Scalar Series

redIT Uses Scalar Tape Library for Private, Customizable Clouds

Data center operator redIT crafts custom cloud services to address specific client needs. When disk backup alone proved to be inadequate, redIT installed a Quantum Scalar i500 intelligent tape library so it could better support clients' backup, security, privacy, archiving, and compliance requirements.

LOOKING FOR FLEXIBILITY BEYOND DISK-ONLY SOLUTIONS

redIT supports the global IT community with private, customizable cloud services and data centers in the southwestern U.S. and Latin America. The company provides clients such as Oracle, McDonald's, Bloomberg, and Carl Zeiss, among others, with customized IT strategies for private cloud, security, connectivity, disaster recovery and colocation. It maintains hundreds of thousands of square feet of data center floor space and has over 400 employees to serve its diverse client base.

"Companies of all sizes are considering cloud computing, given the flexibility, scalability, and cost-effectiveness these offerings can provide," says Matt Stamper, redIT's Vice President of Managed & Professional Services and a Certified Information Systems Auditor (CISA). "redIT takes it a step further to ensure security and control through private, customizable clouds, addressing the risks associated with large public clouds."

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>
> **Matt Stamper**
> Vice President of Managed & Professional Services

To meet its customers' needs and allay concerns associated with cloud computing, redIT employs a highly individualized process to design its

customized services and systems. The company depends exclusively on best-of-breed hardware and software providers to mitigate issues with security and control. But fulfilling the needs of its customers expands beyond providing infrastructure. redIT practices stringent, audited security processes and can provide security certifications for regulatory compliance.

"No two companies are alike so no two clouds are either," says Stamper. "One-size-fits-all solutions do not work for most businesses."

SELECTING A MARKET LEADER

From a data control standpoint, redIT customers demand that any data stored by a service provider meets industry-specific security policies, as well as regulations for data retention and privacy. Clients need to know that they can readily obtain copies of all their data.

To implement tape storage, redIT wanted to partner with a proven, recognized vendor that would not only meet its needs but also instill confidence with its clients. redIT looked to Quantum for flexibility beyond disk-only solutions.

"It is difficult to know what specific products are in use with some cloud providers," says Stamper. "By contrast, we are transparent and our clients know exactly what our technology is. Using proven brand names is important to maintain our reputation as a best-of-breed provider. Quantum is a well-recognized IT company, so there was not a lot of risk for us."

redIT. intelligent outcomes

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SOLUTION OVERVIEW

- Quantum Scalar i500 tape library with LTO-5 drives
- Symantec Backup Exec software

KEY BENEFITS

- Provides proven brand name customers trust
- Enables greater flexibility and scalability in designing custom cloud solutions to meet client needs
- Reduces backup times with higher LTO-5 write speeds

ENABLING CUSTOM SOLUTIONS

redIT purchased a Quantum Scalar® i500 intelligent midrange tape library, and selected LTO-5 tape drives to benefit from the added capacity and faster throughput. This speed is increasingly important as data capacity continues to grow and backup windows shorten. LTO-5 also comes with hardware-based AES (256-bit) encryption technology and allows operators to partition the tapes, providing greater file control and allowing near-line applications to index the data on tape, making it easier to access and archive data.

"We needed to maximize performance, so we decided to go with LTO-5 and leverage its enhancements," says Stamper.

With the Scalar tape library in place, redIT can offer its clients a cost-effective method of taking their data offsite for use or storage. redIT can also manage the offsite storage process for clients or can send the tapes to a facility of the client's choice, allowing them to maintain existing relationships.

"Quantum doesn't just provide the ability to do basic tape backup—it is the flexibility of the architecture and tools in the Scalar tape library that allow us to meet regulatory, encryption, and compliance requirements," says Stamper. "Its flexibility also means that organizations are able to scale up quickly and dramatically to deal with business challenges, and often scale right back down when that short-term need has passed."

The tape system, however, hasn't replaced disk backup. Instead, it complements the existing disk storage systems, allowing greater flexibility in meeting specific client needs.

"Quantum has domain expertise around tape, archiving, and backup, and has tools to help us complement our service offering," says Stamper. "Instead of trying to fit a square peg into a round hole, the Scalar tape library allows our backup services to be tuned to the specific needs of clients."

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ABOUT redIT

redIT supports the global IT community with private, customizable cloud services and data centers in the southwestern U.S. and Latin America. redIT enables its clients to focus resources on what drives their competitive advantage – not the distractions of owning and managing IT. For clients such as Oracle, McDonald's, Bloomberg, and Carl Zeiss, among others, redIT customizes an IT strategy that's scalable for the long term, delivering lower total cost of ownership. For information, please visit www.redit.com.

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