



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

AT A GLANCE

Challenges

- Vast IT infrastructure
- Large-scale data management
- Costly primary storage needs
- Limited space for backups

Solution

- Deploy Spectra tape libraries
- Upgrade to T950 for density
- Restore operations post-flood
- Plan for future capacity



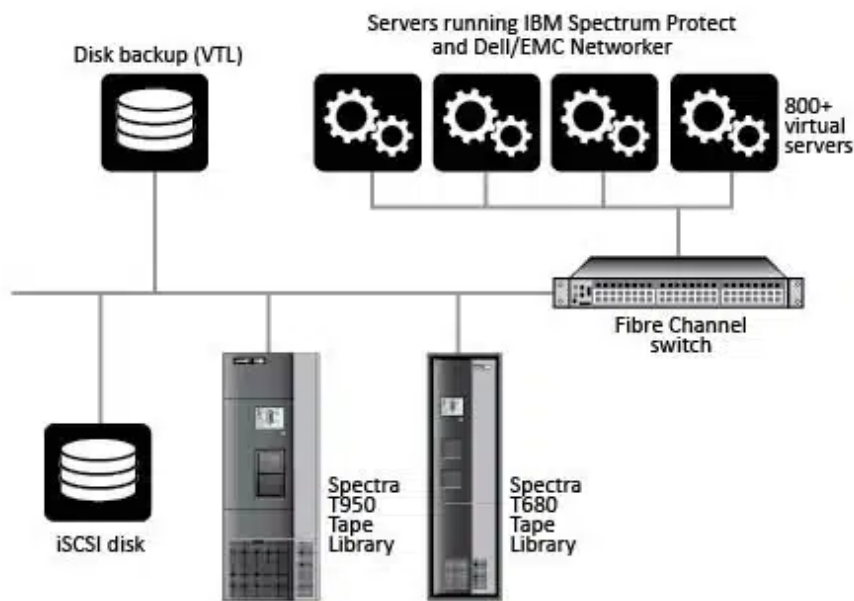
CHALLENGE

The University of Bristol hosts over 100 buildings, including student facilities like libraries, housing, and the student union. It specializes in diverse fields, such as medical and veterinary science, engineering, law, and the arts. The University's Digital Solutions group manages Central IT Infrastructure, Networks, and Telecommunications, overseeing IT systems and corporate data storage. With a virtualized environment and 800+ servers, it backs up 200 terabytes weekly, managing over three petabytes of data. The institution sought an efficient backup solution to reduce primary storage costs and protect data within limited space.

SOLUTION

After a successful trial with a Spectra® T200 Tape Library in 2012 and a T680 Tape Library with BlueScale® encryption in 2013, the University of Bristol upgraded its backup system in 2014. Guided by Cristie Data, it replaced a legacy Quantum system with a Spectra® T950 Tape Library, offering higher density in a smaller footprint, more storage capacity, and excellent value. Spectra tape libraries provided Bristol with a high return on investment, low total cost of ownership, flexible upgrades, and no egress costs. Spectra Logic's exceptional support during a data center flood that year further strengthened the partnership. Using Spectra's Storage Crisis Lifeline service, the University restored operations within a day. Bristol plans to expand its Spectra capacity in the future.





THE UNIVERSITY OF BRISTOL'S ENVIRONMENT

SOLUTION INFORMATION

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.

Why University of Bristol Chose Spectra:

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

ENVIRONMENT

- 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

ABOUT THE 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.