



# Reshaping long-term data retention and compliance workflows with HPE Storage MSL Tape Libraries

Built for the era of AI, cyber threats, and relentless data growth, HPE Storage MSL Tape Libraries deliver the four essentials of modern data protection: scalability, savings, security, and sustainability. Modular, high-density LTO storage enables cost-effective growth, while air-gap isolation helps safeguard critical data from ransomware and unauthorized access.

## Expand your potential with ethernet-enabled connectivity



Data growth today is not just bigger; it's more distributed, more unstructured, and harder to contain. Yet many organizations that rely on tape libraries for their data protection and compliance practices still rely on direct-attached tape connectivity. IT leaders are faced with the constant pressure to support distributed workflows with fewer resources, heterogenous architectures, and rigid data management strategies centered around traditional ways of integrating tape libraries. The result is limited flexibility, higher operational risk, and infrastructure that struggles to keep pace with modern data workflows.

**To connect your HPE Storage MSL Tape Library to a network, the most commonly preferred options are:**

1. Connecting the tape library to a backup server through a Serial-Attached SCSI (SAS) interface and sending all the data traffic through a dedicated host, via a direct-attached configuration.
2. Connecting a tape library to a Fibre Channel SAN, allowing multiple servers to access the tape device via an FC-based switched infrastructure over a dedicated storage network.

## Adjusting to new realities in storage tiering

Modern IT architectures are increasingly Ethernet-based, accelerated by the global roll-out of 5G, IoT, edge computing, and the explosive growth of AI-powered services. But while compute and networking have scaled rapidly to meet AI demand, storage infrastructure is hitting a very real constraint: HDD supply is tightening, costs are rising, and the economics of keeping massive AI datasets on disk are becoming unsustainable.

AI workflows - especially model training, fine-tuning, and long-term dataset retention - depend on enormous volumes of data. Yet much of that data is “cold” or infrequently accessed after initial use. Keeping it on expensive, power-hungry HDD tiers is increasingly inefficient, especially as capacity demand outpaces supply. Organizations are now being forced to rethink how they tier and access data, balancing performance with cost and availability.

Tape storage is uniquely positioned to solve this challenge. It offers dramatically lower cost per terabyte, far greater energy efficiency, and virtually unlimited scalability for long-term data retention. However, traditional tape architectures have struggled to integrate cleanly into modern AI pipelines. Limited cable distances, single-server

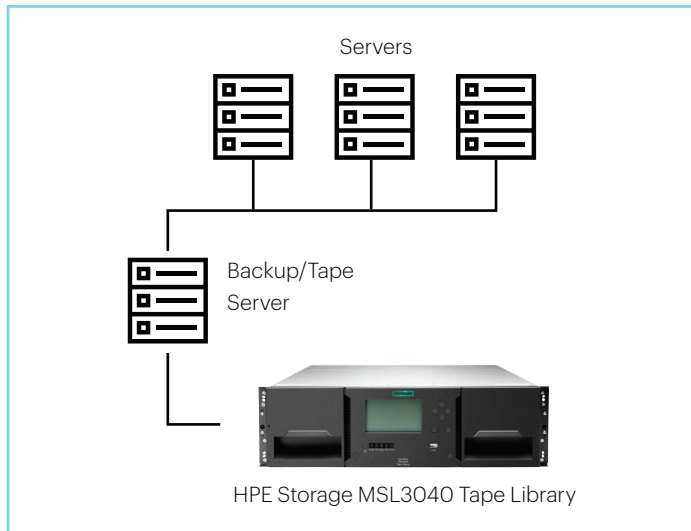
attachment models, and siloed workflows prevent tape from being used as a flexible, shared resource across distributed AI environments.

## Ethernet-enabled tape connectivity: a critical enabler of higher performance

By extending tape access over Ethernet, solutions like ATTO XstreamCORE® 8100T transform direct-attached tape into a network-accessible storage tier. An HPE Storage MSL SAS Tape Library can be connected to multiple servers across existing Ethernet infrastructure, eliminating the constraints of proximity and single-host dependency. This enables AI workflows to offload cold data from scarce and expensive HDD capacity to tape - without sacrificing accessibility or operational flexibility.

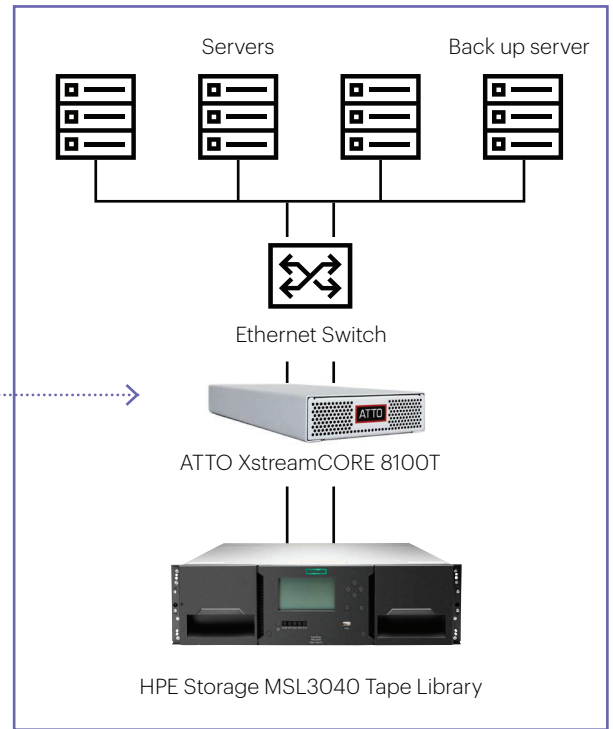
The result is a more balanced storage architecture: higher performance tiers reserved for active datasets and low latency workloads, and cost-efficient tape seamlessly integrated for archival, compliance, and dataset reuse. In a world where HDD scarcity and cost pressures are reshaping storage strategies, tape, enabled by ATTO over Ethernet, becomes not just relevant, but essential to scaling AI sustainably.

### Before



ATTO XstreamCORE 8100T connects to LTO SAS tape drives and presents them as network-attached LTO drives, allowing authorized servers to access them over distance using existing Ethernet resources.

### After



**Figure 1.** Example of how customers can migrate from SAS to Ethernet connectivity using an ATTO XstreamCORE 8100T

# Foster greater collaboration on a simplified storage network

Harnessing the full value of data-driven workflows across IT, creative, compute and compliance-heavy environments is constrained by fragmented storage architectures and cumbersome management practices. ATTO XstreamCORE 8100T transforms this landscape by allowing high-density HPE Storage MSL Tape Libraries to be accessed directly on an Ethernet-enabled infrastructure to meet the insatiable demands for faster backups and scalable long-term retention.

By simplifying tape integration, XstreamCORE provides teams with direct, reliable access to historical datasets through a flexible architecture designed to scale with future growth. The result is faster day-to-day operations, reduced infrastructure complexity, and lower total cost of ownership – without compromising on security or control.

## Key benefits of HPE Storage MSL Tape Library

- Scalable, low-cost storage for petabytes of data using LTO tape.
- Advanced features of HPE Storage Command View for Tape Libraries (CVTL) making it easy to manage your library from a single pane of glass, anywhere in the world.
- Investment protection to reuse and upgrade older tape drives.
- Ransomware protection with air-gapped offline storage.

## Key benefits of ATTO XstreamCORE 8100T

- Backup and restore at direct-attached speeds with no latency penalties.
- Enable distributed workflows over Ethernet, improving backup performance and overall efficiency.
- Provide advanced remote monitoring and management capabilities for granular control and visibility.
- Communicate securely with multiple hosts and tape drives over different OSes, ISVs.
- Simplify deployment and management with a least effort configuration approach.

## ATTO XstreamCORE 8100T adds ethernet connectivity to SAS tape drives

ATTO XstreamCORE 8100T intelligent bridge allows you to connect to SAS tape drives over standard Ethernet networks using iSCSI protocol. By adding shared benefits to SAS storage at direct attached speeds, 8100T allows remote placement of tape storage assets anywhere on the network.

When combined with HPE Storage MSL Tape Libraries, you can extend the reach of LTO tape drives over Ethernet – making it far easier to deploy Ethernet-connected tape across distributed on-prem, hybrid, open-compute, and hyperscaled environments.

Optimized for high performance with multiple hardware acceleration engines, ATTO XstreamCORE 8100T provides industry-leading performance at scale for up to 4 SAS tape drives.



## 30% less CAPEX

Remove tight dependencies on single-host server configurations by placing HPE Storage Tape Library anywhere on the network.

Figure 1. Technical specifications

Features	ATTO XstreamCORE 8100T high performance intelligent bridge
Input connectors	Two 10 Gb Ethernet
Output connectors	One 12 Gb (x4) SAS
Protocols supported	iSCSI
SAS devices supported	4 (using 4x1 SAS fanout cables) SAS LTO tape drivers
Max. performance	2000 MB/s
Form factor	1U rackmount
Warranty	3-year standard warranty; optional advanced replacement and five-year warranty available

Supported HPE Storage MSL SAS Tape Drives		
LTO-7	LTO-8	LTO-9

Certified HPE Storage Tape Libraries			
HPE Storage MSL 1/8 Autoloader	HPE Storage MSL2024	HPE Storage MSL3040	HPE Storage MSL6480

## Go from Box-to-Backup in under 30 minutes!

### Product information

- ATTO XstreamCORE 8100T
- XCET-8100-TSO [SFP+]
- XCET-8100-TNO [RJ45]
- 1m Cable CBL-8079-EX1
- 3m Cable CBL-8078-EX1

### Resources

[HPE Interoperability information: Single Point of Connectivity Knowledge \(SPOCK\) for HPE Storage](#)

[Products—ATTO Technology, Inc.](#)

[How to Buy—ATTO Technology, Inc.](#)

## Learn more at

[hpe.com/storage/tape](https://hpe.com/storage/tape)

Visit [HPE.com](https://hpe.com)

### [Chat now](#)

© Copyright 2025 Hewlett Packard Enterprise Development LP. The information contained herein is subject to change without notice. The only warranties Hewlett Packard Enterprise products and services are set forth in the express warranty statements accompanying such products and services. Nothing herein should be construed as constituting an additional warranty. Hewlett Packard Enterprise shall not be liable for technical or editorial errors or omissions contained herein.

a00160844enw

HEWLETT PACKARD ENTERPRISE

[hpe.com](https://hpe.com)

