



Case Study:

Disaster Recovery for the US Public Broadcasting Service

PBS leverages XenData clustered SX-525 to create fully redundant LTO archives

XenData was chosen by the Public Broadcasting Service (PBS), to help streamline its disaster recovery needs. By leveraging the XenData SX-525, an LTO archive server cluster for high availability, PBS has created a full program origination system for its disaster recovery site in Lincoln, Nebraska.

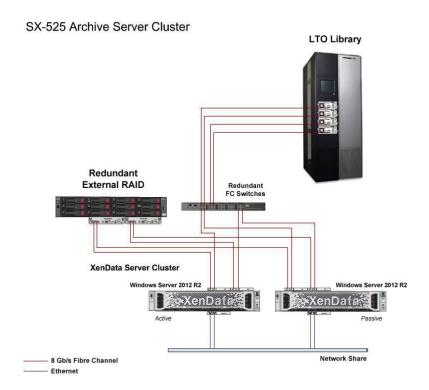


The Challenge

The PBS disaster recovery site in Lincoln, Nebraska supports the network should PBS' network operations center (NOC), headquartered in Virginia, experience downtime. PBS has both real-time and non-real time systems and it was looking for a high availability shared storage solution that was compatible with both. PBS required a common cache storage system, meaning all of the files, both real time and non-real time, should be easily accessible to both systems. Furthermore, the common cache storage system had to be continually available to accept files and scripts deposited by PBS.

The Solution

The chosen solution centred around a XenData SX-525 clustered LTO and RAID archive system.



The XenData SX-525 supports one or more LTO libraries connected via fibre channel and include two servers running Windows Server 2012 in a clustered configuration with a fully redundant RAID cache. The SX-525 supports most enterprise-class robotic LTO libraries, including models from HP, IBM, Oracle, Qualstar, Quantum and Spectra Logic. It may be configured to mirror files across two LTO libraries, creating a fully redundant LTO archive system with no single point of failure.

Because the SX-525 solution supports writing to LTO-5 and LTO-6 using the LTFS interchange or open standard TAR format, PBS was not required to use proprietary formats. This means PBS can be sure that its content is accessible for years to come, making it particularly suited for long-term data archive. Furthermore, the server cluster scales to provide multiple Petabytes of near-line LTO storage.

The Result

The resultant system was described by James Cutright, Director, Project Management at PBS as follows:

"XenData's fully supported clustered server meets all the requirements for our disaster recovery site. With compatibility for real and non-real time systems, ample bandwidth, an open format and their willingness to adapt and tailor the solution to meet our needs, we have been very pleased with the SX-525 product and XenData's technical team who have provided system design and integration services above and beyond expectations."