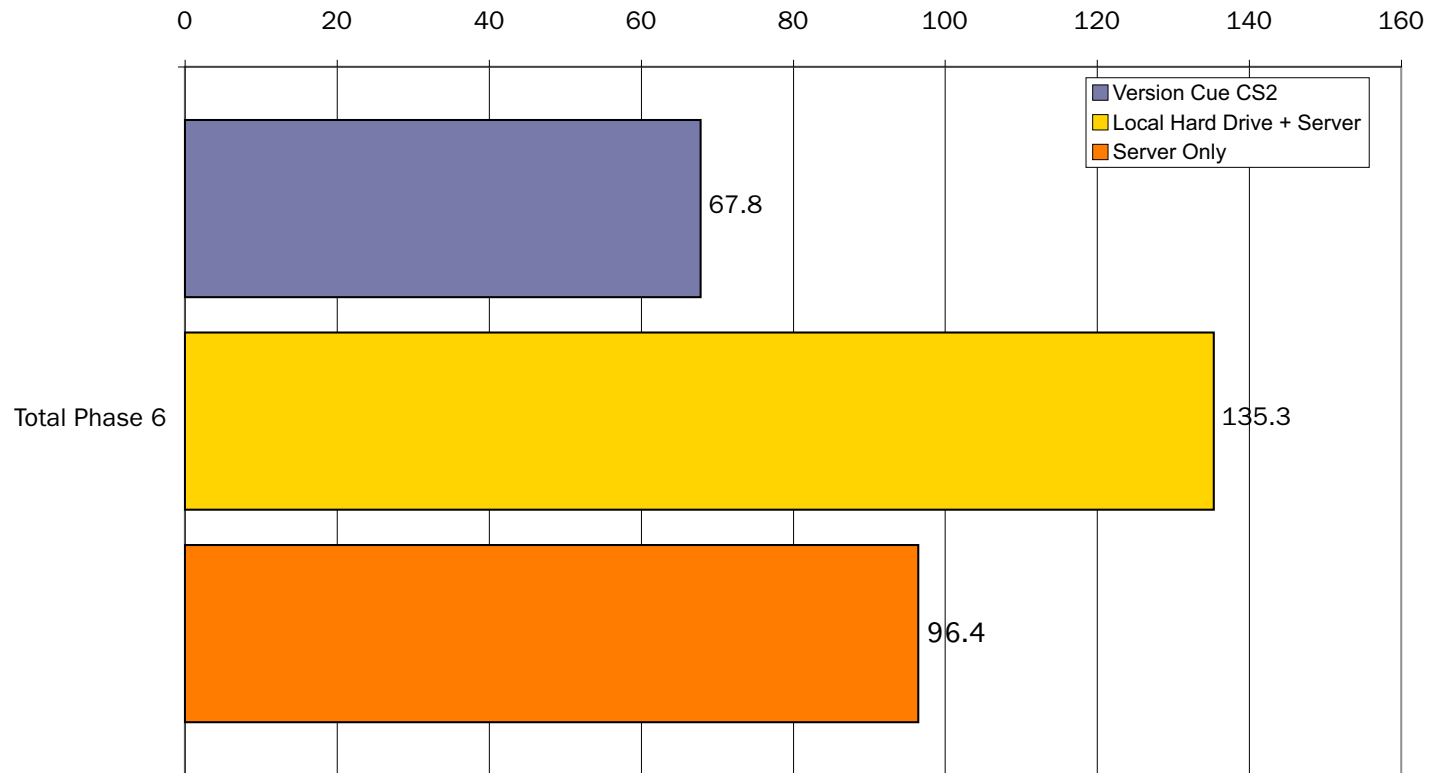


Time in seconds. Shorter is better

**Section: Results and Charts**

## Project-based Productivity Measures: Phase 6

### Phase 6: Finalization



Time in seconds. Shorter is better

**Section: Results and Charts**

## Incremental Productivity Gains: Results

### Incremental Productivity Gains: Photoshop CS2

#### Photoshop CS2 - Save Version

	File System	Version Cue CS2
Save Version (20MB File)	14.5	6.5
Save Version (50MB File)	16.0	11.1
Save Version (100MB File)	23.4	18.2

#### Photoshop CS2 - Promote Version

	File System	Version Cue CS2
Promote Version (20MB File)	32.2	11.9
Promote Version (50MB File)	41.3	12.9
Promote Version (100MB File)	54.3	19.4

Time in seconds. Shorter is better

#### Section: Results and Charts

For further information contact: [research@pfeifferreport.com](mailto:research@pfeifferreport.com)

Modified: **November 11, 2005**

**Incremental Productivity Gains: Illustrator CS2**

**Illustrator CS2 - Save Version**

	<b>File System</b>	<b>Version Cue CS2</b>
Save Version (Illustrator File)	17.6	9.4

**Illustrator CS2 - Promote Version**

	<b>File System</b>	<b>Version Cue CS2</b>
Promote Version (Illustrator File)	34.7	10.9

**Incremental Productivity Gains: InDesign CS2**

**InDesign CS2 - Save Version**

	<b>File System</b>	<b>Version Cue CS2</b>
Save Version (InDesign File)	13.9	4.8

**InDesign CS2 - Promote Version**

	<b>File System</b>	<b>Version Cue CS2</b>
Promote Version (InDesign File)	27.1	9.5

**Incremental Productivity Gains: Average**

	<b>File System</b>	<b>Version Cue CS2</b>
Average of All Tests	27.5	11.5

Time in seconds. Shorter is better

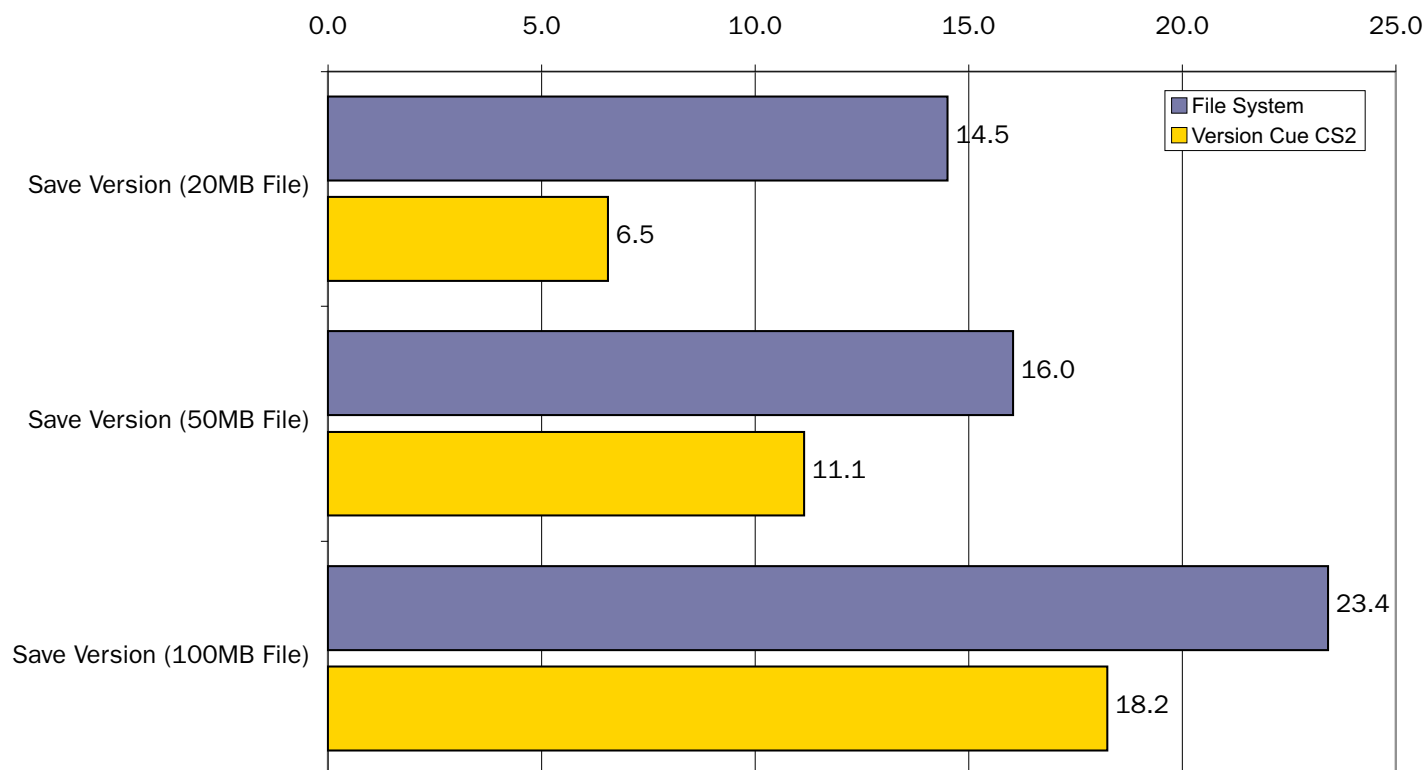
**Section: Results and Charts**

For further information contact: [research@pfeifferreport.com](mailto:research@pfeifferreport.com)

**Modified: November 11, 2005**

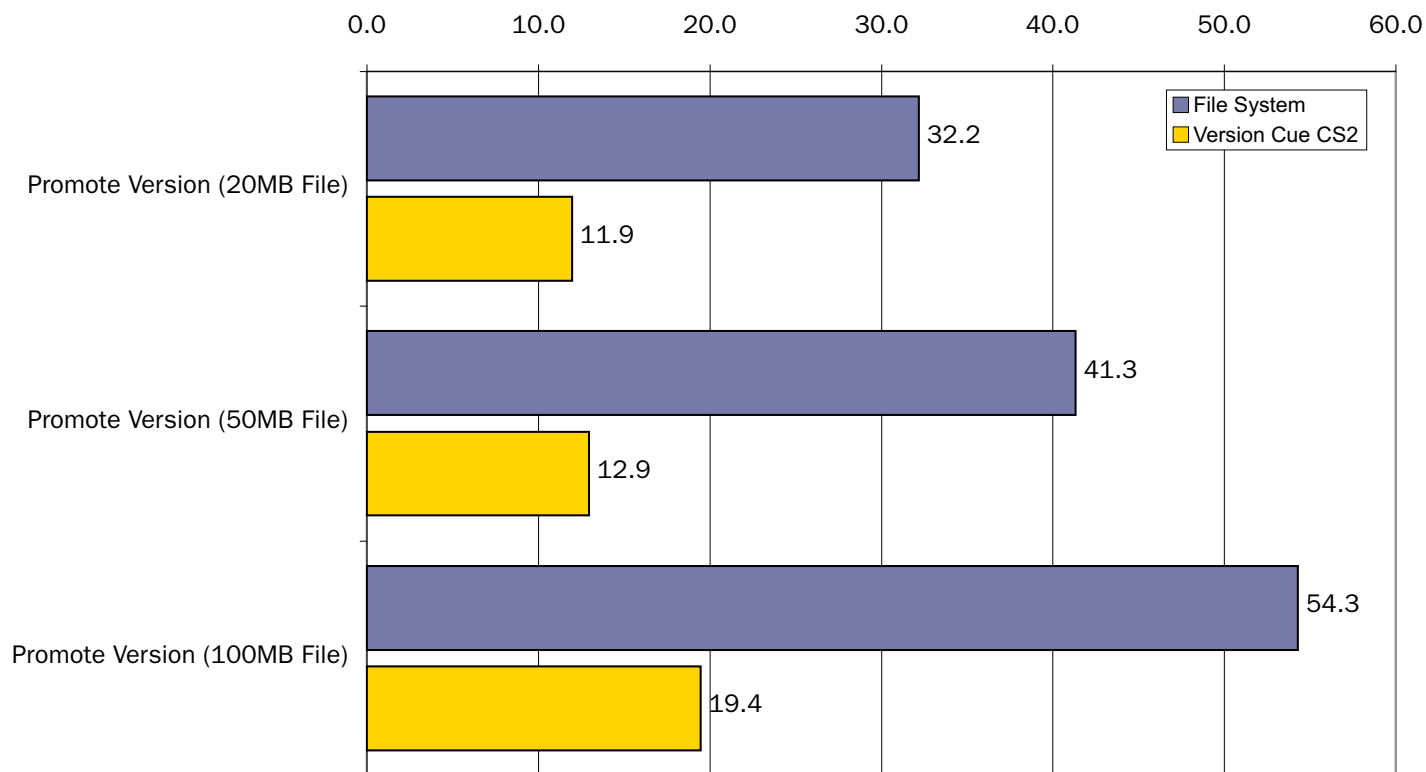
## Incremental Productivity Gains: Photoshop CS2

Photoshop CS2 - Save Version



Time in seconds. Shorter is better

**Photoshop CS2 - Promote Version**

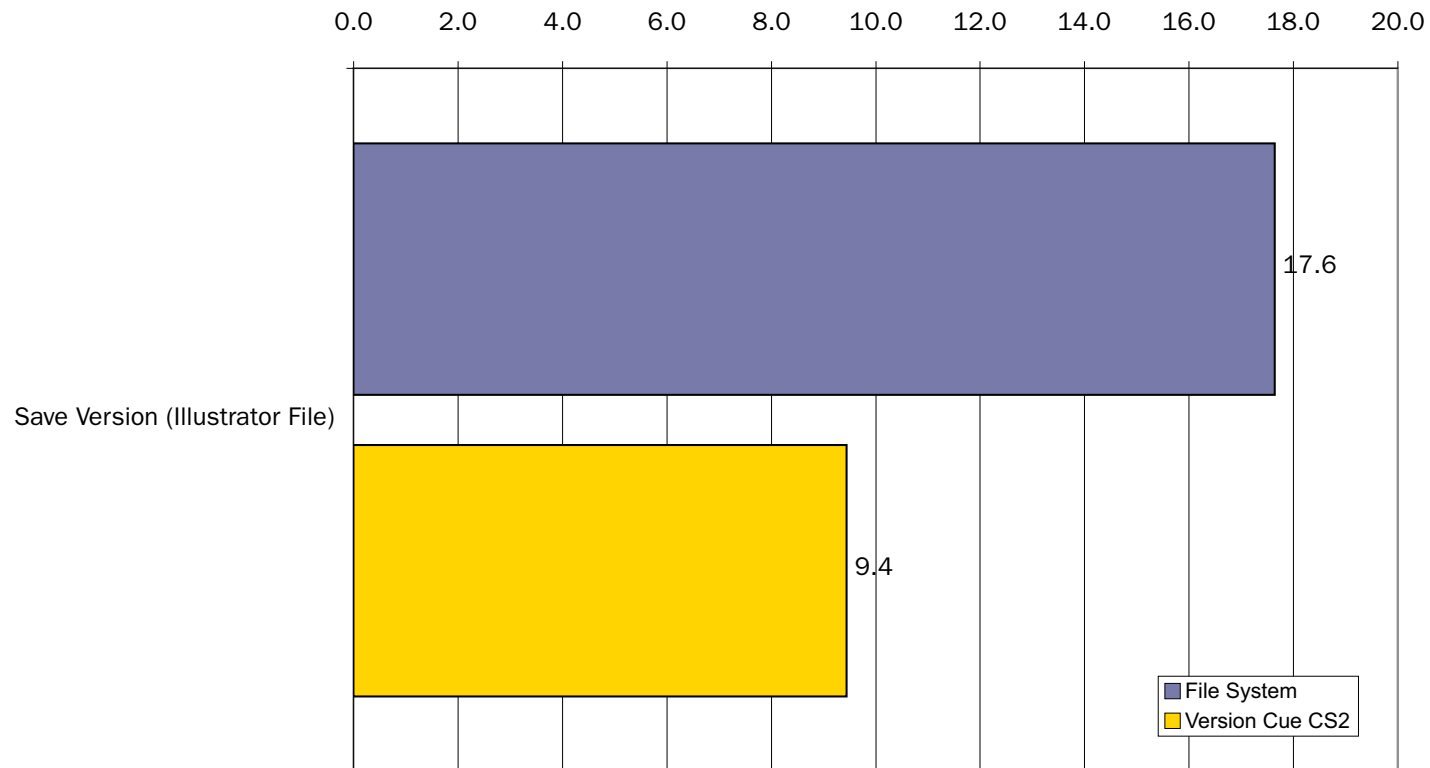


Time in seconds. Shorter is better

**Section: Results and Charts**

## Incremental Productivity Gains: Illustrator CS2

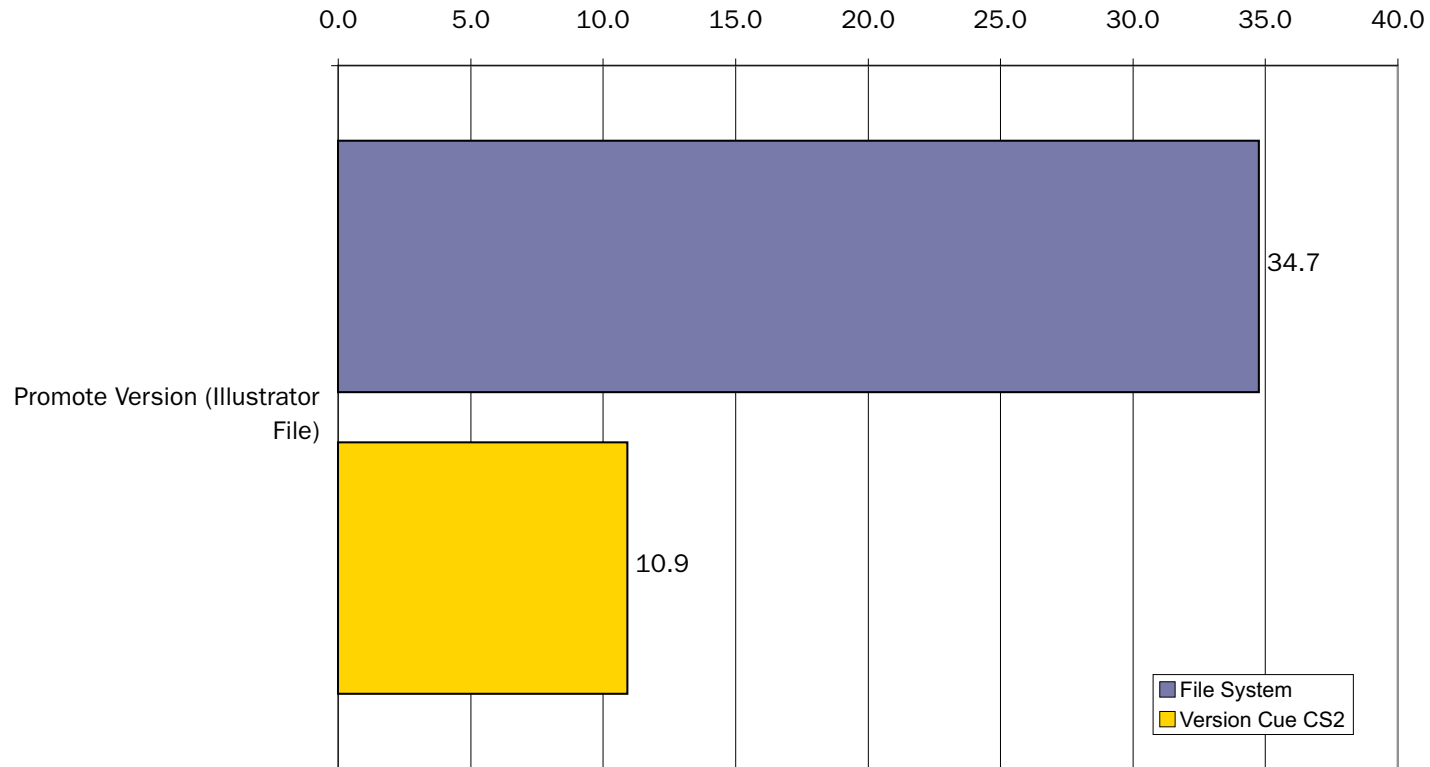
Illustrator CS2 - Save Version



Time in seconds. Shorter is better

**Section: Results and Charts**

### Illustrator CS2 - Promote Version

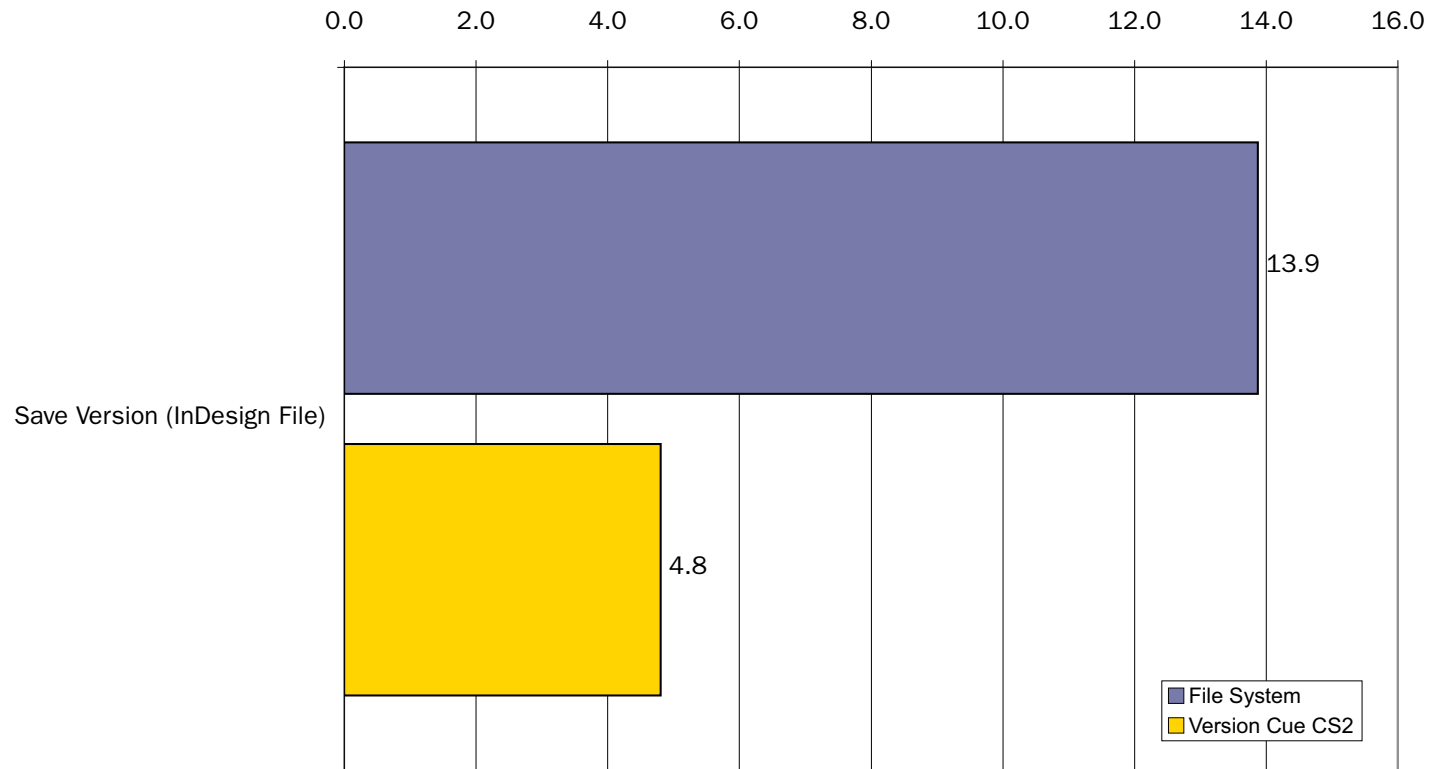


Time in seconds. Shorter is better

**Section: Results and Charts**

## Incremental Productivity Gains: InDesign CS2

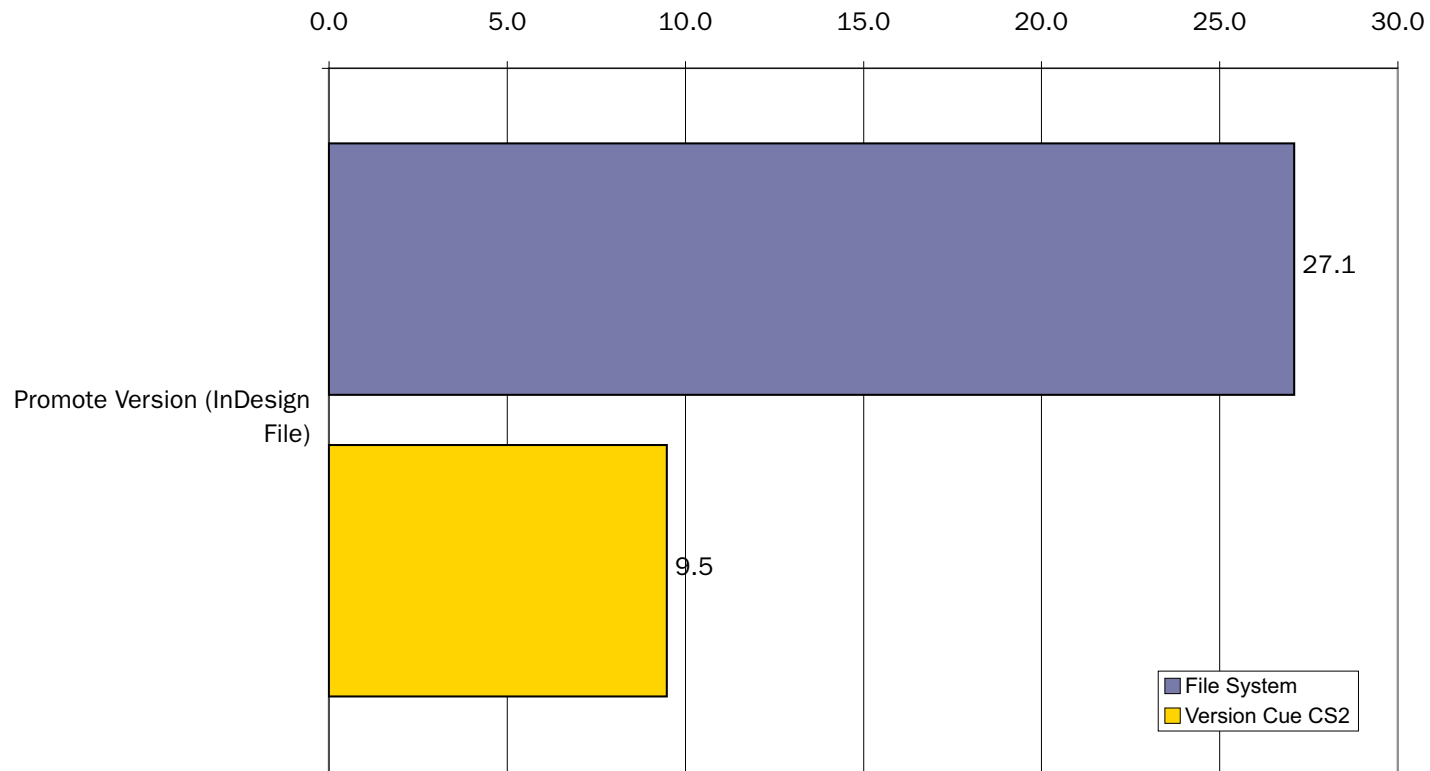
**InDesign CS2 - Save Version**



Time in seconds. Shorter is better

**Section: Results and Charts**

**InDesign CS2 - Promote Version**

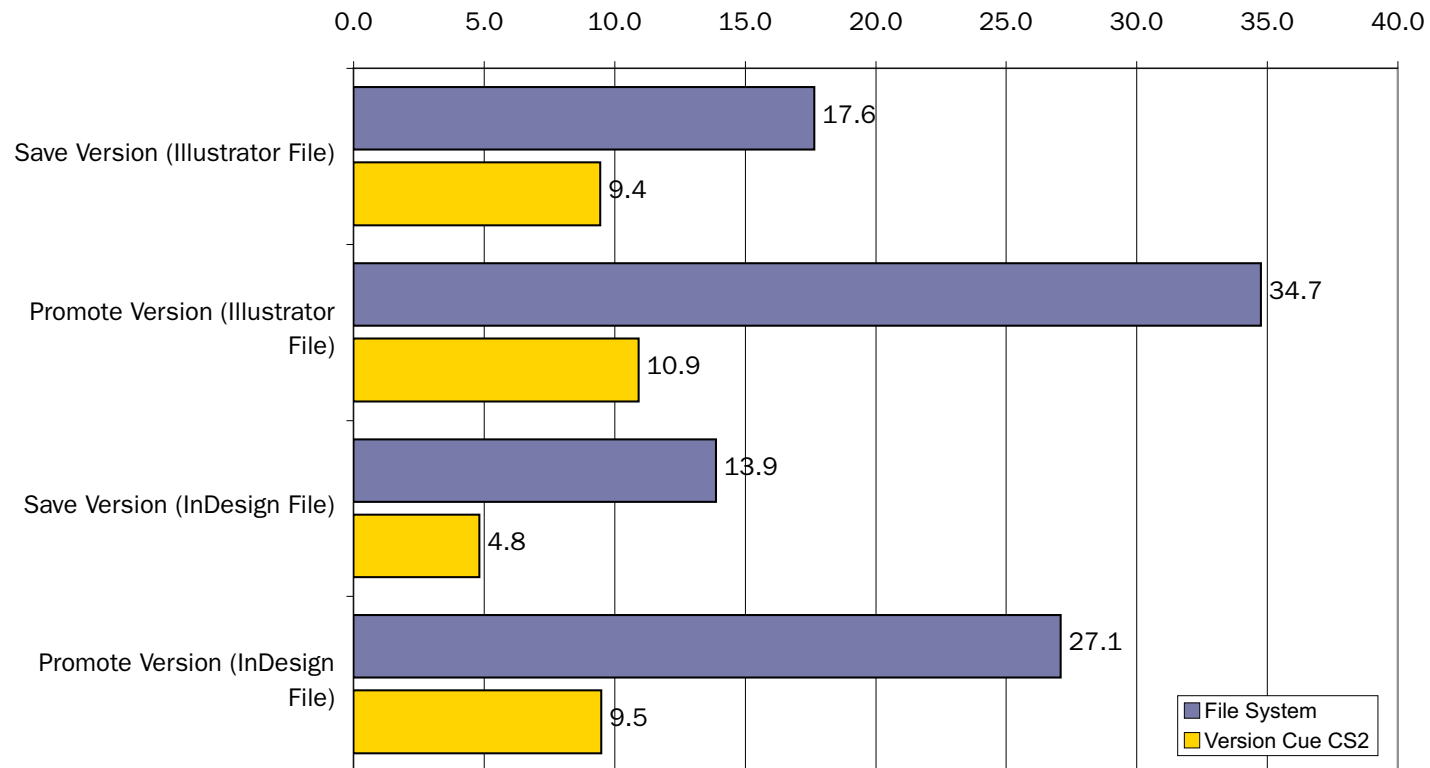


Time in seconds. Shorter is better

**Section: Results and Charts**

**Incremental Productivity Gains: Detail**

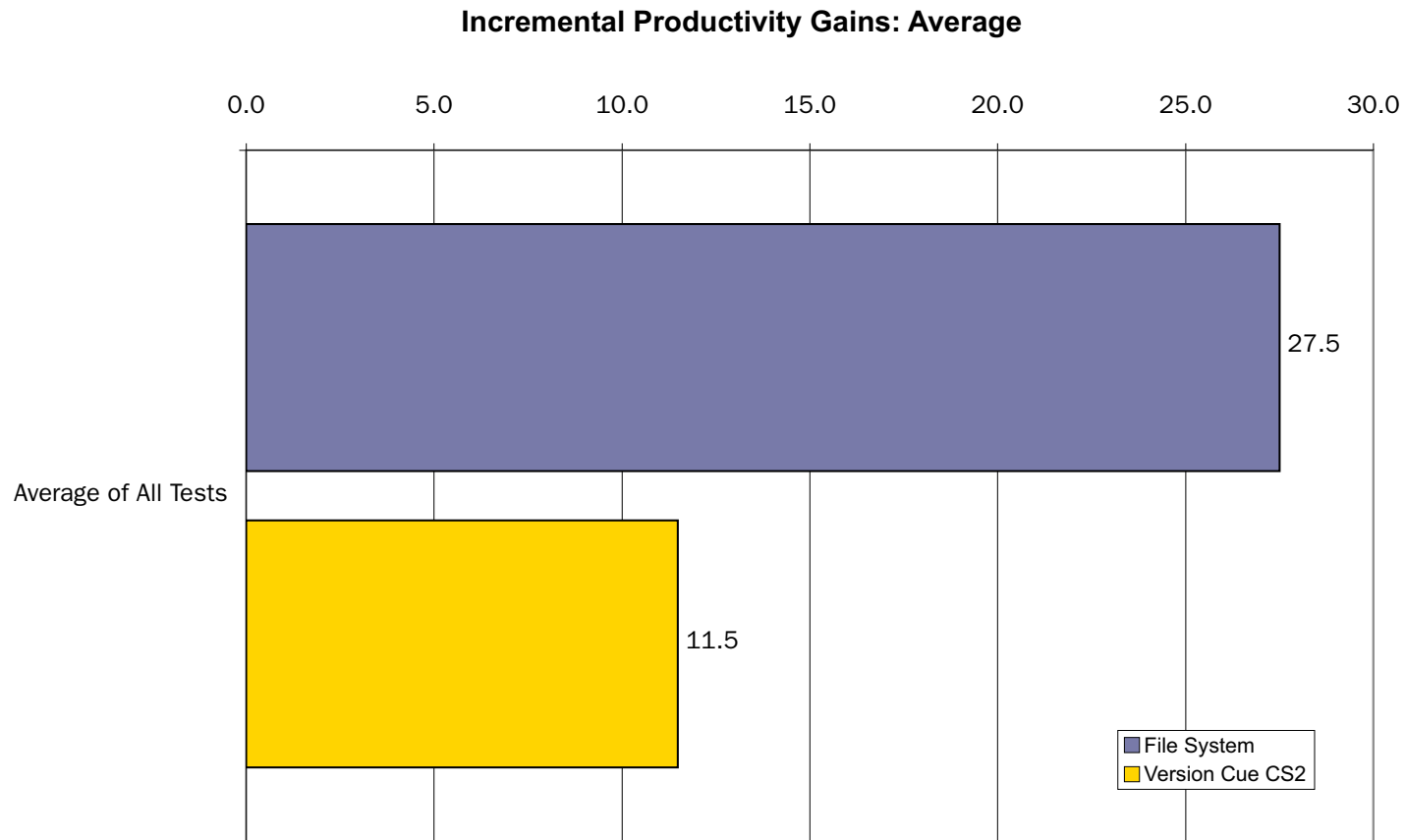
**Incremental Productivity Gains: Illustrator CS2 and InDesign CS2**



Time in seconds. Shorter is better

**Section: Results and Charts**

## Incremental Productivity Gains: Average



**Section: Results and Charts**