



LTO NewsBytes



Can tape look like and act like disk?

The answer in a word is yes! With each new generation of LTO Ultrium, new features are introduced that dramatically advance tape capabilities. Beginning with generation 3, WORM tape was introduced helping to address data retention and compliance needs. Tape drive encryption was added starting with generation 4 to help provide additional security to protect sensitive data.

Now, LTO Ultrium generation 5 soars to new heights with a new file system called Linear Tape File System (LTFS). LTFS allows tape to be used in a fashion like disk or other removable media! LTFS has been generating a lot of excitement and opening doors to new uses never thought possible before.

LTFS can help make tape as easy to use as other storage media. LTFS software allows the formatting and mounting of LTFS tapes, and access of the files directly on tape, including drag and drop of files. Applications, such as file browsers, image viewers and media players can directly browse and access files on tape.

In its simplest form, LTFS uses the dual partitioning capability of LTO-5 tape. The first small partition holds an index and metadata of the content, while the other large partition stores the actual content. LTFS can be used for long term archive. There are no dependencies on application software or system hardware - years from now, simply mount an LTFS formatted tape in the drive and LTFS can show you what's there. This is possible because the on-tape format of the LTFS volume is completely described in an open format [specification document](#).

Not only does LTFS provide a simple and convenient way to protect your data, but it also opens the door to a new range of uses in a variety of industries. It offers the ability for short and long term archive for movies, video surveillance, medical and legal records, architectural drawings, cloud applications, and many more. It can also allow the sharing of tape file content across platforms, such as video content captured on a PC running a Linux OS, and then shared with an editor on an Apple machine running Mac OS X.

For more information, visit the [LTO Program website](#), read more about [LTFS](#) and the [LTFS specifications](#), see a [video demonstration](#) of LTFS in action, [review the LTFS FAQs](#).

Tape Gets Even Easier to Use with LTFS

- With LTFS one partition can hold the content and the other can hold the content's index: the tape can be self-describing
- Can enable capabilities that can manage files directly on tape and can allow for easy sharing of the tape cartridge with others
- Can provide file system access at the operating system level
- Can allow viewing and access of tape files in a fashion like disk or other removable media with directory tree structure, drag and drop!
- Can help address the growing needs of marketplace segments with rich media such as Media and Entertainment, Medical, Digital Surveillance and more!

"I am shocked! This is exactly what we need!"

Reaction from a client at the April 2010 National Association of Broadcasters conference in Las Vegas after seeing the LTFS in action.

[Click here to learn more about LTO-5 technology.](#)

LTO Technology on the Road

LTO Technology on the Road
SNW China - Beijing
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**Use LTO-5 Technology with
Tape Drive Encryption,
Your Smart Bet for Data Protection!**

For more details, check out white papers, articles and other useful information at www.ultrium.com