The Max Planck Institute selects a Spectra T950 Tape Library to manage psycholinguistics research data

> Upgrading to Spectra's T950 has allowed us to manage our research data more easily and efficiently. Our Spectra solution offers unsurpassed storage density within a small footprint, which is exactly what we needed within our data center.

Reiner Dirksmeyer, Head Technical Group, Max Planck Institute for Psycholinguistics, Nijmegen

Spectra T950 Tape Library

MAX PLANCK INSTITUTE FOR PSYCHOLINGUISTICS

The Max Planck Institute (MPI) for Psycholinguistics is one of more than 80 research institutes of the German Max Planck Society. Located in Nijmegen, Gelderland, the Netherlands, MPI is the only institution in the world entirely dedicated to psycholinguistics— the study of how we produce and understand language, and how we acquire these skills as first or second language learners. The institute was founded in 1980 and currently occupies fifth position in the Ranking Web of World Research Centers among all Max Planck institutes. The institute's mission is to undertake basic research into the psychological, social and biological foundations of language.

The Challenge

The Max Planck Institute conducts a wide range of research projects, targeted at developing a better understanding of how our minds and brains process language, how language interacts with other aspects of the human mind, and how we can learn different types of languages. Through its research endeavors, the institute produces mass amounts of video, voice and text files that it is required to retain indefinitely.

Previously, MPI had been utilizing a Quantum Scalar i2000 with LTO-5 drives and media to manage its growing research data. The institute was looking for a technology upgrade, offering new features and higher performance. They needed a storage solution capable of accommodating their data growth, within a smaller footprint—all at an affordable price.

The Solution

MPI selected a Spectra® T950 Tape Library with LTO-7 tape drives and media to replace the Quantum Scalar i2000. The T950's industry-leading density and compact design made it the ideal fit for the institute's data center, consuming minimal floor space and resources. As their data grows, MPI can easily and

An EEG lab research session at the institute

cost-effectively increase the capacity and performance of its Spectra library by adding additional LTO tape slots.

MPI was also impressed with the T950's innovative technology, designed for minimal user intervention and superior data integrity, security and reliability. Its BlueScale® software allows MPI to manage its library, configurations, partitions, encryption keys and the entire library/media health monitoring, all through a single user interface.

Itiso GmbH was the solution provider to deliver the T950 library, the Versity Storage Manager software and the migration of the old data from the SAM-FS archive.
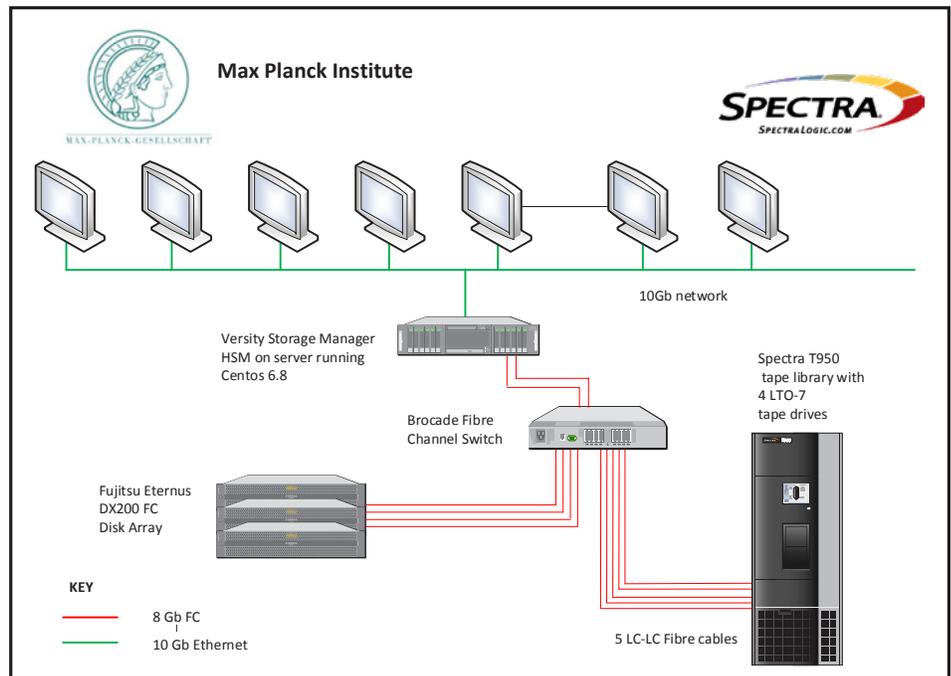
Environment Snapshot

- Spectra T950 Tape Library
- LTO-7 Tape Drives and Media
- Spectra BlueScale Software Interface
- Linux CentOS 6.8 Servers
- Fujitsu ETERNUS DX200 Disk Arrays
- Versity Storage Manager Software
- 800TB of Research Data

Why Spectra?

- Industry-leading density in a small footprint
- High-capacity storage
- Ability to scale to meet future growth
- Innovative technology
- Cost-effective solution

Solution Recap

Spectra T950 Tape Library - The Spectra T950 library is designed and built to meet the stringent requirements of the enterprise for data integrity, data security and high reliability. The T950 library reduces staff involvement significantly, affordably scales in capacity and throughput, and delivers

the best total cost of ownership of any tape solution. Support options range from the expected 24x7 worldwide onsite support to more advanced offerings including Spectra's industry-first Assisted Self Maintenance (ASM) program as well as proactive management and reporting tools that ensure optimal system availability.

Versity Storage Manager - Versity Storage Manager (VSM) is an enterprise-class HSM data archiving solution on Linux. VSM is based on the open source SAM-QFS technology from Sun Microsystems and provides a comprehensive high-performance data management system for Spectra Logic storage solutions. Versity provides maximum data protection at a minimum cost. VSM supports massive storage volumes and offers the most robust archive policy engine on the market. With no contractual or technology lock-in, no up-front license fees, and open source data formats, Versity gives users

the freedom to control their own destiny. Versity works with users to establish, tune and maintain a highly functional archive program with an innovative direct support model that guarantees unfiltered access to its entire team of software engineers.

Spectra BlueScale - BlueScale, the common software interface for all Spectra libraries, brings enterprise command and control features to the T950 library. Available through the library's on-board LCD color touchscreen and remote web access, BlueScale is an easy-to-navigate, browser-based library interface built into Spectra libraries that enables our solutions to work easily, flexibly and safely with one's data. BlueScale manages a user's library, configurations, partitions, encryption keys and all library and media health monitoring in one, single interface.