

XLS

ENTERPRISE LIBRARY SYSTEM

THE XLS SERIES ADVANTAGE

Size *DOES* matter when refreshing your enterprise tape system

Large enterprises everywhere continue to experience tremendous growth in the amount of data that they are storing and archiving. More of our business and personal transactions are taking place and being recorded digitally. All music and almost all video are now being created in digital formats, from the shortest home movie to the longest feature film. Owners of large archives of analog content are busy converting them to digital format to generate greater profits from those assets. And of course, management is demanding longer retention periods for everything, whether to comply with government regulations, for use in data mining, or just out of the fear that since they don't know what they have, they can't take a chance on deleting any of it.

It's easy to list the reasons for the explosion in storage capacity requirements. The tough question, though, is how are you going to solve it?

Automated tape is still the best choice

Enterprise-class tape continues to be the most cost-effective storage solution for the long-term retention of massive amounts of data. Do you want to make more efficient use of your primary and secondary disk systems? Then off-load older, infrequently accessed data to tape. Why increase your disk capacity before making sure you only have what you really need on the disk you already use?

If you think of your storage systems as a hierarchy where older data is accessed less often than newer data, you quickly conclude that the back end of the system (the long-term tape repository) is going to require the most growth. But of course, you're probably already running your existing tape systems at capacity, so something has to give.

Let's talk about your data center

As companies grow, and more importantly as their data center capacity needs grow, the availability of data center floor space, power and air conditioning become a significant barrier to growth. The costs associated with data center floor space vary greatly by geography, but the costs of building additional space are fairly consistent, and they are very high.

In 2005, wiring company Ortronics/LeGrand reported that the cost to build new data center capacity ranged from \$700 to \$1,200 per square foot. This makes data center floor space among the priciest real estate around. And in an August 2006 report, Gartner predicted that the costs of building data center capacity will increase by 20% over the next three years.

Clearly, making the most of the space you have

available is preferable to adding new space to accommodate the increasing amount of data that you need to store.

Is it time to add or to replace?

If you are using an automated tape library system that is more than a few years old, you are probably not getting the best use of your data center floor space. In addition to using higher-density tapes and faster drives, a few of the latest library designs provide a dramatic improvement in the number of tapes they can hold per square foot of floor space.

Given the alternative of adding more floor space, the purchase of a new tape library system is pretty easy to cost-justify. And unlike consolidating servers and disk storage, once written, tape cartridges require no power or cooling.



THE QUALSTAR XLS ADVANTAGE: TAPE DENSITY

The XLS conserves valuable IT floor space by using Qualstar's trademark rotary carousel design while providing the reliability, performance and scalability required by today's enterprises. Qualstar's patented Compass Architecture™ uses a revolutionary short-travel robotic design to yield fast access to large amounts of data without sacrificing reliability. The modular design, combining and adding Library Resource Modules (LRMs) and Memory Expansion Modules (MEMs), allows the XLS to scale to more than five Petabytes in a very compact footprint.

QUALSTAR®

XLS

THE XLS SERIES ADVANTAGE

ENTERPRISE LIBRARY SYSTEM

The Qualstar XLS Tape Library System can increase your storage density by more than 900% over the legacy systems found in many data centers

XLS Compass Architecture Advantage

Typical of older designs, the Sun/STK 9310 ties up 144 square feet of floor space while holding up to 6,000 cartridges, not counting the additional space required for service access. That works out to 42 cartridges per square foot.

A Qualstar XLS library holds up to 6,265 tapes in only 67 square feet. The result: 94 cartridges per square foot – more than twice the density.

Companies using older library designs with legacy drives should consider upgrading to both increase capacity and reduce floor space requirements, thus significantly reducing the overall cost of storage.

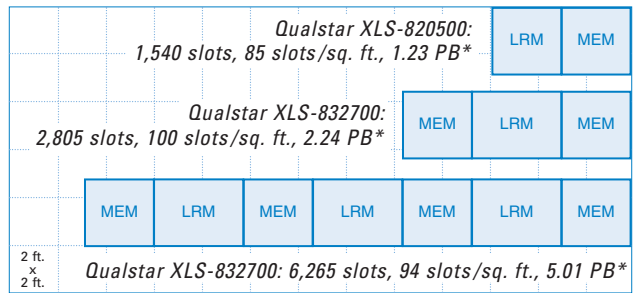
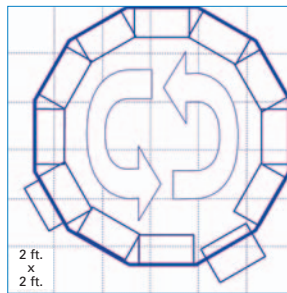
Investing in the future

Qualstar XLS libraries leverage LTO technology, the standard in enterprise-class performance, reliability and capacity. With a solid published roadmap, an investment in XLS today will allow you to grow your capacity four-fold over the next few years while substantially reducing expensive IT floor space.

Qualstar has configurations of the XLS Library available to meet any capacity requirement

For more information on maximizing the value of your tape library systems to accommodate the growth in your storage capacity requirements, contact Qualstar or one of our authorized resellers.

XLS COMPASS ARCHITECTURE ADVANTAGE



STK 9310/T9940B:
144 sq. ft., 1.2 PB

* XLS native capacity, using LTO 4 technology

XLS VERSUS LEGACY LIBRARIES

Library Model	Tape Drive Slots	Footprint W x D	Tapes per Square Foot
Qualstar XLS-820500	2,585	105" x 35"	102
Qualstar XLS-832700	6,265	275" x 35"	94
STK 9310	6,000	144" x 144"	42
STK L1400	1,344	136" x 37"	38
Scalar 1000	1,182	118" x 47"	31

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