Case Study

TV Network Rids Storage Woes with Exos CORVAULT

Finding more capacity, speed, and protection in a smaller footprint.

When Taiwanese cable provider Videoland TV Network realized they were spending more time and resources on outdated data storage mediums than they could afford, they sought out a more efficient solution—Seagate Exos® CORVAULT™. Between its capacity, speed, and advanced data protection features (all wrapped up in a small footprint), it's become a key player in their current and long-term storage strategy.

- **Massive capacity of up to 1PB in a 5U chassis.**

- **Self-healing drive technology.**

- **Small footprint that makes scaling easier.**

- **Seamless integration for quick tape migration.**

Entertaining the Masses

Videoland TV Network brings a wealth of quality entertainment to its viewership through seven high-definition cable channels that span shows, movies, sports, and more.

Their Goal

Tackling Three Decades of Data

First airing in 1992, Videoland TV Network has since accumulated a massive amount of content over the last 30 years, and it just keeps growing. The need to store—and back up—all this content makes high-capacity storage an absolute must.
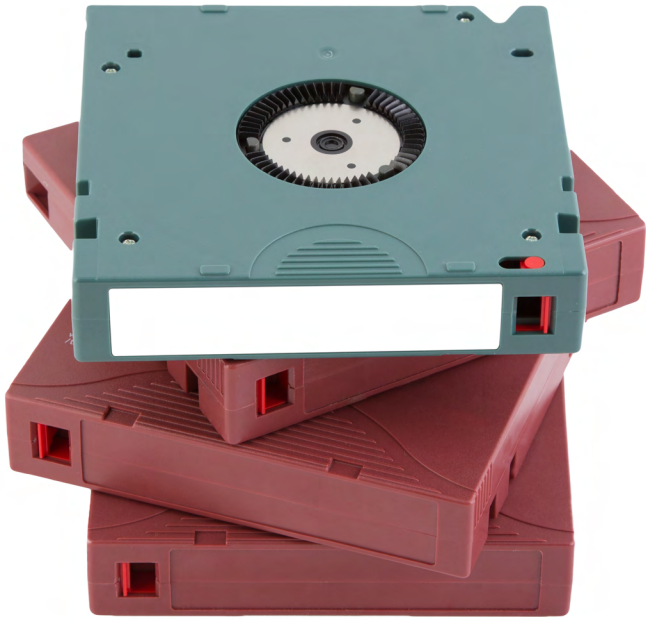
Wanted: Bigger Storage. Smaller Footprint.

Videoland stores copies of every program they air, including unprocessed master tapes. Until recently, they'd been using tape-based storage to do this. But when their data simply became too voluminous, they had to start looking for an alternative solution—one that could offer way more capacity while, hopefully, taking up way less space.

EXOS™
CORVAULT™

CORVAULT Wins the Lead

As part of Videoland's standard procedures, if a movie has passed its licensing period, the movie will still be stored in its digital library. Then, in the future, if the program department plans to re-broadcast the film and obtain authorization again, the data from the digital film library can be accessed for playback, saving the work and time of reproducing.

Because of this strategy, each program file is divided into three parts and stored in three independent storage environments—the primary controller, the secondary controller, and the media data center responsible for the digital film library. This trio can support one another when content needs to be accessed. In addition to these, however, is a fourth backup—just to ensure complete data protection and security. With this strategy in place, you can imagine how quickly data piles up.

While Videoland established its digital film library in 2008, their primary storage medium has long been physical tapes. For anyone in the media and entertainment industry working with huge amounts of data, the thought of digitizing all of it can sound like a heavy lift. And it very well can be, depending on the solution you're moving to. For example, when the company transferred data from LTO 4 to LTO 6, it took them almost two years.

Aside from long and arduous data transfers, Videoland began experiencing other tape-related issues, such as equipment problems that impacted their archiving operations and the sheer fact that Taiwan's high temperature and humidity make tape preservation difficult.

After researching alternative storage options, Videoland ultimately chose Exos CORVAULT by Seagate, a self-healing, high-density system with loads of capacity, speed, and reliability. Designed with Auto Drive Regeneration (ADR) and Autonomic Distributed Allocation Protection Technology (ADAPT), CORVAULT delivers data protection mechanisms that are both practical and important to Videoland's storage and archive strategy.

Videoland first implemented Exos CORVAULT in their main control department, responsible for broadcast operations. Although the main control only stores the officially broadcasted content, the programs broadcasted since the inception of the station have been continuously accumulated and never deleted. The overall data volume has reached 1.7 PB, divided into the first-level storage for official broadcast and as a resource pool. Exos CORVAULT mainly supports separate secondary storage.

Videoland's secondary storage was originally planned to have only 40TB of cache space, relying on a large tape cabinet for continuous archiving. With the introduction of Exos CORVAULT, however, the team can now export and store tons of media using one high-capacity system, allowing them to save on load time without impacting the main control department's daily migration operations.

Another benefit is saved space. In the past, Videoland needed about a dozen cabinets to build a 1PB storage environment. Conversely, Exos CORVAULT provides 1PB of storage capacity in a single 5U chassis. This compactness allows for direct placement in one of Videoland's general offices—a big deal for a company working in a small space.

With all their content completely digitalized now, Videoland has been able to simplify their four-backup approach, using just two hard drives with similar specifications to back each other up. And as for storage management, they plan to leverage CORVAULT for automated migration and archiving operations, indexing, and more.

Looking ahead, Videoland is considering Exos CORVAULT and other highly scalable Seagate systems for its digital film library to meet their complex storage needs.

Easing the Transition from Tape to Drives

Videoland originally used three tape cabinets for storage, each able to hold a thousand tapes. But, due to their need for backup storage, the actual available capacity was only five hundred. After switching to Exos CORVAULT, they not only gained enormous capacity in a small footprint, but additional issues, such as damp or damaged tapes and offline storage problems, are no more.
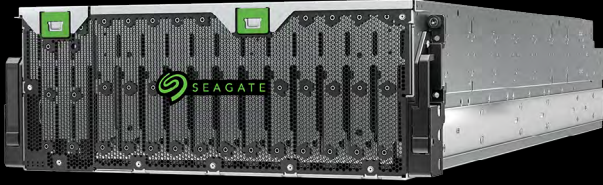

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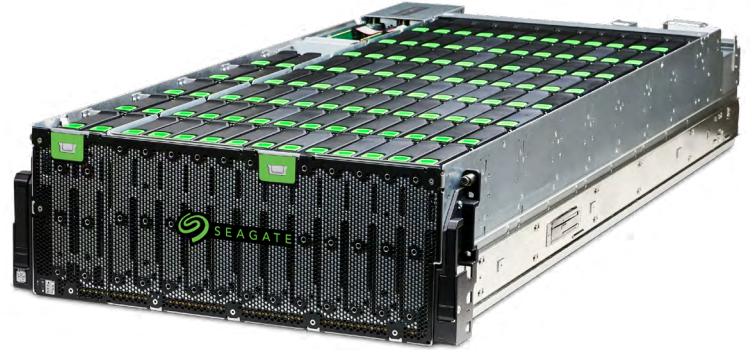
"Exos CORVAULT's speed and capacity have made storing and archiving our data more feasible."

VIDEOLAND TV NETWORK

Products Used

EXOS CORVAULT

High-performance, self-healing block storage system delivering multi-petabyte capacity, five-nines availability, and hyperscale efficiency.
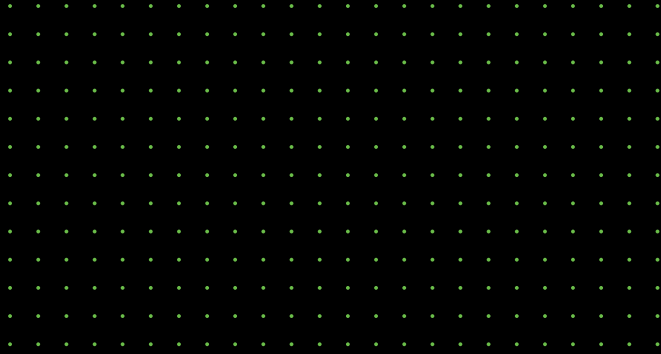
Ready to Learn More?

Our storage specialists are here to help you find the right solution for your data challenges. **Talk to an expert**.

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