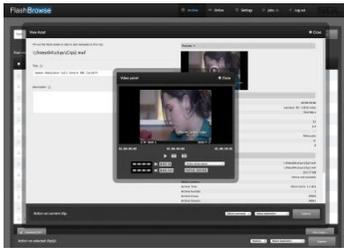


Solution Brief: SGL FlashNet and Oracle's StorageTek Digital Tape for Media and Entertainment



Whether you're a one-man post-production department or a multisite post house, you have one thing in common: the need to be able to quickly access your content, regardless of its type, size, format, or storage location. SGL and Oracle work together to ensure you have access to your content now and in the future. This is why SGL FlashNet content and storage management software and Oracle's StorageTek digital tape libraries are integrated and tested together to provide a seamless

solution for post-production, news, sports, and media and entertainment organizations with archiving needs of all sizes around the world.



SGL Browse

FlashNet's power, resilience, and scalability stem from the unique clustered architecture at its heart. The FlashBrowse UI enables the direct management of media on FlashNet.

Solution Overview

SGL FlashNet is an extremely scalable content and storage management system for broadcasters, scaling from small post-production departments to bustling multilocation enterprise-level organizations. FlashNet provides an XML-based API, enabling complete integration with any third-party vendor, from the largest names in broadcast to specialist applications dealing with exclusive content types. These partnerships have created automated workflows, shared storage systems between departments (e.g., automation and media asset management systems), the ability to group and manage content throughout its lifecycle, and partial file restore on the fly from directly within integrated third-party applications. This level of storage management efficiency leads to tighter workflows and ultimately substantial time and financial savings.

Open Archiving

FlashNet fully supports the linear tape file system (LTFS) with Oracle's range of StorageTek T10000 drives. The flexibility of SGL FlashNet can be utilized to write to LTFS-formatted tapes within an archive system that may, for example, consist of a single tape library or multiple tape libraries. FlashNet's StorageManager module can automatically migrate non-LTFS content to new parts of the archive with appropriately partitioned LTFS tapes.

An open archive eliminates dependencies on application and hardware providers, enabling users to retrieve files in the future, leveraging different applications, operating systems, and hardware. You can transparently retrieve archived files written with one operating system and read on a different operating system.



Oracle's StorageTek T10000 Tape Drives

The world's highest capacity tape drives—the latest generation supports 8.5 TB native on a single cartridge, more than three times the capacity per cartridge than LTO 6, also supporting LTFS with SGL FlashNet.

SGL FlashNet and Avid

SGL's close partnership with Avid has created Avid Archive for Workgroup 4 users and Avid Interplay Archive, the only fully integrated archive solutions for Avid. Both of these solutions are essential tools for Avid users, extending the workflow provided by Avid's systems to create true end-to-end digital solutions. SGL FlashNet provides the mechanism for the most flexible archiving of Avid assets, allowing non-flattening of sequences and single-instance archiving of clips that appear in multiple sequences. SGL FlashNet also automates the management of data throughout its archive lifecycle.

SGL FlashNet and Grass Valley

The long-standing partnership between Grass Valley and SGL is the key to the effectiveness and efficiency of the content archive solutions that SGL FlashNet provides for Grass Valley users. Today, the product integration between these two companies extends not only to on-air systems with K2 Edge and K2 TX/MAM servers, but also to the Grass Valley STRATUS media workflow application framework and Grass Valley Aurora Suite for news production. The integration provides transparent access to the archive directly from the Grass Valley applications.

SGL FlashNet makes the back-end archive appear as a seamless extension of all Grass Valley environments. The archive may comprise disk or tape storage, or a combination of these in an archive hierarchy, using rules-based SGL StorageManager to manage data lifecycles within the archive based on size, type, content, or age. The SGL FlashNet archive as an extension of the Grass Valley server, and when a clip is required for playback, it is restored back to the K2 Edge or K2 TX/MAM server simply by selecting it in the playlist and choosing restore.

The same applies to the archive interface with STRATUS and Aurora Suite for news production. Editors can select clips for archive or restore from directly within the application, view low-res proxies of material held in the archive, and mark in and out points to restore just a partial of the clip. All source timecode data is preserved.

Selecting an Archive Format

Both digital tape and disk hardware systems are leveraged in media and entertainment archive environments, but the mix between digital tape and disk is evolving. Over the past several years, digital tape capacities have grown rapidly while increases in disk capacities have slowed. Today the highest capacity digital tape is 8.5TB while disk capacities are around half of that. Additionally, disk systems consume more power and are refreshed more frequently than digital tape, leading to a high total cost of ownership. These changes in the storage market have disrupted archive deployments and organizations are increasing their digital tape investments while reducing their expenditures on disk storage. For a detailed analysis of disk versus digital tape costs, there is a public report available from one of the leading industry analysts on storage, The Clipper Group. The Clipper Group report can be accessed at the following link: <http://www.clipper.com/research/TCG2010054.pdf>



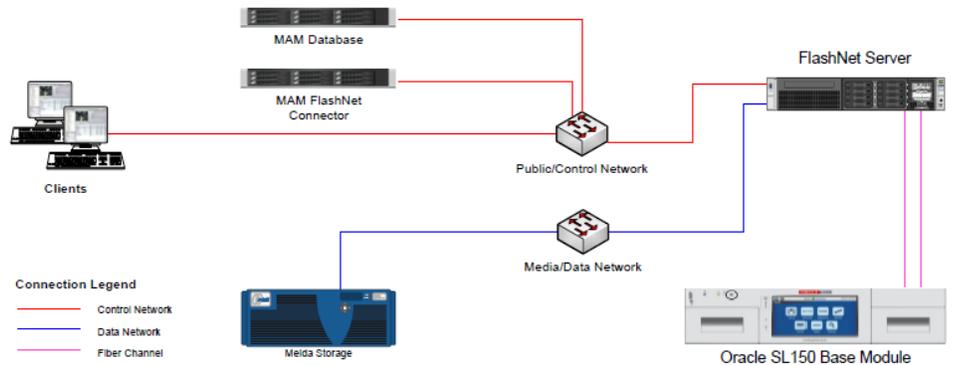
Oracle's StorageTek SL150 Modular Tape Library

The only entry tape library that grows with you. The digital library starts at 30 slots and scales to 300 slots in 10 increments. The maximum capacity of the system is 750 TB of uncompressed data.

Oracle's StorageTek Digital Archive

Oracle's StorageTek portfolio is engineered for digital archiving. Oracle offers the world's highest capacity digital tape technology, the StorageTek T10000 tape drive series, as well as the highest performing and most scalable digital tape libraries in the world. With SGL FlashNet, you have access to the StorageTek T10000 tape drives, as well as the midrange drives from LTO. In addition, SGL FlashNet has been tested with Oracle's StorageTek SL8500 modular library system, the world's largest digital tape library, as well as the StorageTek SL3000 modular library system and StorageTek SL150 modular tape library.

An example SGL FlashNet configuration with a StorageTek SL150 Modular Tape Library with LTO tape drives is shown below.



Oracle's StorageTek SL3000 Modular Library System

Scales from 200 digital cartridge slots to just under 6,000 slots and from 1 to 56 drives in a footprint that grows linearly in a rack environment.

Digital Tape Libraries

Digital Tape Drives

StorageTek SL8500 Modular Library System	StorageTek T10000C, T10000D LTO 4, LTO 5, LTO 6 (HP and IBM) Fiber Channel Only
StorageTek SL3000 Modular Library System	StorageTek T10000C, T10000D LTO 4, LTO 5, LTO 6 (HP and IBM) Fiber Channel Only
StorageTek SL150 Modular Tape Library	LTO 5, LTO 6 (HP HH only) Fiber Channel and SAS

CONTACT US

For additional details on SGL FlashNet solutions, please visit www.sglbroadcast.com.

For additional details on Oracle's archive solutions, please visit www.oracle.com/goto/tape.