

Proactive Tape Infrastructure Management: data assets protection & resources optimization

Key CIO challenges

With the accelerated growth of storage capacity (according to IDC, by a factor 6 between 2006 and 2010), the increasing regulatory constraints (SOX, SEC,..), not fully reliable disaster recovery processes, and the demand of CEOs for better IT governance and improved risks & costs control, CIOs and their IT Operations or Storage Managers are permanently striving for improving their SLAs with effective solutions to protect their data assets while optimizing their operations and storage costs.

Tape Storage is here to stay

Tape storage technologies continue to innovate and to bring to the market cost effective solutions to match the optimization challenges and the main customer requests: new archiving and data retention constraints (emails, fixed content, dematerialization...), increased reliability of disaster recovery processes.

Tape storage infrastructures are at the heart of large IT data centers and are going to stay. They contain today even more critical information assets for the enterprise.

Consequently, this is essential to implement efficient solutions to ensure proactive management and full ongoing control of the tape infrastructure environment, in order to answer to the key CIO challenges and to the demands of their IT Operations and Storage Managers: keep a permanent global & proactive view on the infrastructure, check its optimal use, replace failing equipments and media at the right time to avoid the loss of vital information for the enterprise.

The StorSentry™ solution

Hi-Stor, with more than 10 years of R&D, innovation and success in software storage management solutions, delivers the StorSentry™ solution since end 2006 to Fortune 500 US and major European companies. StorSentry™, the tape infrastructure management solution, has been selected by large data centers sites worldwide, like Ascent Media, Bouygues Telecom, Dassault, EADS, Finanz IT, Orange, Red Bee BBC, Turner Broadcasting Systems.

StorSentry™ brings to large IT data centers a simple and proactive solution to manage efficiently their tape data assets, to monitor and prevent the data loss risks and to take the best optimization decisions for their tape storage infrastructure.

StorSentry™ is the unique solution available on the market with such a wide support of tape storage hardware and software environments and such a rich set of information gathered on the quality of tape storage media, equipment and data flows.

Key results with StorSentry

- StorSentry™ delivers results & savings:
- Visibility and in depth view on the tape storage infrastructure,
 - Significant reduction of critical data loss, and of tape storage media & drives downtime,
 - ROI acceleration for the tape infrastructure investments, and optimization of the human and equipment operations costs,
 - Improved Service Level Agreements,
 - And better capacity planning

StorSentry main functions

StorSentry™ delivers the proactive tape storage infrastructure management of performance and quality, thanks to clear and synthetic dashboards derived from a wide and rich information capture on media, drives, robots and data flows

Monitor: proactive & customizable

StorSentry™ monitors proactively tape media degradation and anticipates their failures. It also provides customized alert thresholds adapted to the value of information for the user. Consequently it improves the speed of backup recovery processes and reduces down time.

Discriminate: precise & simple

StorSentry™ eases the discrimination of drive/media failures to quicker target the cause: the tape media, the drive, or the software environment. It reduces significantly the IT operations time to acknowledge and decide.

Control: real time, easy, informative, open

StorSentry™ provides simple & easy to read alarms which turn in quick decision making and optimize IT operations staff time. StorSentry™ GUI delivers a set of clear synthetic reports to optimize the usage of resources. The solution also authorizes direct data extraction from its database to produce dedicated reports matching each user specific needs.

Optimize: powerful & efficient

The StorSentry™ dashboard and reports, rich and powerful, brings an efficient solution for monitoring performances, continuous optimization of Service Level Agreements, & benchmarking equipments for better capacity planning.

Hi-Stor Professional Services

Hi-Stor and its partners deliver a wide range of services to ensure customer success when implementing and using the StorSentry™ solution.

In addition to installation, training and support, Hi-Stor and its partners can bring you a wide set of consulting services before and after the installation of the solution: audit/diagnosis of your tape infrastructure, optimization, ongoing quality control, commitment on results...

Architecture & Environments

StorSentry™ provides a simple, scalable and open architecture. As an « in-band » monitoring solution, StorSentry™ has a minimal impact on existing resources, is seamless and ensures 24/7 operations.

StorSentry™ works on a dedicated server connected to the LAN/SAN and access to the main equipments through « *Intelligent & Specialized Agents* » which capture rich control information, then store them in a central data base. It also provides a less sophisticated "Agent less" option to access more VTL and proprietary environments. And its « *MVS Agent* » provides data file exchange with large IBM Mainframe environments.

StorSentry™ is an open solution which works with the main hardware and software environments for large data centers tape storage:

Operating Systems: Windows, Linux, HP-UX, IBM Aix, Sun Solaris, IBM MVS, Bull GCOS...

Applications: Sun, IBM Tivoli, Symantec, EMC Legato or Avalon, Bakbone...

Virtualization: Falconstor, Fujitsu Siemens, Bull, Quantum ADIC...

Hardware and media: Sun, IBM, HP, EMC, Quantum, Imation, Overland, SGI, HDS, Tandberg...

About Hi-Stor

Hi-Stor is the leading software company for high impact storage management solutions which benefit from 10 years of R&D and innovation with recognized domain experts.

Founded in 1997, Hi-Stor operates in the USA, Europe & France, with offices in Louisville (CO) et Boston (MA), Toulouse and Paris (France) .