



CASE STUDY

Lucas Oil protects its future in motorsports production and broadcasting with a Spectra Logic solution

“ We have a vast amount of source footage and high resolution content to manage. Our BlackPearl enables us to manage and contain costs as we grow. The migration from our legacy SGL system was easy and non-disruptive. We are now considering replacing our disaster recovery operation with a Spectra solution. ”

Antonio Narcur, IT Manager, Lucas Oil Production Studios



BlackPearl Hybrid Storage Platform, BlackPearl NAS and Spectra Tape Library



About Lucas Oil

Founded in 1989, Lucas Oil is a manufacturer and distributor of automotive oil, additives and lubricants. Through innovative product research and development, along with an unwavering commitment to customer satisfaction, Lucas has established itself as a top selling additive line in the American truck stop industry. The company also produces one of the fastest growing additive lines in the consumer automotive industry, a line of high-performance engine oils and gear oils that are second-to-none in the racing industry, and heavy-duty products for the industrial and agricultural markets.

The Challenge

Lucas Oil has long been directly involved in the American racing industry through multiple vehicle sponsorships and event promotions. The company is a ubiquitous presence in the motorsports world, owning a production studio and a television channel dedicated to grassroots motor racing at all levels. Lucas Oil Production Studios produce and edit more than 300 hours of original, high-definition motorsports programming, utilizing over 30 full-time in-house editors and 45 editing bays with Avid Technology. Their highly trained staff of graphics designers, 3D animators and editors produce over 20 hours of new programming weekly, creating everything from TV commercials, to full high-end TV shows. The production company serves four major networks, including Lucas owned-and-operated MAVTV, which mainly airs programming for automotive enthusiasts.

Lucas Oil Production Studios previously employed a Spectra® T120 Tape Library with SGL Flashnet and Avid Interplay. They ingest vast amounts of source footage, and as they grew and had to manage more content, Lucas realized that expanding their SGL license and its respective support would prove too costly to sustain when considering their future needs. They required an efficient way to store nearly 500TB of content long-term, and searched for a solution to replace and migrate their SGL content.



Live switch inside a production truck

CASE STUDY: Lucas Oil Production Studios

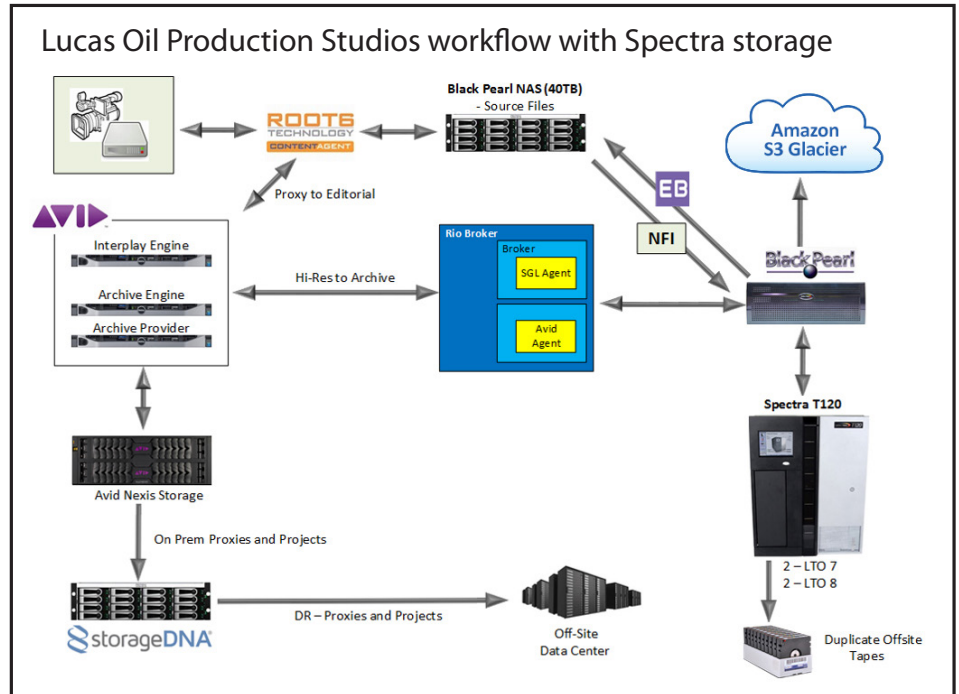
The Solution

With the help of Cutting Edge, a media systems integrator that provides technology solutions to content creators nationwide, Lucas Oil chose to deploy a Spectra® BlackPearl® Hybrid Storage Platform to replace their legacy SGL system. The object-based BlackPearl offers a multi-tenant platform that manages content on both on-premise and cloud storage targets. With the help of BlackPearl's data policies, copies of data are tiered to Amazon® S3 Glacier and the Spectra tape library for long-term storage. Using Spectra® RioBroker software, BlackPearl imports original LTF5 content from SGL to a different library or to a separate partition in the same library, from which Avid can restore directly. Spectra RioBroker works transparently in the background, without disrupting production operations and all assets stored on BlackPearl are stored in a non-proprietary format, securing access for the future. Lucas Oil seamlessly migrated around 100 TB off of SGL, and were able to keep SGL online and archiving while the BlackPearl solution was implemented.

Their new solution ingests high-resolution footage through Root6 and stores it to a nearline Spectra® BlackPearl® NAS solution. The BlackPearl NAS sends those assets to the BlackPearl object platform for long-term retention via Spectra's Network File Interface (NFI). The built-in NFI client provides automated data movement from the NAS to tape through the BlackPearl platform. Root6 also creates proxy copies that are moved down to Avid for editorial use. The high-resolution version is later conformed to match the finished edit. Avid Interplay sends the completed project to BlackPearl for long-term storage. Because of the ease of their successful migration from SGL to BlackPearl, Lucas Oil Production Studios is in the midst of discussions to replace their DR operation with a Spectra Logic object-based disk solution in the near future.

Why Spectra?

- Direct integration with Avid
- Agile and adaptable to workflow needs
- Predictable cost with growth
- Painless migration from SGL
- Relationship with Cutting Edge



Environment Snapshot

- Spectra BlackPearl Multi-Purpose Hybrid Storage Platform
- Spectra RioBroker version 1.01
- Spectra BlackPearl NAS
- Spectra Tape Library
- Two LTO-7 half-height tape drives
- Two LTO-8 half-height tape drives
- BlueScale® Encryption
- Avid Interplay PAM
- Root6

Solution Recap

Spectra BlackPearl – BlackPearl was designed to provide a modern, simple portal to a multi-tier object-based storage architecture that is cost effective, easy to manage and scalable to exabytes of data. Designed for organizations where content and long-term integrity is at the core of their business, BlackPearl allows assets to move seamlessly to disk, tape and cloud storage, in a way not previously possible.

Spectra Enterprise Tape Libraries –

Spectra enterprise tape libraries are designed for scalable growth, as they accommodate the storage requirements of

organizations in every state of their growth lifecycle. When data growth requires more slots than the library's capacity, Spectra transfers the existing components and puts them in a larger chassis. As data needs expand, all that changes is the outgrown frame. From the greatest storage density to proactive media management, Spectra's family of libraries leads the field in innovation for data archive, backup and recovery.

Partner Profile:



Cutting Edge, a division of Alt Systems, is a media systems integrator providing technology solutions, professional services and technical support to content creators nationwide. The company offers video and audio production products, post-production storage and archive systems and asset management solutions for customer who need a trusted technology partner focused on meeting their exact needs.