



CASE STUDY

Hat Trick Productions reduces administration time with Spectra Logic digital archive

“Installing an archive solution from Spectra Logic has enabled us to better control our storage costs by using less physical storage media. The systems’ simplified backup and restore process allows us to more easily train our support staff and to automate much more of our workflow. Spectra offered the best use of our budget to meet our goals.”

Matthew Tegg, post-production technical manager, Hat Trick



Spectra T120 Tape Library, Spectra NAS and BlackPearl



About Hat Trick Productions

Located on the edge of London in the UK, in the heart of Camden, Hat Trick has over 120 employees and is one of the UK’s most successful independent production companies.

Founded in 1986, Hat Trick is owned by Jimmy Mulville, and creates popular scripted entertainment and factual programming.

The Challenge

Hat Trick requires high-volume storage to accommodate the various types of programming it produces. For example, their factual or reality-based programming requires hundreds of hours of video footage to be stored live for months, while their high-end dramas often shoot in data-intensive raw camera formats. The resulting massive amounts of video and audio files must be backed up on a daily basis and made easily accessible up until the end of the production.

Their previous Archiware to tape storage infrastructure became very labor intensive. Hat Trick constantly ran out of total available storage and was forced to manually circulate media frequently. The company wanted to have all archived material kept in an efficient and user-friendly archive, while keeping costs down.

“We have limited amounts of downtime at Hat Trick – in between projects and also at certain times of the year when multiple projects are in production,” said Matthew Tegg, post-production technical manager of Hat Trick. “Long-term cost was an important factor in deciding on a new system, and open-source software compatibility was also a big consideration.”

The Solution

Following a competitive analysis, Hat Trick installed a Spectra NAS Solution, T120 Tape Library, and BlackPearl® Converged Storage System to manage their growing storage requirements. The complete, fully-integrated solution backs up and archives all of the organization’s media, completed shows and Avid edits, totaling more than 100TB of live data and over 500TB of archived data.



One of Hat Trick’s productions: a comedy called *The Fake News Show*. (image from Hat Trick’s website)

CASE STUDY: Hat Trick Productions, Camden, UK

Hat Trick's BlackPearl Converged Storage System is connected to a Spectra T120 tape library with three LTO-6 tape drives. They also use a Spectra NAS disk solution as a landing zone for new material and production rushes. The Spectra NAS's NFI feature regularly monitors the shares, and sends any new content automatically to BlackPearl where the Advanced Bucket Management feature (ABM) applies data policies and, per Hat Trick's policies, creates two copies on tape.

Hat Trick's requirement was to protect newly filmed material on disk and automatically create two copies on LTO tape, one held in the library and one sent off-site. Hat Trick also uses Marquis Project Parking integrated with BlackPearl for storage and easy retrieval of projects. The complete solution resulted in a significant reduction in their insurance premiums by safeguarding clients' content.

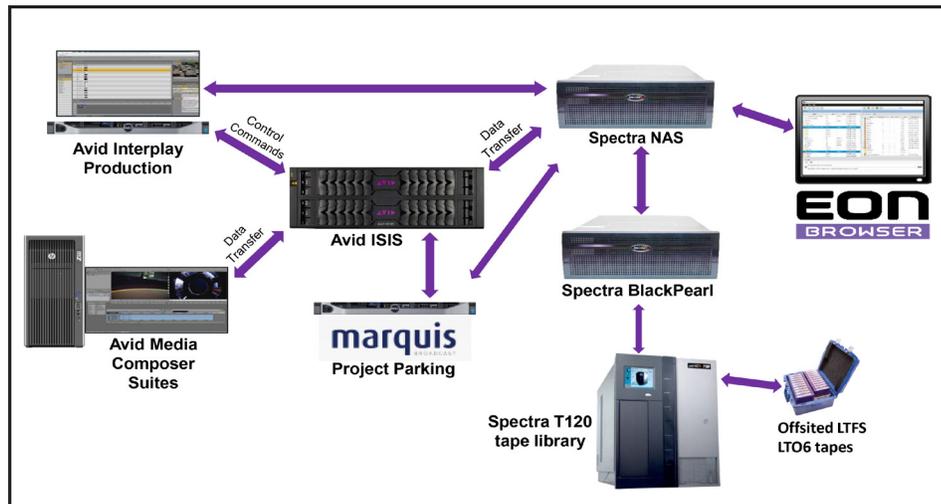
OvationData, a Spectra reseller, recommended Spectra Logic to Hat Trick. Ovation's system integration services further enhanced Hat Trick's overall experience. Ovation's great business relationship with Spectra Logic offered Hat Trick invaluable expertise and knowledge to implement a scalable, dependable solution that meets the growing demand for its unique storage requirements.

Environment Snapshot

- Spectra NAS Solution
- Spectra BlackPearl Converged Storage System
- Spectra T120 Tape Library
- LTO-6 Drives and Media
- Spectra EON Browser
- Marquis Project Parking
- Avid Shared Storage

Why Spectra?

- Reduced administration
- Task automation
- Media Lifecycle Management (MLM)
- Increased search capability
- Open source platform
- Scalability
- Improved throughput
- Recommendation by OvationData



Solution Recap

Spectra BlackPearl Converged Storage System - BlackPearl solves the problem of costly and complex approaches to digital preservation by combining NAS and S3-based interfaces with multiple storage targets into a simple and affordable solution. Designed for numerous concurrent workflows, BlackPearl reduces the need for expensive third-party data movers by integrating Spectra S3-based interfaces with a range of certified clients and simple file movers. A BlackPearl solution with any combination of enterprise or archive disk and/or tape provides organizations with complete control of their data via local copies, offsite replicated copies, and offsite public cloud replication. From the affordable BlackPearl V Series that can transfer data at 300 MB/s to the BlackPearl P Series that can transfer data at more than 3000 MB/s, there is a BlackPearl option perfectly sized for every organization.

Spectra NAS Solution - Spectra NAS is the optimal disk platform for the storage of mid-tier data, including primary storage offload, data staging, backup and archiving. Flexible, simple and affordable, Spectra NAS delivers storage for as low as 7.5 cents per gigabyte. The expandable disk solution provides raw storage capacities from 48TB to 10.7PB. Designed for a variety of workloads, a single Spectra NAS solution supports three different disk drive types, including 4TB,

8TB and 12TB enterprise drives; 8TB archive drives; and high-performance SSD drives. Reliable, economical and archive-ready, Spectra NAS simplifies the data storage process.

Spectra T120 Tape Library - The T120 Tape Library is exceptionally scalable and flexible and can meet all of your backup, archive and data storage requirements. Scalable from 30 to 120 slots, it stores up to 720TB (1.8PB compressed*) of data in just 14U of rack space. With the ability to use up to 10 LTO drives, it can transfer data up to 10.8 TB/hr. (27.0 TB/hr. compressed*), delivering affordable storage without compromise.

Partner Profile:



Partnering with Spectra Logic, OvationData provides total data management solutions to preserve, manage, and understand digital data and media in a way that maximizes value. This partner specializes in geo-physical data services for the oil and gas industry, as well as full-suite solutions for media & entertainment clients.
www.ovationdata.net

* Assumes 2:1 compression for LTO-5 and 2.5:1 for LTO-6, LTO-7, LTO-7 Type M, LTO-8, TS1150, TS1155 and TS1160.