Tape Drive and Library Benefits

Tape drives and libraries allow users to create backups on a consistent, regular schedule using a variety of backup software packages or copy data directly to tape with LTFS. This medium allows for backups that are lower cost and longer-lasting than hard drive backups. Individual LTO tape drives are available with SAS or Fibre Channel connectivity options while tape libraries typically have the same connection type plus the capability for slower 1Gb or 10Gb Ethernet.

Tape Drive and Library Benefits

When an organization wants to use a tape library remotely or outside of their primary data center the main option is Fibre Channel. This can be a challenge when there is no in-house Fibre Channel expertise or no physical method to connect Fibre Channel without a large investment. Existing Ethernet options may be too slow to keep up with demands of multiple LTO-8 drives due to their high rate of performance.

ATTO XstreamCORE® connects SAS tape devices over Ethernet or Fibre Channel

ATTO XstreamCORE® interfaces with SAS tape drives or libraries allowing for full speed writes and reads to these devices over 40Gb Ethernet or 16Gb Fibre Channel. XstreamCORE® then connects up to 64 hosts or backup servers directly to the tape devices over a fabric up to 50km (~25 miles).

XstreamCORE® Advantages

• XstreamCORE® is a solid state 1U rackmount controller that was designed as an accelerated protocol converter to remotely connect SAS Tape devices, SATA optical devices and HDD/SSDs to Ethernet or Fibre Channel fabrics

• Up to 6.4 GB/s per controller allowing multiple connected connected LTO-8 SAS drives to take advantage of remote, high performance throughput

• XstreamCORE® features ATTO SpeedWrite™ Early Response for Tape which keeps data paths between the host in parallel with sending commands to the drive. Hosts can send the next command down to XstreamCORE®, making the system look like tape devices have double the queue depth. Multiple hosts can talk to different tape drives while all hosts benefit from SpeedWrite

• XstreamCORE® has fabric-like features presenting SAS tape drives as Fibre Channel or iSCSI LUNs with advanced LUN management features and diagnostics.