CASE STUDY

Global quantitative trading firm enters eleventh year with its Spectra Logic tape library investment

Spectra tape libraries: T950 and T200

> " Spectra builds strong relationships with major industry organizations to ensure seamless and proven end-to-end storage archive solutions for users. We value our customers, striving to identify their needs, and deliver products that are flexible, scalable and easy-to-use. "

Nathan Thompson, CEO of Spectra Logic Corporation

Situation:

This global trading firm manages databases, log files, file systems and archived data. They decommissioned an outdated Quantum library in the early 2000s and wanted a reliable, easy-to-use storage system that was easy to upgrade for years to come. They met with many vendors and put forward their need for 24x7 availability, better performance, new features, higher density, lower power and cooling costs and reduced floor space.
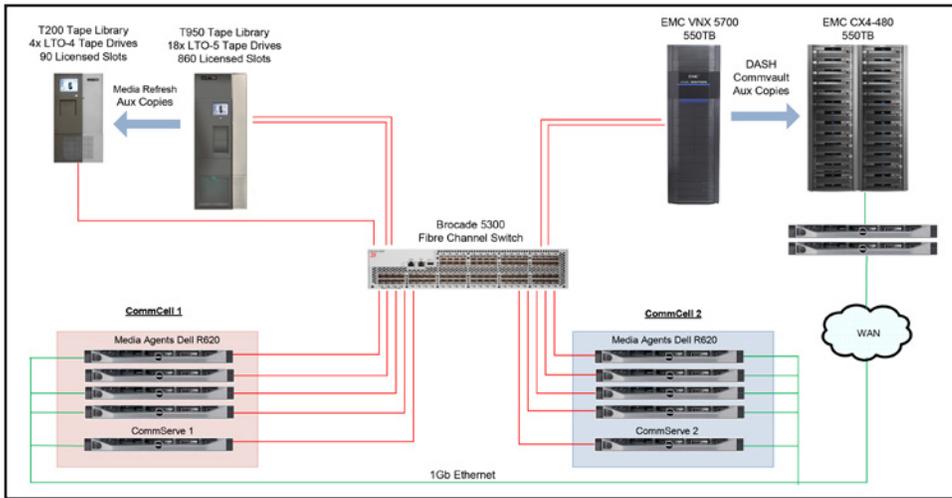
Solution:

Spectra Logic met all of this company's requirements and has been their tape provider for 12 years. The Spectra® T950 Tape Library offers high performance, thanks to very good mount and unmount metrics. Key-enabled data encryption is in use to secure sensitive financial information. The firm protects 2 PB of all production data and is realizing 90-95% back-end disk savings thanks to Commvault's deduplication feature. The 2 PB is reduced to 730 TB of required disk space, and data is retained on disk for 60 days before being moved to the T950 for archive.

In 2016, the firm conducted a forklift upgrade when it switched from an Oracle® disk library to an all-flash cache disk array. Meanwhile, their Spectra T950 continues to archive data smoothly in the background—as it has done since 2005.

Environment Snapshot:

- Spectra® T950 Tape Library
- Spectra® T200 Tape Library
- EMC VNX Disk Arrays
- Commvault Software
- BlueScale® Encryption Professional Edition
- Financial Institution
- 2 petabytes of data

PRODUCT TIMELINE

Trading company's history with Spectra

2004
Purchased Spectra® T950 with Sony SDLT drives and media.

2005
Replaced with identically configured T950 with LTO-2 drives, keeping one SDLT drive to migrate older data to LTO.

2006
Upgraded T950 to LTO-3 drives and media.

2009
Added a T200 with two LTO-4 drives and two SDLT drives; upgraded the T950 to LTO-4 for a technology refresh.

2011
Updated the T950 library with LTO-5 drives and media.

2016
Eleven years later, the company still uses its original Spectra T950 chassis. The financial institution has protected its initial capital investment for over a decade by regularly upgrading to newer tape technology.

Beyond
They will continue to maximize its tape investment through technology upgrades, with LTO's roadmap illustrating a clearly defined path for future LTO technologies, and/or by adding frames to boost capacity utilizing Spectra Logic's TranScale® feature.

Why Spectra?

- Reliability
- Easy to use
- Encryption capability
- Long-term retention requirements

T950 Tape Technology – is designed and built to meet the stringent requirements of the enterprise for data integrity, data security and high reliability. The T950 tape library reduces staff involvement significantly, affordably scales in throughput and capacity, and supports multiple generations of current and future tape formats. For data archive, backup and recovery, this elite library leads the field in innovation – from the greatest storage density to proactive media management, the T950 is always protecting your data.

T200 Tape Technology – is designed for enterprise performance and accommodates the storage requirements of organizations in every stage of their data growth lifecycle. When more slots are needed you can change your T200 outgrown frame, transfer components in your existing library and put them into a larger chassis.

TranScale® Architecture – Spectra Logic protects a customer's initial investment in storage through its TranScale architecture, which utilizes components that are interchangeable between Spectra libraries, allowing you to seamlessly transform and scale (TranScale) your library as your organization grows.