

Briefing: XenData X800 Archive System



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Overview

The new XenData X800 system delivers cost effective archiving of video files to LTO data tape. The solution runs on a Windows7 desktop or tower computer and provides almost infinite storage, saving files to LTO tape using the industry standard *tar* format.

The X800 includes *XenData6* software which provides the archive, restore and tape management functionality. LTO tapes written with the X800 and with XenData's leading server archive solutions are fully compatible. A wide range of workflows for video production, post-production and long-term digital video archiving are supported by using the X800 systems and XenData archive servers.

System Components

The XenData X800 comprises of the following.

- ❖ LTO-4 external tape drive with a SAS interface.



- ❖ PCI-e card to be installed in the Windows7 desktop or tower computer
- ❖ SAS cable that connects the tape drive to the PCI-e card (6ft in length)
- ❖ LTO-4 800 GB data tape
- ❖ LTO cleaning cartridge
- ❖ *XenData6* software

LTO: Ideal for Video Assets

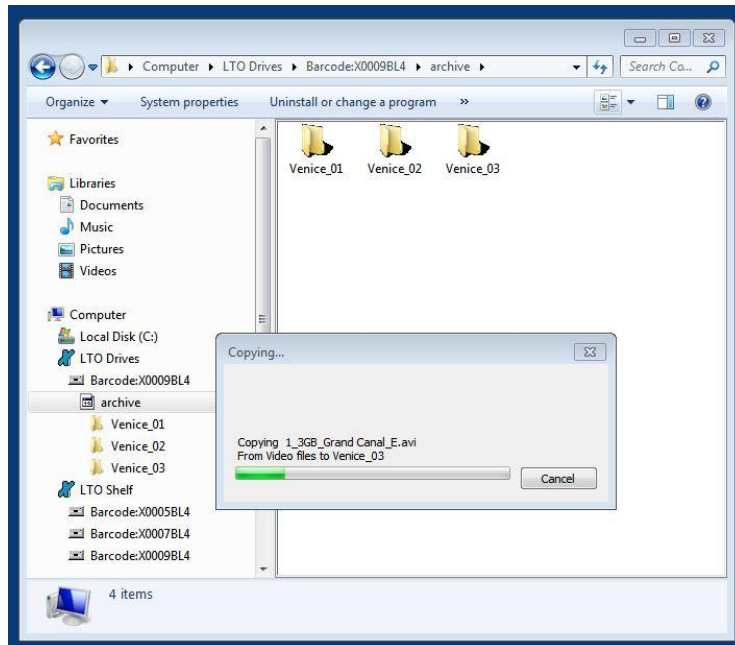
LTO-4 cartridges provide very high capacities and a long archival life.

	LTO-4
Capacity per cartridge (without compression)	800 GB
Equivalent hours at 25 Mb/s	70 hours
Equivalent hours at 50 Mb/s	35 hours
Media archival life under normal office conditions.	30 years

System Functionality

Archive and Restore via Drag and Drop

The *XenData6* software archives to and restores from LTO tape using Windows Explorer. *XenData6* extends Windows Explorer's capabilities to transfer files to and from LTO using drag and drop or copy and paste. Files may be archived to tape from any accessible logical drive letter or network share. Similarly, files may be restored to any accessible drive letter or network share.



The software gives an option to copy to LTO only files that have changed or are new. This is an easy way to create an updated copy of project folders on LTO.

Maintains Original Folder Structure

The system maintains file and folder structures, which allows the transfer of nested folder structures to and from LTO tape.

Supports All File Types

All file types are supported including non-video files.

Supports an Unlimited Number of Offline Tapes

The X800 can manage a large offline LTO tape archive as the files and folder structure stored on all tapes that have ever been inserted into the LTO tape drive may be retained. The archive system will allow browsing of all the offline tapes that are retained 'on the shelf'. A file search utility produces a list of files that meet the file search criteria and identifies the tapes that contain each match.

Tape is Self-Describing – Easy Transfer between Systems

As files are saved to LTO tape, the system keeps track of the contents by updating a tape contents catalog that is stored on the hard disk of the Windows7 computer. When the tape becomes full, the system automatically writes a copy of the tape contents catalog to the end of the tape. The catalog may be written to the tape at any time by using a finalize operation; this will write the catalog to the end of the tape and then end of tape marks are written which prevent more files being written to that tape. This means that a tape can be moved to another X800 system or to a XenData archive server and the contents will be quickly updated on this other system. When a tape catalog is present, it typically takes 3 or 4 minutes to transfer a tape to another system and recreate the tape contents catalog on the hard disk of the new system.

Writes in Open Standard tar Format

Files are written to data tape using the open standard POSIX tar format. This is important for long term archives because it means that files can be restored for decades to come using a wide range of native Linux and Unix operating systems, Microsoft Services for Unix, as well as XenData software.

Files May Span Tapes

The X800 allows files to be spanned across multiple tapes. This is particularly useful for very large video files.

Areas of Use

Video Production

The X800 allows transfer of files from solid state camera storage including P2.

Post-production

The ease of tape cartridge transfer between X800 and XenData's archive servers with attached tape libraries supports a wide variety of post-production workflows.

Digital Video Archive

The X800 supports an unlimited number of tape cartridges that are retained offline allowing management of a large video archive.

Price and Availability

The X800 system will have an MSRP of \$4,950. It was launched at NAB in April 2010 and production shipments will start in September 2010.