

# Diligent Technologies Virtual Tape Facility Technology and Nexsan Storage Offers Faster Data Recovery at Low Cost

## S2 Solution overview

Improving the economics of disk-based data protection solutions, Diligent Technologies and Nexsan Technologies have joined forces to offer an enterprise-class solution helping customers achieve high availability, rapid recoverability and a higher degree of data protection at a very attractive cost point. Diligent's VTF Open with Nexsan ATA disk enables customers to implement disk instead of tape in their backup and recovery operations without changing existing policies, practices or procedures of the existing backup application.

The combination of Diligent's VTF Open software and Nexsan ATA disk array create a virtual tape solution that appears to the backup application as one or many real tape libraries. The backup application accesses drives, robotics, and cartridges within the VTF Open solution just as it would a physical tape library. Ultimately, through its intelligent use of the disk in the backup process, this solution eliminates much of the burden, complexity, and difficulty of using tape for backups and restores. Because the data actually resides on Nexsan disk, the user experiences dramatic improvements to the backup and recovery operation. Additionally, VTF Open provides 2:1 compression, reducing the storage needs by half, and dramatically improving the total cost of the overall solution. This powerful and cost-effective joint solution provides customers with shorter backup windows, and more importantly, reliable and faster recovery of their data for their data protection needs.

## Backup and Recovery

Organizations of all sizes are striving to improve their backup and recovery operations. Rapidly growing data volumes, shrinking backup windows and increasing demands for data availability are driving the demand for enhanced solutions. Utilizing disk technology in the backup and recovery operation is an increasingly attractive method of improving reliability, reducing backup windows and ensuring rapid recoveries. Customers need a solution that allows them to capture the performance and reliability benefits of disk without the high cost of hardware and without disrupting their existing backup policies, practices and procedures.

Traditional backup and recovery solutions are failing because tape technology has not progressed with the data storage needs of businesses. Tape libraries are prone to mechanical and human errors, resulting in backup failures and significant restore delays. The role of tape is evolving from being the primary backup medium to now serving as the main archiving function with disk being used to play an active role in the backup and recovery process. Virtual tape, an alternative to disk-to-disk backup, provides users with an alternative to augment or replace existing tape-based solutions thereby improving reliability, performance and availability of enterprise-class data.

## How VTF Open Works with Nexsan Disk

Diligent's VTF Open virtual tape software solution emulates one or many tape libraries, enabling backup applications to use disk rather than tape as their backup medium. VTF Open runs on a dedicated Linux server that connects directly to Nexsan's ATA disk. The combination of the VTF Open software, server and disk array create a virtual tape solution that appears to the backup application as one or many real tape libraries. The backup application accesses drives, robotics and cartridges within the VTF Open solution just as it would a physical tape library. Because the data actually resides on the Nexsan ATA disk, the user experiences dramatic improvements to the backup and recovery operation as well as a dramatic improvement to the overall total cost of the solution.

## Benefits

- Data centers experience faster and more reliable backup and restore operations capabilities
- Completely compatible with all leading backup applications with no impact to backup practices, policies and procedures while maintaining catalog consistency
- Designed for quick and easy implementation through the GUI interface
- Reduces mechanical and human errors associated with tape
- Provides for an extremely cost-effective TCO for a virtual tape solution