



LTO NewsBytes



Backup and Archive Planning for 2012

Holiday cards? Check. Gift for the boss? Check. Holiday party tux rental? Check. Dinner plans for New Year's Eve? Check. Backup and Archive planning for 2012? Um...

It's that time of year where everyone is finalizing their business plans for 2012. And for those who are still working on their data storage backup and archive plans, the LTO Ultrium program has some reminders and Tips for small and medium businesses, as well as large enterprises to keep in mind.

- Consider the size of your data storage needs. Track the growth of your storage size over the past year. You should take into consideration how fast your data is growing. Both of these answers will help in determining your data storage size needs.

Bonus Tip: LTO tape systems can easily scale. Simply add more cartridges to increase capacity.

- Know if your industry or business has any legal requirements for retaining specific data, such as how the data needs to be stored and for how long.

Bonus Tip: LTO tape technology offers WORM (write once read many) cartridges to help address compliance matters and tape drive encryption to help keep data secure. See a white paper on LTO tape drive encryption called "Securing Sensitive Information" [here](#).

- Keep in mind how much time your backup plan will require, what are the data recall and retention requirements, and most importantly how much it will cost. These things can have a significant impact on the efficiency of your backup and archive systems.

Bonus Tip: Studies have shown tape systems to be up to 15 times less costly than disc systems for long term data retention. See a white paper comparing disc and tape called "In Search of the Long Term Archiving Solution" [here](#).

- Consider changing archive requirements. For large enterprises, one of the biggest concerns is how to select the proper media choice for the business that will also meet the storage requirements of legislation like Sarbanes-Oxley and HIPAA. In this situation, it's best to think about how important the data is and how frequently it needs to be backed up.

Bonus Tip: a combination of disc for fast access performance and tape for data protection, long term archive, cost and energy control can be an optimal strategy.

- Despite the best planning, failures do happen. Tape storage offers the security of offline and off-the-net storage that protects company data assets from the threats that can attack online or on-the-net data (e.g. hacker, virus, disgruntled employee, system error) including both archive and backup data sets. It also lets users store large volumes of data at a low operating cost per byte, making it ideal for long term archival storage of large files that don't need to be accessed frequently.

Bonus Tip: see a white paper on best practices for using disc and tape called "The Evolving Role of Disk and Tape in the Data Center" [here](#).

Most likely, your storage needs will continue to grow and with the LTO Program's extended product roadmap through generation 8, LTO is addressing the growing demands of data protection for both small and medium businesses as well as large enterprises and with the new LTFs using tape just became easier.

LTFs Makes Tape Easy To Use – With the Linear Tape File System and LTO-5 Ultrium tape drives, you can drag and drop files to and from the LTO-5 Ultrium tape, in a manner like using disk storage or a thumb drive-but at a cost as low as 3 cents per GB (estimated cartridge costs uncompressed). Never before has managing and accessing backup, archive and video content on tape been this simple.

Learn more about the LTFs (Linear Tape File System) and see a one minute video of LTFs in action [here](#).



What the Experts Are Saying

Christian Perry, Processor Magazine – "Dubbed the 'super tape' due to its ability to hold massive amounts of data, the LTO, or Linear Tape-Open, form factor has enjoyed immense success since it hit the market more than a decade ago. In 2010, LTO-5 Ultrium appeared and nearly doubled the capacity of the previous specification and also increased data transfer rates. For tape users, these upgrades represent major improvements....to upgrade their tape infrastructures."

Bruce Jacobs, Broadcast Engineering – "Tape libraries have an excellent reputation and have been well-tested thanks to their widespread use in the media and entertainment industry."

Dave Simpson, InfoStor.com – "At its current rate of market share gains, LTO will command more than 90% of the tape cartridge market by the end of this year."

Paul Mah, ITBusinessEdge.com – "Tape technology offers a convenient and affordable last line of defense for data backup in SMBs."

Andrew Burton, SearchDataBackup – "Tape storage systems have a number of inherent benefits for long-term data archiving -- tape can be truly offline; it can be easily transported offsite; and though disk prices continue to fall, tape is still relatively inexpensive."

Eric Stack, Storage Switzerland – "With LTFs, the LTO5 cartridge is a self-describing, independent storage entity, like a USB drive. For the SMB user who normally carries a hard drive off site, they can now copy all their files to their new 3TB (compressed) 'thumb drive'. LTO tape is a removable and portable storage format and is certainly more robust than a USB hard drive - and less expensive."

Learn more about [LTO Ultrium Technology](#).

Use LTO-5 Technology with Tape Drive Encryption, Your Smart Bet for Data Protection!

For more details, check out white papers, articles and other useful information at www.ultrium.com