

**The
Secure Data
Solution**[®]

Tape Staging

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U.S. Patent number 7,293,179; European Patent 1669872; and others pending protect the Secure Data Solution.

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The Secure Data Solution[®] for Tape Staging

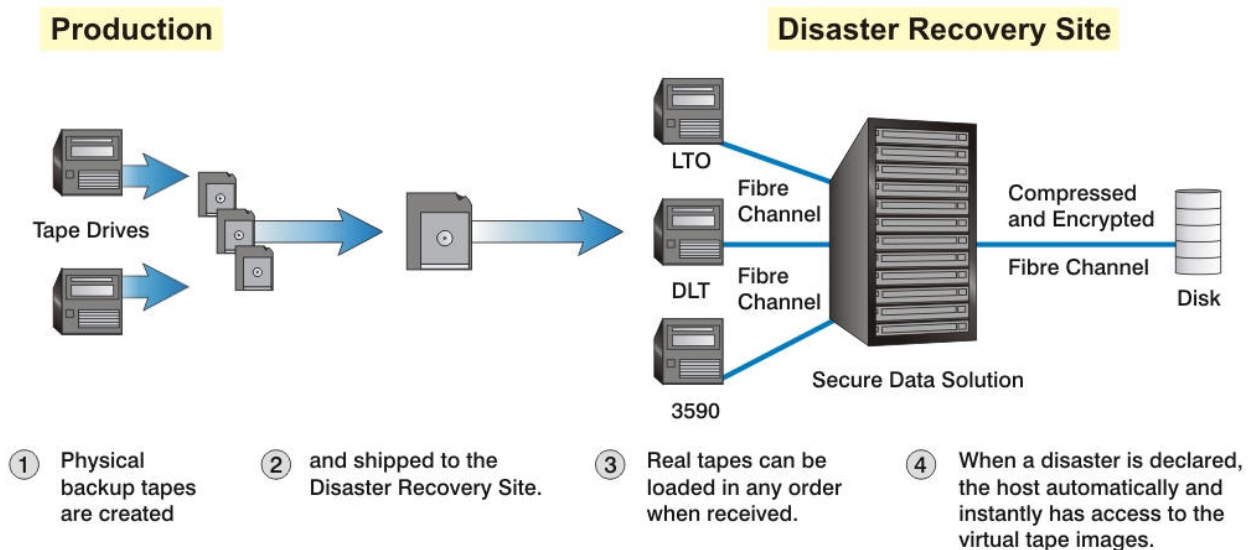
More often than not, a company contracting with a DR firm for disaster recovery services will begin its DR plan by shipping multiple boxes—or even pallets—of various types of physical tapes to the DR company. Once these tapes arrive at the DR center, a tedious manual process of sorting the cartridges, loading them in racks, and insuring they are in numerical order begins.

When the data restoration process itself starts, the tapes are then manually loaded into the appropriate tape drives when called for by the recovery software. This process is time consuming, often error prone, and always labor intensive. Consequently, it tends to be inefficient and slow.

The Secure Data Solution[™] tape-staging application provides a DR manager the ability to automate a substantial portion of this process and save time, effort, and money. It also dramatically reduces errors and provides the DR company with the best opportunity to present a polished recovery procedure to the customer the moment he arrives to begin his recovery work.

The Process

The Secure Data Solution tape-staging application consists of tape control modules, tape emulation modules, and redundant library control modules. These three components form an integrated tape restoration solution. The product assures that any physical tape sent to a DR site, can be immediately loaded into tape drives or libraries and restored to the tape emulation module in ANY order.



Secure Data Solution for Tape Staging

Instead of having to be painstakingly lined up by volume serial number or tape name and then restored in a specific, zero-error-tolerance fashion, they are restored to the tape-staging application in any order they are received. Cartridges can be loaded into stand-alone tape drives one at a time in any order, loaded into auto-loaders and restored in groups, or loaded into automatic tape libraries for automated loading.

In addition to being read in any order, the tapes are also read at the absolute highest-rated spin speed each particular tape allows. This is because there is no need to stop for end-of-volume marks. Once they are read into the tape emulation module, they are converted into virtual tapes. As the tape emulation module reads the tapes, the library control module creates an on-the-fly catalog. From then on, restoring the tape to each particular system is completely automated. Actual virtual tape mount times are reduced to a mere 3 seconds.

Flexibility

The tape control modules can read tapes from any FICON- or FC/SCSI-attached tape drive, including 3590, 3592, LTO2, LTO3, LTO4, or DLT. The tape emulation module can emulate any mainframe or midrange tape format for presentation of the virtual tapes to the host systems.

Once the virtual tape images are created on the tape emulation module, they can be stored on either local disk drives or external FC-attached RAID arrays.

Security

An optional feature provides an additional security layer. All data stored on disk can be compressed and encrypted using AES 128-bit encryption. Since processed data can also be written back out to physical tape, this data can also be encrypted and compressed. The end result is compressed encrypted data on the customer's original physical media for easy transportation back to their primary data center.

The Secure Data Solution tape-staging application is protected by both issued and pending EU and US patents.

For further information or to arrange an on-site demonstration:

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