

Mainframe Data Library

Product Overview

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The Virtual Tape Library for Mainframes

With the Mainframe Data Library (MDL), your mainframe tape headaches, risks and costs can be greatly reduced without any changes to your mainframe tape applications or processes.

The Mainframe Data Library (MDL) is a family of high-performance mainframe virtual tape controllers that use open system disk storage to store and retrieve tape data. All versions share the same architecture and can be used in any combination. The result is a modular, scalable solution that incorporates the advantages of open system storage and networking technologies into the mainframe data center.

The MDL enables enterprise data centers to lower tape processing costs; improve end-user service levels; optimize disaster recovery benchmarks; and include compliant storage in their mainframe tape environment. Significant performance improvements can be realized with the MDL. It accelerates your batch, data facility hierarchical storage management (DFHSM), backup, and restore processes to help meet shrinking data processing windows and growing service level requirements.

The key to efficient disaster recovery

With the MDL, complete disaster recovery can be measured in hours rather than days. In the event of a disaster, the MDL's tape volumes are transmitted via IP to guarantee that your data gets to a secondary or disaster recovery in a timely and secure manner. You will no longer have to worry that your firm's critical data was lost or misplaced and put your company in a compromising position.

The powerful, scalable Virtuent Engine

The robust Virtuent software engine is common to all MDL models. The engine emulates mainframe tape drives, supports compression, encryption with RSA Key Management, and uses tape-on-disk technology to record tape images onto open system storage. It offers seamless integration with your existing Tape Management System and has been certified with virtually every major disk storage vendor's equipment. Powered by Virtuent, the MDL can scale to multi-petabyte levels and provides a highly available solution with no single point of failure. The MDL concurrently supports multiple disk storage classes (Deduplication, WORM, NFS or SAN) to offer a complete tape replacement solution.

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Cut the Tape

The MDL replaces or complements your existing tape infrastructure with:

- Improved RPO and RTO capabilities
- Improved data security with encryption and RSA Key Management
- More responsive Disaster Recovery and Business Continuation
- Improved availability, manageability, and security
- The ability to satisfy SEC regulations with compliant storage options
- The ability to share mainframe data with open system platforms/applications
- A reduced environmental impact
- Call home capability to proactively notify the user of any problems

Cut the Cost

The MDL can significantly reduce your tape processing costs by:

- Eliminating tape technology migrations
- Providing a much smaller footprint with identical functionality
- Lowering acquisition and ongoing costs
- Eliminating manual tape handling
- Eliminating the need to send tapes offsite
- Reducing environmental costs (power, AC, etc.)

Cut the Time

The MDL provides numerous tape processing efficiencies by:

- Delivering a consistent sub-second response to all mount requests
- Provide RTO capabilities measured in hours versus days
- Improving batch processing performance by up to 50%
- Improving access to fixed content data with consistent sub-second response times
- Simplifying Disaster Recovery testing

Environments Supported

- FICON or ESCON
- IBM z/OS, MVS, VSE, VM, TPF and Unisys OS 2200
- Open system disk – IP (Deduplication, NAS or Compliant) and Fibre Channel (SAN)

Mainframe Data Library Models – All models are powered by Virtuent:

- MDL-6000 – With up to 12 FICON channels
- MDL-4000 – With up to 8 FICON or 12 ESCON channels
- MDL-2000 – With 2 FICON or 3 ESCON channels
- MDL-1000 – With 1 FICON or 1 ESCON channel
- MDL-100V – For connecting to Distributed Systems VTL products
- MDL-100S – a complete VTL with built-in storage for smaller mainframe environments