

Power Distribution Units for Tape Libraries

Reliable & Scalable Power Management for Enterprise Tape Storage Environments

In high-performance data environments, efficient power management is essential to ensure continuous availability, minimize risk, and simplify infrastructure deployment. Power Distribution Units (PDUs) are a critical component in data center operations, responsible for safely delivering and managing electrical power across enterprise systems.

Spectra Logic offers purpose-built PDUs designed to support two key power distribution scenarios: internal power distribution within Spectra tape libraries and external power delivery to peripheral equipment. With Spectra PDUs, customers gain streamlined power management explicitly tailored for modern tape-based archival environments, reducing complexity while improving reliability.



Two Distinct Use Cases for Power Distribution Units

Spectra Logic offers two tailored PDU solutions to meet the unique power distribution needs of enterprise tape environments. Whether powering internal components within Spectra libraries or supporting external equipment mounted on top, each use case is engineered for optimal performance, reliability, and integration.

Internal Power Distribution for Tape Libraries

Spectra PDUs are integrated directly into the Spectra TFinity® Plus and Spectra T950 Tape Libraries to manage internal power routing to components such as robotics, tape drives, control modules, and monitoring systems. These internal PDUs are engineered to meet the performance demands of high-density storage environments, delivering consistent power with built-in redundancy to minimize downtime.

External Power Distribution for Rack-Top Equipment

In many deployments, organizations place external devices—such as servers, switches, or network interfaces—on top of their Spectra tape libraries. Spectra PDUs provide an external power distribution solution for this rack-top equipment, delivering clean, reliable power while centralizing control and reducing the need for separate infrastructure. These PDUs are designed to be easily mounted to or alongside the library frames for convenience and accessibility.

Top 5 Benefits of Power Distribution Units

- Centralized Power Management: One PDU can distribute power to multiple library frames, reducing the number of power connections and simplifying cabling.
- 2. Simplified Installation and Maintenance:
 With a PDU, you don't need individual power cords for each frame running to separate outlets. This reduces clutter and speeds up setup and service.
- 3. Improved Uptime and Reliability: Enterprise-grade PDUs include features like circuit protection, redundancy, and monitoring, which help maintain stable power and prevent outages or damage.
- 4. Scalable Power Architecture: As you add frames to your library, an adequately sized PDU can accommodate additional loads without requiring a complete redesign of the power infrastructure.
- 5. Better Cable Management: Reduces cable complexity in the data center, making airflow more efficient and the environment easier to manage and troubleshoot.



Spectra TFinity Plus Tape Library



Internal PDU for Spectra TFinity and T950 Libraries

The internal Spectra Power Distribution Unit (PDU) is purpose-built to deliver efficient, reliable power to components within the T950 and TFinity tape libraries. Designed to integrate seamlessly into data centers that utilize 3-phase power, the Spectra PDU allows the entire library to connect through a single power drop, eliminating the need for individual single-phase conversions or multiple power lines to each frame. A single Spectra PDU can supply power to up to six inputs across multiple library frames, functioning like a centralized, high-capacity power strip that simplifies infrastructure and reduces cable complexity.

This approach is especially beneficial in large-scale, multi-frame library deployments, enabling clean and efficient power distribution while minimizing the number of power drops required. The Spectra PDU supports optional web-enabled power meters that provide real-time monitoring, power balancing, and status visibility for proactive management. A second PDU can be installed to ensure full redundancy, protecting against input power failure and enhancing uptime. Flexible configuration options are available to accommodate different 3-phase connector types, custom cord lengths from the PDU to the data center power source, and optimized cabling between the PDU library frames. Overall, the Spectra internal PDU simplifies deployment, improves power efficiency, and supports the scalability needed for large enterprise archive environments.

Supported Configurations: Spectra TFinity and T950 Libraries

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PDU for Servers and Network Gear atop Tape Libraries

For organizations that place rack-mounted devices such as servers, network switches, or management appliances on top of their Spectra tape libraries, the external Spectra PDU provides a reliable and centralized power solution. Designed for compatibility with the TFinity, T950, and Spectra Cube libraries, the external PDU enables clean, efficient power distribution to all externally mounted equipment.

This solution eliminates the need for separate racks or external power strips by integrating power delivery directly with the library footprint. It simplifies cable management, reduces floor space usage, and ensures consistent, dependable power to critical IT equipment operating in tandem with the library system. By consolidating power to external gear in a single, rackfriendly solution, the Spectra external PDU offers an elegant and practical approach to powering the complete data storage ecosystem.



Spectra Cube with Rack-top Equipment

Spectra TFinity Plus and T950 Tape Library PDU for Rack-top Equipment

Provides reliable power distribution for servers, switches, and other devices mounted on top of Spectra libraries. Simplifies cabling, reduces the need for separate racks, and ensures dependable power delivery for external IT gear.

Manufacturer / Model:

APC NetShelter Basic Rack PDU, 0U/1U, 120-240V/15A, 220-240V/10A, 8 C13 outlet

Mfg. # AP6015A

Spectra # 12698

Outlets: (8) IEC 60320 C13

Input: IEC 60320 C14

Dimensions

Height: 9.4 in (23.9 cm)

• Width: 1.7 in (4.4 cm)

Depth: 3.7 in (9.4 cm)

Warranty: 2-year APC



Spectra TFinity Plus and T950 Tape Library PDU for Internal and Rack-top Equipment

Delivers centralized power for both internal library power supplies and rack-mounted devices above the library. Supports multiple outlet types for flexible connectivity while streamlining infrastructure and maintaining consistent, reliable power.

Manufacturer / Model: APC NetShelter Basic Rack PDU, 0U/1U, 100-240V/20A, 220-240V/16A, 7 C13 outlet and 2 C19 outlet

Mfg. # AP6120A

Spectra # 12814

Outlets: (7) IEC 60320 C13

(2) IEC 60320 C19

Input: IEC 60320 C20

Dimensions

• Height: 15.28 in (38.81 cm)

• Width: 1.72 in (4.36 cm)

• Depth: 3.66 in (9.29 cm)

Warranty: 2-year APC



PDU for Servers and Network Gear atop Tape Libraries

Spectra Cube Tape Library PDU for Internal and Rack-top Equipment

Provides high-capacity power distribution for the Spectra Cube library and servers, switches, and other rack-mounted devices placed above it. Installs vertically to save space, simplifies cabling, and ensures efficient, reliable power delivery to the Spectra Cube library and external equipment.

Manufacturer / Model: APC Rack PDU, Basic, Zero U, 30A, 200/208V, (20) C13 & (4) C19

Mfg. # AP7541 **Spectra** # 12629

Outlets: (20) IEC 60320 C13

(4) IEC 60320 C19

Input: NEMA L6-30P

Dimensions

Height: 63.7 in (161.9 cm)Width: 2.2 in (5.6 cm)Depth: 1.7 in (4.4 cm)

Warranty: 2-year APC



Power Simplified: Scalable, Reliable Distribution for Modern Tape Environments

In enterprise environments where uptime, scalability, and ease of maintenance are non-negotiable, Spectra Logic and APC PDUs deliver power, reliability, and operational efficiency across both internal tape library systems and externally mounted infrastructure. Whether supporting mission-critical robotics inside a TFinity library or providing power to network switches above a Cube library, these PDUs offer a trusted, high-availability solution for modern archival workflows.

By centralizing power management and offering flexible deployment options, PDUs ensure your tape library environment remains as efficient and resilient as the data it protects.

About Spectra Logic Corporation

Spectra Logic modernizes IT infrastructures to preserve, protect and defend data, from days to decades, whether on-premises, in a single cloud, across multiple clouds or in all locations at once. Our cost-effective solutions help organizations efficiently manage, migrate and store long-term data, from terabytes to exabytes, with features that make it ransomware resilient

