

# LTO NewsBytes

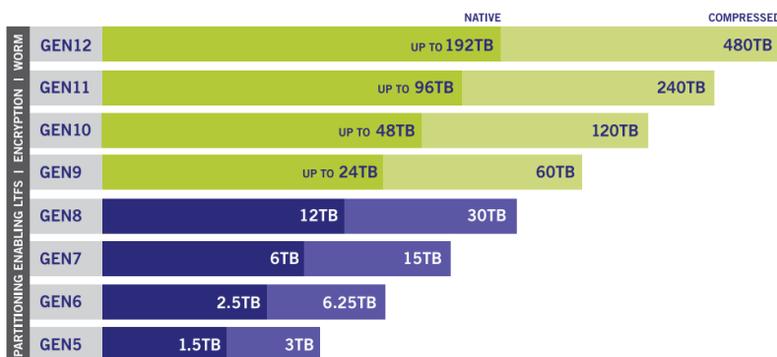
February 2018

## A Year of Innovation for the LTO Program

2017 was a big year for the LTO Program, and 2018 will be even bigger! At the end of 2017 we announced the impressive specifications for the latest generation of tape technology. LTO-8 announced an expanded storage capacity of up to 30 TB of data, compressed. That's double the compressed capacity of LTO-7!

The LTO Program also released an updated product roadmap, outlining the specifications of the technology up to 12 generations.

### LTO ULTRIUM ROADMAP ADDRESSING YOUR STORAGE NEEDS



NOTE: Compressed capacity for generation 5 assumes 2:1 compression. Compressed capacities for generations 6-12 assume 2.5:1 compression (achieved with larger compression history buffer).  
SOURCE: The LTO Program. The LTO Ultrium roadmap is subject to change without notice and represents goals and objectives only. Linear Tape-Open, LTO, the LTO logo, Ultrium, and the Ultrium logo are registered trademarks of Hewlett Packard Enterprise, IBM and Quantum in the US and other countries.

Finally, we introduced a new feature to LTO-8 drives - the ability for an LTO-8 drive to write 9 TB of data on a brand new LTO-7 cartridge, versus the 6 TB as specified by the LTO-7 format. This new cartridge is called **LTO-7 cartridge initialized as Type M media (LTO-7 Type M media)**.

In this edition of NewsBytes, we'll dive into deeper detail about what **LTO-7 Type M** media is, what it does and what this means for storage professionals.

## LTO-7 Type M Media for LTO-8 Drives

**What is it?** LTO-7 Type M media is manufactured and logoed as LTO Ultrium 7 media, but is labelled with a barcode ending with "M8" as the last two characters. It is initialized at a higher density, which allows 9 TB of native capacity or up to 22.5TB compressed (2.5:1).

Media can be purchased as pre-initialized or un-initialized LTO-7 Type M media. Un-initialized LTO-7 Type M media can be initialized by applying an "M8" barcode label and writing data to the media in a tape library that supports un-initialized LTO-7 Type M media.

**What does it do?** LTO-7 Type M media allows an LTO-8 drive to write 9 TB of data on a brand new LTO-7 cartridge instead of the 6 TB specified by the LTO-7 format. LTO-7 Type M media will support existing LTO technology format features including data compression, encryption and partitioning enabling LTFS, but it will not be supported on WORM cartridges.

**What's the benefit to the consumer?** For the same price as an LTO-7 cartridge, consumers will benefit from 50 percent more capacity by utilizing it as an LTO-7 Type M media. However, only LTO-8 drives will be capable of reading LTO-7 Type M media, if backwards compatibility is required with LTO-9 drives, then LTO-8 media should be the preferred choice.

As we continue to see an explosion in data, [Gartner forecasts](#) that worldwide IT spending will increase 4.3 percent in 2018. Here, LTO-7 Type M media for LTO-8 drives can offer data storage professionals the biggest bang for their buck! We think this is great news!

Visit the LTO Program's website to learn more about [LTO-7 Type M media](#).

## An Updated Storage Solution for New Storage Demands

Data growth is on an upward trend and is not expected to decelerate anytime soon. Protecting data will continue to be a top priority in 2018, particularly after the series of high-profile cyber-attacks that occurred in 2017. LTO-7 Type M media will address these new storage demands by offering a higher capacity and more cost-efficient means to store data securely using LTO technology.

Don't miss any updates from the LTO Program! We've update our [website](#) with new information on LTO-8 technology! Follow us on [Twitter](#) and [LinkedIn](#) to be a part of the conversation.

**TAPE SAVES**  
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### Next stops for the LTO Program:

[OCP Summit](#): March 20-21, 2018 in San Jose

[NAB Show](#): April 9-12, 2018 in Las Vegas

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