

Digital entertainment content provider, arvato mobile, enhances its data security using a highly scalable data tape archive solution



User

arvato mobile provides digital entertainment content to its customers around the world. Headquartered in Hamburg, Germany, it is part of arvato AG, which has sales of 4.37 billion Euros (2005), 43,000 employees worldwide and a presence in 75 countries. Arvato AG is a corporate division of Bertelsmann AG.



Photo / arvato mobile GmbH

arvato mobile partners with all major music labels and with content owners in the film, TV and games industries. It offers state-of-art platforms for the integration and distribution of digital content including a mobile entertainment platform (EP2) and an online digital media downloading platform (GNAB). arvato mobile offers complete content, category and royalty management.

Project Overview

To provide a cost effective archiving solution for digital content, initially starting at 40 TB.

Solution Provider

Topmedia Storage Solutions GmbH
Wiesbaden, Germany
www.topmedia.de

Solution Key Components

- Quantum PX720 tape library with two LTO-3 tape drives
- Topstore Essential XXL FC
- Qlogic SANbox 5200
- XenData Archive Series software

Solution in Detail

The total storage system based on magnetic disk and data tape was supplied by storage specialist Topmedia Storage Solutions. It included a highly scalable PX720 tape library from Quantum, a Topstore 8 TB RAID system and XenData Archive Series software.

The company already had 110 TB of available online capacity on a SAN that included six clustered NAS units. However, this was not enough for Lukas Loesche, Director of IT Operations at arvato mobile.

“Our customers are expecting unlimited access to all available material at all times”, said Loesche. In order to be able to retrieve raw data in case of a failure of the primary storage system, arvato mobile decided on additional secure storage by implementing an archive based on XenData software and a

Data storage case study: arvato mobile

Quantum tape library. The new system archives on two redundant NAS appliances via fast 8 TB Topstore RAID and the PX720 tape library.

The PX720 has been specially configured to meet the high performance and complex security environment of data centres, offering exceptional reliability and long-term investment protection. The product is already in its fifth generation, with a strong lineage of high-end tape automation. It offers a range of redundancy and management features that minimise failure rates and downtime. "StorageCare Guardian" is a comprehensive remote diagnostic system from Quantum that provides library diagnostics to Quantum's worldwide service organisation which ensures any potential problems are resolved as quickly as possible.

"One of the biggest advantages of the Quantum tape libraries is their enormous scalability", said Carsten Hinz of Topmedia. "The modular design of the library allows the user to extend and scale their archiving solution according to their requirements. In addition, they are able to accurately calculate the cost of storage expansion."

The Quantum PX720 was installed with 214 tape slots but can be easily upgraded to 3,500. Two LTO-3 tape drives were installed, which meet the required transfer rates during archiving. The Topstore Essential S-ATA RAID System acts as a buffer between the host and the library ensuring a continuous data stream. Data is written to tape in a streaming mode without interruption.

The XenData software provides policy-based storage management, including automatically creating a duplicate tape within the Quantum library. The software presents the RAID and tape library as a standard server storage volume with a standard file system that is accessible at all times. Transparency and simplicity, as well as reliability and scalability, were important selection criteria for arvato mobile.

The storage specialist, Topmedia, and the arvato mobile IT Division required just 4 weeks from initial receipt of the contract to completion of the installation. The solution went into production with an initial capacity of 40 TB. The installation is 'rounded off' with a service agreement in place with defined response times.

"So far, we are more than happy with our archiving solution and would again decide in favour of a tape solution for archiving purposes", summarises Lukas Loesche. "The Quantum platform is not only exceptionally robust but is offering us an increase in capacity at a cost that, so far, only tape can provide."

