



CASE STUDY

University of Bristol employs Spectra solution to serve IT infrastructure for over 20,000 students

“ We currently back up about 200TB per week but we expect this to grow, so we were keen to reduce purchasing and running costs wherever possible. The T950 can easily scale with our needs. We are very happy with the outstanding ongoing service we receive from Spectra’s support team. ”

Harvey Ditchfield, senior system administrator, University of Bristol



*Spectra
T680 and
T950 Tape
Libraries*



University of BRISTOL

About University of Bristol

The University of Bristol is a research university located in Bristol, United Kingdom. It received its Royal Charter in 1909, and its predecessor institution, University College, Bristol, had been in existence since 1876. Bristol has been named amongst the world’s top 50 universities by the QS World University Rankings. A highly selective institution, it has an average of nine applicants for each undergraduate place. It features faculties including arts, engineering, medical and veterinary science, medicine and dentistry, as well as social sciences and law, and counts over 6,000 employees and approximately 23,000 students.

The Challenge

The University of Bristol has more than 100 buildings hosting its faculties and student facilities, such as the student union, libraries and housing accommodations. The University specializes in a range of topics, including medical and veterinary science, medicine and dentistry, engineering, social sciences, law and the arts.

The University of Bristol’s Digital Solutions group is responsible for Central IT Infrastructure, Networks, Solutions and Telecommunications. Among its many responsibilities, the group leads the development and operation of IT systems university-wide and provides data storage and archiving strategies and solutions for University corporate data. With a heavily virtualized environment and over 800 virtual and physical servers, the University of Bristol backs up about 200



Aerial photo of the University of Bristol and Brandon Hill

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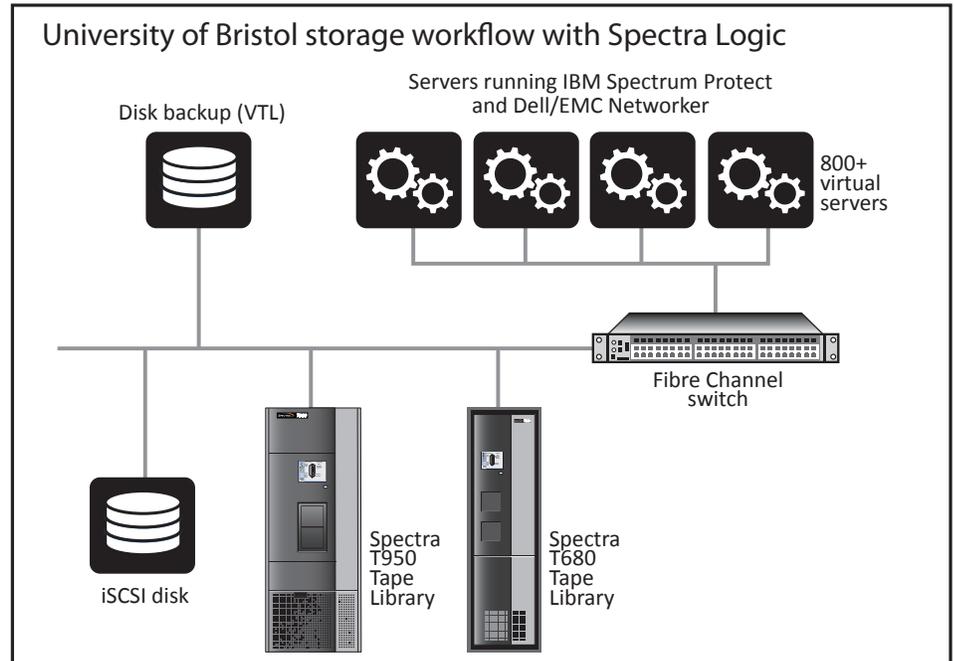
terabytes of data per week, amassing a total of over three petabytes of managed assets. The institution needed an easy-to-use backup solution to free up costly primary storage and reliably protect data in a limited floor space.

The Solution

Following previous successful experiences with a Spectra® T200 Tape Library trial in 2012, and a T680 Tape Library with integrated BlueScale® encryption in 2013, the University of Bristol added a second Spectra tape library to upgrade its business operations backup system. In 2014, adhering to the recommendation of local partner Cristie Data, Bristol replaced a legacy Quantum system with a Spectra® T950 Tape Library. The T950 provided greater density in a smaller footprint, offering the University more data storage capacity within their limited physical space and greater value for their investment. The Spectra tape libraries give Bristol the best return on investment at the lowest total cost of ownership, with flexible upgrade options and no egress cost to recall data.

Spectra to the Rescue

The exceptional support from Spectra that the institution received after their data center experienced flood damage that same year further solidified its relationship with Spectra Logic and its trust in the company. After extensive data center flood loss, Spectra helped to restore Bristol's operations in a single day via Spectra Logic's Storage Crisis Lifeline service, a program available to customers with a documentable disaster situation in which equipment is damaged beyond the ability to restore. The long-time Spectra Logic customer anticipates adding additional Spectra capacity in the future.



Environment Snapshot

- Spectra® T950 Tape Library
- Spectra® T680 Tape Library
- 800+ Physical and Virtual Servers
- Solaris and CentOS OS
- IBM® Spectrum Protect
- Dell® EMC Networker
- Spectra BlueScale® Encryption
- Spectra Certified Media
- Storage Crisis Lifeline

Why Spectra?

- Outstanding Support
- Solution Footprint
- Ease of Management
- Scalability

Solution Recap

Spectra Enterprise Tape Libraries – Spectra enterprise tape libraries are designed for incremental 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 current capacity, Spectra transfers the components of the existing library 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 elite family of libraries leads the field in innovation for data archive, backup and recovery.

Partner Profile:
cristie data
an iomart company

Cristie Data has been managing and protecting data for over 40 years. Partnering with Spectra Logic, Cristie delivers innovative and leading edge data storage, backup and virtualization solutions that augment and improve infrastructures which save our customers time, cost and deliver significant value to their businesses.