Customer Success

Environment Snapshot

- Two Spectra® T950 tape libraries
- LTO-4 data tape drives and media
- Fibre Channel Connectivity
- SGL FlashNet Media Asset Management in conjunction with AVID Interplay
- AVID ISIS disk array with 128TB
- Brocade 200E FC Switch
- MediaKive's metadata insertion

T950

Two Spectra T950's with LTO-4 media

Situation & Solution

Versus is an American cable television sports channel owned by Comcast, and is located just outside New York City, in Stamford, Connecticut.

Versus archives thousands of hours of high definition (HD) and standard definition (SD) broadcast digital media content. The company must also operate a constant archive of all digital media content. When Versus initiated its plan to broadcast in digital (SD and later to HD) the company began to review all options available and selected a Spectra digital archive system due to Spectra's broad acceptance in the media and entertainment market, as well as meeting Versus' other storage requirements.

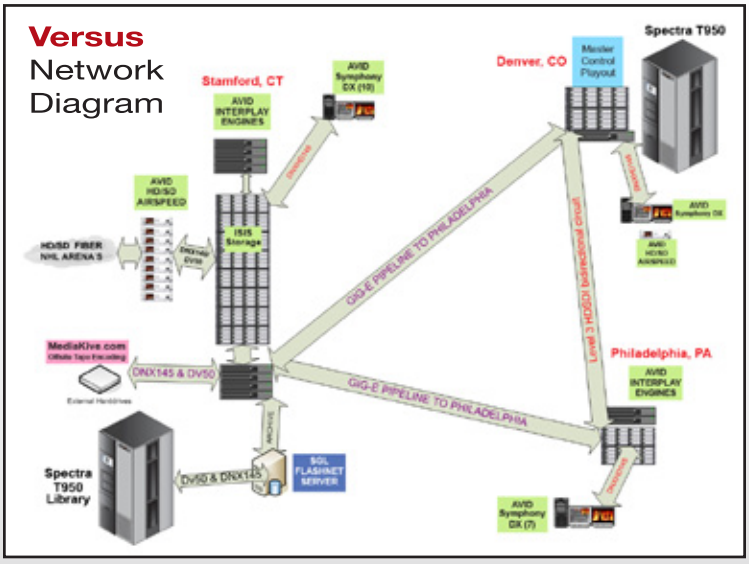
Versus sought three criteria in the new archive solution. **1)** The new archive should be able to manage and expand to archive thousands of hours of HD and SD content to meet production deadlines and ever-increasing expanding storage requirements; **2)** Versus preferred a data tape-based system complementing its spinning disks ensuring availability for its production environments; **3)** the thousands of hours of footage had to be protected while archived without any degradation of picture quality for when the footage needed to be retrieved years later.

Versus chose one Spectra Logic T950 data tape library for digital archiving, and a second T950 for replication at a second location, due to broad industry recommendation from peers, and Spectra's ability to best protect Versus' valuable media assets.

"Spectra Logic and the T950 have helped Versus achieve its archival goals to protect thousands of hours of broadcast archival data," said Paul Koopmann, director of broadcast engineering, at Versus. ***"Our T950 can protect and preserve thousands of hours of digital sports media content, and its performance has been nothing less than perfect since we put it into operation."***

Versus also engaged MediaKive.com to encode its massive video library which is then archived in a Spectra T950 data tape archive system. MediaKive.com's conveyor belt process which included metadata insertion exceeded Versus' expectations.

"Versus successfully archived our entire NHL video library in 60 days," Koopman added. ***"Having digital assets available to our production team has saved us thousands of dollars in manpower and increased our productivity tenfold,"*** Koopman added.

Versus is as satisfied with Spectra Logic's staff as it is with the digital archive technology.

"From the initial quote straight through to installation the Spectra Logic sales, customer service, and technical support teams have worked seamlessly with Versus Engineering to ensure the successful integration of the T950 into our advanced broadcasting facility," Koopman added.