SOLUTION BRIEF

Using a XenData Digital Video Archive

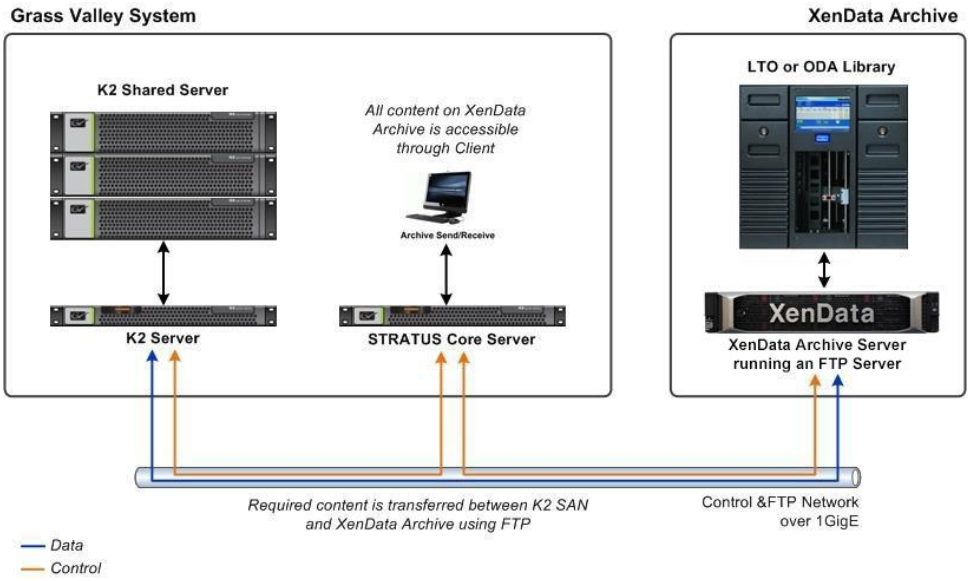
with Grass Valley STRATUS

The Grass Valley (GV) STRATUS media workflow application framework is a complete and versatile application environment for nonlinear media production.

XenData provides digital video archive systems that deliver high performance and are based on IT standards. XenData archive servers manage an LTO robotic library, creating a digital video archive which interfaces with Grass Valley via the generic FTP Managed Device Interface (MDI).

Interacting with K2 media servers and a XenData archive, GV STRATUS provides a unified, expandable foundation for new applications and workflows. This document gives information about how a XenData archive works in a Grass Valley environment.

XenData – GV STRATUS Configuration



Elements

- Grass Valley System:
  - **STRATUS Core Server**: An Archive and Restore License must be available on the MediaFrame server. STRATUS Core Server manages transfers between the K2 SAN and the XenData Archive.
  - **STRATUS Clients**: must have Archive and Restore capability. All content of the MDI or the Paths (FTP) specified is accessible through the Browse application.
  - **K2 Server.**

- XenData Archive:
  - **XenData Archive Server** with an FTP server enabled.
  - **LTO library.**

Workflow

The integration implements a simple FTP transfer workflow process between K2 SAN and the XenData Archive. GV MediaFrame communicates with the FTP server running on the XenData Archive Server to establish the FTP connection.

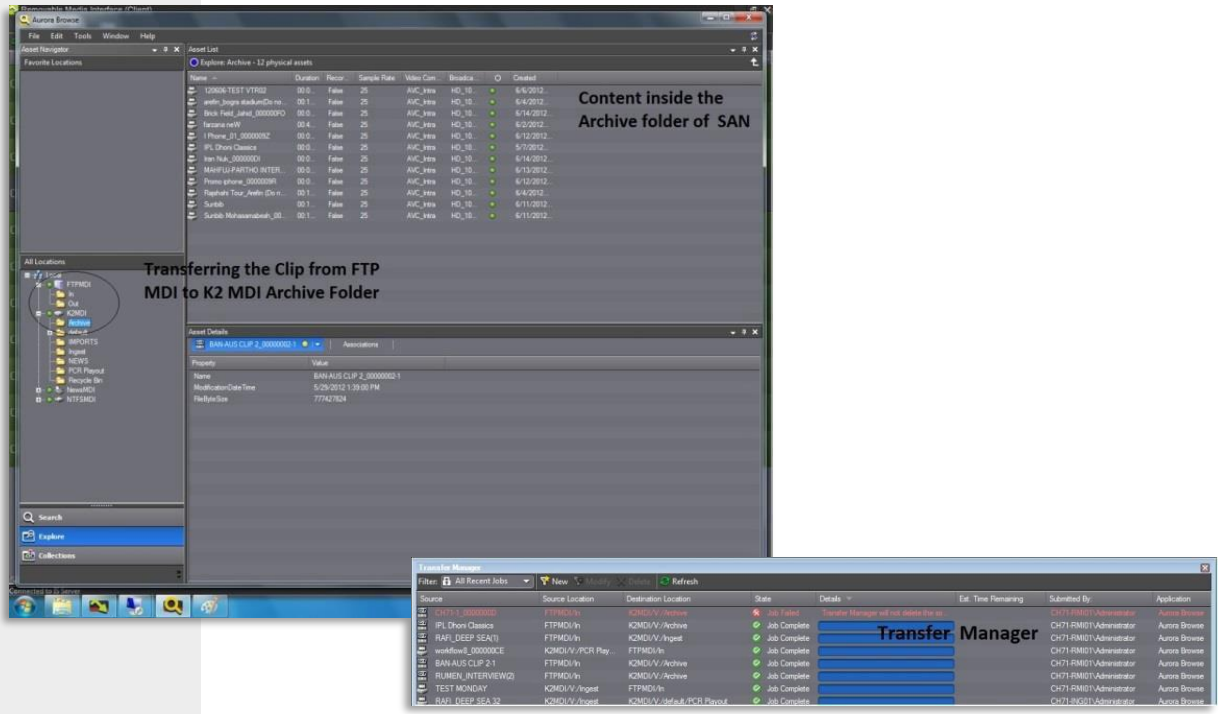
Archiving is initiated from the GV Archive GUI. Content to be archived is sent from the K2 SAN to the XenData Archive as an FTP transfer. Once the content is transferred and

archived, from the XenData disk cache to LTO, it will be flushed from disk cache as defined by XenData policies. The metadata is shared back with GV, which will have all metadata/clip information intact for the Archive content.

Configuration

An FTP path to the IP of the XenData Server is defined through a generic FTP MDI. Any Browse Client with Archive and Restore capabilities can archive and restore content from the XenData Archive.

When a Restore is initiated, XenData will retrieve the content and an authentication from the XenData FTP server will be received. The clip will be seen transferring in the Transfer Queue.



Benefits from XenData's Commitment to Standards

Standard File-Folder Interface

The XenData archive accepts all file types and presents them in a single network share. Files are stored in a standard file-folder structure which can be accessed, not only by GV STRATUS, but via any Windows or Mac client with designated permissions. **Benefits**:

- The archive can be used by multiple applications
- You can start with a general purpose archive and then add a MAM at a later time

LTFS Tape Format

The XenData archive may be configured to use the LTFS interchange standard when writing to LTO. **Benefits**:

- LTO cartridges are interchangeable with other applications that also support LTFS
- Avoids being 'held-hostage' to one supplier and the huge expense associated with moving away from an archive that uses proprietary formats

Industry Standard File Security

The XenData file server integrates fully with the Microsoft Windows security model based on Active Directory. **Benefits**:

- Standard and familiar configuration of file permissions

XenData Functionality

XenData archive servers provide the following functionality.

Standard File Interface

The digital archive accepts all file types and presents them in a single file-folder system. Files are written to and retrieved from the archive as though from a standard disk-based network share.

Multi-Purpose

The digital archive can be used with a GV system and simultaneously with other applications. For example, a pool of LTO cartridges can be mapped to one network share that is used by GV and another pool of cartridges can be mapped to another share which is used for Final Cut Pro archives or P2 files.

Standard Network Protocols

The solution is optimized for CIFS/SMB and FTP file transfers. (FTP is used for the interface to GV.)

Cartridge Replication

The XenData server automatically generates replica LTO cartridges that may be exported from the library for off-site retention. Furthermore, the cartridges may be rapidly imported into a replica DR system.

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Supports Cartridge Spanning

The Administrator defined policies can be set to allow or prevent files being spanned across multiple cartridges. This option is particularly useful when very large files are being archived.

Multiple Cartridge Pool Support

The software allows groups of files to be allocated to specified pools of cartridges. The Administrator defined policies can be used to group related files together on the same set of cartridges.

Dynamic Expansion of Cartridge Sets

The system will dynamically expand cartridge sets to meet capacity demands, minimizing system administration.

Optimized Restores

The system restores a queue of files in the shortest possible time. The restore requests are processed in an order that minimizes unnecessary LTO tape movement.

Repack of Cartridges

This copies only current files, excluding deleted files and old versions of files, to new cartridges. This operation recovers space created by deleted and overwritten files.

Metadata Backup and Restore

A file system metadata backup and restore utility provides rapid system restore in case of rebuild after RAID failure.

Alert Module

A software module is included which provides e-mail and on-screen alerts. These are tailored to the needs of archive system operators, system administrators and IT support personnel.

Comprehensive Reports

A range of reports can be run to assist in managing the archive. These include cartridge contents reports, file search reports, recoverable space reports. Any report may be exported to Excel.

System Upgrade

Upgrading to a later generation of LTO is a very cost effective way to increase the size of an existing archive. XenData archive software makes for easy system upgrades, going from an older to a later generation of cartridges.