Overview and Frequently Asked Questions
StorageTek SL3000

Overview

Oracle can help you stay ahead of the curve with a flexible solution that's easy to manage while it reduces environmental impact. Oracle's StorageTek SL3000 modular library system offers an innovative, eco-efficient approach to midrange storage, giving you more choice and control in an environment that's changing at a head-spinning pace.

Grow Effortlessly

The StorageTek SL3000 modular library system enables you to scale from 200 to just under 6,000 cartridge slots and from 1 to 56 tape drives in a footprint that grows linearly in a rack environment. Utilizing Oracle's new T10000C tape drive technology, the SL3000 can store up to 28PB. The RealTime Growth capability enables you to pre- install physical capacity and tap into it incrementally, with Capacity on Demand.

Consolidate and Reduce Costs

To help your storage dollars go further, the StorageTek SL3000 modular library system simplifies consolidation to help you save space, power, and money. Unmatched support for mixed and multiple operating environments enables you to consolidate within mainframe or open systems environments or both. Features such as Any Cartridge Any Slot technology, true mixed-media support, no-restriction sharing, and native physical partitioning help you effectively operate and manage your storage environment.

Minimize Risk

The StorageTek SL3000 modular library system keeps risk at bay, with innovative technologies that have been proven in the most-demanding enterprise environments. Nondisruptive, on-the-fly replacement of robotics, library electronics, power supplies, and drives helps sustain 24/7 operation. In addition, many components of the SL3000 are the same as those of the StorageTek SL8500 modular library system, the enterprise standard for reliability, availability, and serviceability.

Customer Benefits

The SL3000 delivers exceptional value in these ways:

Scalability

- Scale non-disruptively at your pace and pay only for what you need with RealTime Growth and Capacity on Demand

- Design storage the way you really want it - Any Cartridge Any Slot capability allows you to mix any combination of supported media in any physical cartridge slot

- Connect the SL3000 in mainframe or open systems environments or both

Lower TCO

- Simplify consolidation with true mixed media support and flexible physical and logical partitioning

- Reduce footprint and power consumption while improving performance up to 50 percent with Centerline Architecture, which places the drive bays in the middle of the library

- Support multiple backup applications, non-disruptively, to increase staff efficiency and maintain service levels in mainframe and open systems environments

Risk Mitigation

- Keep data available on a near 24x7 basis with high reliability enabled by redundant replace-on-the-fly components: robotics, library electronics, power supplies, drives, and fans

- Manage storage locally or remotely through user-friendly software with library reports to quickly and easily identify drive and tape errors

- Protect data using encryption (via Oracle Key Manager) and Write-Once, Read-Many (WORM) capability via StorageTek VolSafe secure media technology

Frequently Asked Questions

For additional resources on Oracle's StorageTek SL3000 modular tape library please search *SL3000* at Oracle.com.

How does the SL3000 modular library scale?

The SL3000 scales from 200 to 5,925 cartridge slots and from 1 to 56 tape drives. The SL3000 has capacity for up to 24 drives within the base module. To scale beyond 24 drives, simply add on a drive expansion module for up to 32 drives and additional cartridge slots. The SL3000 also offers high density cartridge expansion modules to minimize floor space while adding capacity.

Can I pre-install physical capacity?

Yes. Through RealTime Growth technology, the SL3000 offers the ability to pre-install physical capacity and to grow into that capacity later through capacity-on-demand. The SL3000 offers the ability to grow in multiple slot increments to meet your capacity needs.

What drive technology does the SL3000 support?

The SL3000's unique Any Cartridge Any Slot technology provides for seamless mixed media support. Place any of these supported tape drives into any drive bay:

- StorageTek T10000A, T10000B, or T10000C

- StorageTek T9840C or T9840D

- HP or IBM LTO 3, LTO 4 or LTO 5

Can I move drives and media from my current tape library?

Oracle leads the industry in investment protection. The SL3000 offers drive conversion trays to support movement of your existing drives into the SL3000. Check with your local sales rep for availability of your specific drive and library combination. A limited number of drive conversion trays also exist for moving LTO drives from competitive libraries.

What type of monitoring software is available?

The library ships standard with StorageTek Library Console management software. For advanced monitoring of your entire tape environment, Oracle's StorageTek Tape Analytics provides proactive monitoring of the health of your tape libraries, drives, and media so you don't have to, giving you a global view of the health of your tape hardware through a single pane of glass.

How many partitions does the SL3000 support?

The SL3000 supports up to 8 native physical partitions. Partitions can be assigned to open systems or mainframe environments.

Can I mix media within the same partition?

Yes, mix any supported media type within the same partition. The SL3000's unique Any Cartridge Any Slot technology provides for seamless mixed media support.

What types of redundant components are offered with the SL3000?

The StorageTek SL3000 modular library system minimizes data down time with high reliability, availability, and serviceability features. Redundant components include: robotics, library electronics, power, TCP/IP connectivity, Fibre Channel connectivity, CAPs and fans.

What are the advantages of using dual robotics within my library?

There are two advantages to utilizing dual robotics within your library: improved performance and higher availability. The SL3000's unique Centerline Architecture cuts robot travel time by one-third to one-half, and alleviates dual robot contention to improve cartridge-to-drive performance by up to 50%. Only Oracle offers the ability to non-disruptively replace a downed robot improving library availability and minimizing planned and unplanned outages.

What are the advantages of using redundant library control cards within my library?

The main advantage of utilizing redundant library control cards is to improve the overall availability of the library. The library control system is no longer a single point of failure within the library. The library control cards are in an active / standby configuration where the library will automatically failover to the standby card if it detects an error in the active card. The failover is transparent to your backup or archive applications as ACSLS and/or HSC/ELS simply queue the commands during the failover process. Servicing the downed control card is non-disruptive to the library.

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