



CASE STUDY

Multinational Financial Corporation protects invaluable data with StorCycle storage lifecycle management software

“ We had been evaluating storage software for quite some time. StorCycle presented the perfect way to simplify our storage management, automating storage workflows with varying requirements for access and protection while providing seamless access regardless of location. ”

End user at Multinational Financial Corporation



Spectra BlackPearl and Spectra Stack Tape Library



The Challenge

This multinational financial corporation and its affiliated companies offer a wide array of financial services centered on banking including securities, leasing, mortgage securitization, credit card, investment, venture capital and other credit-related businesses. With offices in more than 40 countries worldwide, the corporation has Primary Tier storage products and data across the globe that requires a secure and indefinite archive. The company's Americas division has three core data centers within miles of each other in the United States.

The corporation's main data workflow needed to provide front-end transparent user access. They have a variety of unstructured data on their primary storage system and each site has a different critical workflow needed to migrate data. Each site differs in terms of requirements around user access, multi-site copies and general capabilities as well as level of protection. Overall, protecting their data against loss and cyberattacks is incredibly important to this financial corporation. Furthermore, they were concerned with a multi-vendor archive solution becoming too costly.

They wanted to implement a unified workflow solution that provided front-end transparent user access; multiple copies to multiple sites; encryption at rest for data protection; air gap protection from ransomware; and the flexibility to meet their varying data requirements of different workflows.

The Solution

They are in the process of implementing Spectra solutions in all three sites, deploying a Spectra BlackPearl® Converged Storage System and a Spectra® Stack Tape Library in each location. As a converged storage system, BlackPearl supports both object storage and Network Attached Storage (NAS) drives. The latter can be configured into standalone pools that are shared via CIFS or NFS. Data from the NAS data pools can be copied or moved into the object storage side of BlackPearl, which provides a single portal to multiple storage targets in a Perpetual Tier of storage. This complements the organization's existing Primary Tier of storage by providing lower-cost storage options, including NAS, object storage disk and tape. BlackPearl will have a variety of buckets set with different storage policies, including the placement of a local temporary copy on

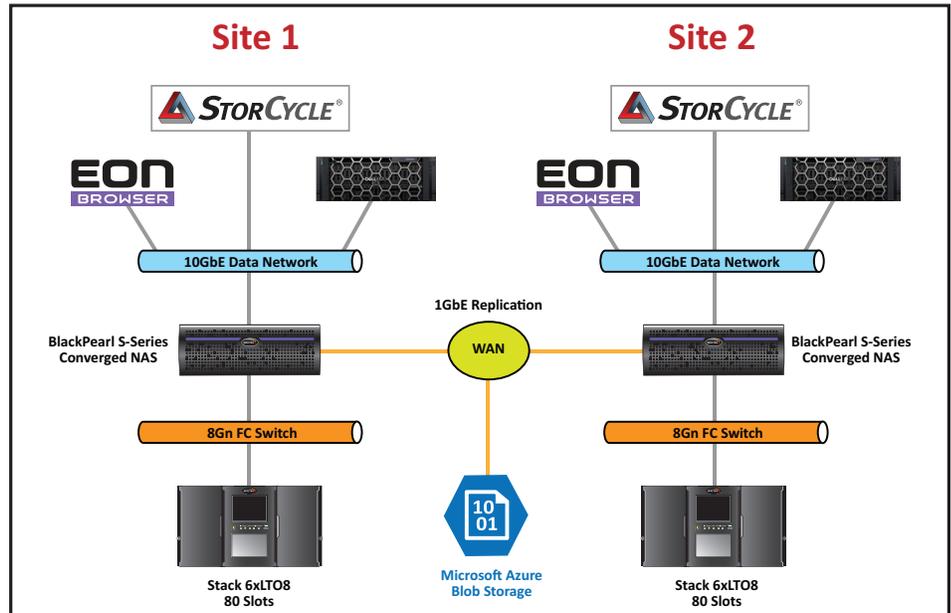
CASE STUDY: Multinational Financial Corporation

object storage disk for quicker access, two copies on tape, one of which goes offsite (providing air gap protection) and a fourth copy to the cloud. All data sent to tape will be encrypted at rest, providing an extra layer of protection for their invaluable assets. BlackPearl provided a great initial solution for them because its multi-tenancy capabilities allow multiple applications across multiple workflows to simultaneously share or isolate data on a single BlackPearl.

When it came to the ideal software to move their main data workflow into the archive solution, the financial corporation decided to test out Spectra's StorCycle® storage lifecycle management software. After trial periods with competing applications, they wanted to move away from hierarchical storage managers and software pricing models that penalize data growth. They will accomplish this with StorCycle – achieving familiar front-end user access and the ability to move multiple copies of data offsite onto different storage mediums.

For the time being, the corporation's BlackPearl NAS hard drives were configured into standalone pools that are shared via NFS. Data from their NAS data pools is pushed via a built-in Network File Interface (NFI) automated client to the BlackPearl Converged Storage System, where it is copied to tape and cloud. Because this additional data workflow is independent from their storage management software, they also installed Spectra's free, open-source Eon Browser, which provides a simple drag-and-drop interface to move files between local storage and BlackPearl. The corporation uses Eon Browser for retrieval of data that they have archived via NFI.

This multinational financial corporation is very happy with the versatility and flexibility that Spectra provides with this solution. In the near future, they plan to expand their use of StorCycle to their two core production sites in the east coast, adding replication between the sites to ensure high availability and failover redundancy.



Environment Snapshot

- Spectra StorCycle Storage Lifecycle Management Software
- Three Spectra BlackPearl Converged Storage Systems with NAS
- Spectra BlackPearl Object Storage Disk Solution
- Three Spectra Stack Tape Libraries
- LTO-8 Half-Height tape drives
- BlueScale® Software with standard encryption
- EON Browser

Why Spectra?

- User accessibility and performance
- Flexibility of converged storage system
- Open standard technology
- Real-time cost savings analytics
- Seamless workflow integrations in multi-tenant environment
- Transparent access to archived data
- Effortless data migration and preservation with StorCycle

Solution Recap

Spectra StorCycle Storage Lifecycle Management Software – StorCycle is a storage lifecycle management software that automatically identifies and moves inactive data from primary storage to a lower cost tier that includes cloud, object storage disk, network-attached storage and object storage tape. Users can manually archive project-based directories and make additional copies for data protection. Providing seamless, familiar access and recovery of single files or entire projects, StorCycle enables organizations to manage, share and preserve their data for unparalleled long-term protection and access.

Spectra BlackPearl Converged Storage System – BlackPearl provides a modern, simple portal to a multi-tier storage architecture that breaks away from legacy solutions that are based on capacity licensing models that drive greater cost when scaling. BlackPearl retains and manages organization's assets at very low per-gigabyte costs, enabling users to create a storage architecture that is cost effective, easy to manage and scalable to exabytes of data.