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Long Term Archiving Capability and Operational Efficiency of Sonyâ€™s Midrange AIT-5 Tape Media System Compared with DLT Format by Rob Miller

Article published on June 14th 2012 | Hardware

Over the past few decades, numerous government legislations have been introduced that enforce companies to enhance data security and ensure long term availability of their business documents and other information. That is why companies have relied on backing up data, which provides them certainty that they can continue their routine business operations. Therefore, data loss caused by power failure, security breach or viruses wonâ€™t pose a threat to business continuity. Small and mid-sized organizations demand cost-efficient solutions that can accommodate their fast growing databases without occupying greater physical space.

Sony focused on these requirements of SMBs, and came up with a new breakthrough tape storage format, the AIT (Advanced Intelligent Tape). Its exceptionally small form factor, almost 68% smaller physical size than DLT (Digital Linear Tape) and many other half-inch tape formats, makes it a smart investment. Moreover, the base film in Sony AIT5 tape is also 40% shorter. So the manufacturing cost of AIT5 media tape will be obviously lower than its competitors. AIT5 tape packs an enormous native data volume of 400GB.

This high performance AIT format has been extended to 5th generation AIT5, which is widely for backing up midrange servers and data rich workstations. It can installed in the widest range of SMBs, because this Sony AIT5 solution offers AITe1040SBK (AIT-5 external drive) and AITi1040S (internal AIT5 drive). Most compelling feature of these drives is their ability to restore and record data to three other generations as well, which are AIT3 Ex, AIT3 and AIT4. So, up-gradation of existing AIT system can be easily done and the users can carry forward their AIT tapes.

IT professionals recommend off-site media storage. It provides your business a source for data recovery, if the tape cartridges stored at primary data center are damaged or stolen. Businesses can count on Sonyâ€™s AIT5 tape. Its small size coupled with strong cartridge shell provides customer convenience and assurance of safe offsite transportation. Sony AIT 5 drives deliver unmatched reliability in demanding IT centers. They feature intelligently-designed bezels that protect against dust and other pollutants. Moreover, their exceptionally high data streaming speed of 24Mbps helps businesses achieve superior performance with advanced enterprise applications.

These backup data resources also need robust security, and this AIT5 backup system has the right solution for you, the WORM (write once, read many) mechanism. Its name gives you a clear picture of its functionality. AIT 5 tape solution provides the advantage of higher data compression. Rival tape based systems offer 100% enhancement after compression, but AIT5 system takes the lead with 2.6:1 compression ratio. That means a single AIT5 cartridge achieves a magnificent 1.04TB capacity.

The large 96MB data buffer plays a key role in accelerating the AIT 5 drivesâ€™ data streaming rate. The drives can search data from this enormous data volume at a rapid speed of 2700 Mbps. Sony has introduced a new media coating formulation known as AME-III (Advanced Metal Evaporated). The finer magnetic particles and durable coating has extended its useful life to 30000 passes.

Article Source:
http://www.articleside.com/hardware-articles/long-term-archiving-capability-and-operational-efficiency-of-sony-s-midrange-ait-5-tape-media-system-compared-with-dlt-format.htm - Article Side

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Article Keywords:
AIT-5 tape, Sony AIT5, AIT 5 media, AIT-4, AIT-3, AIT3, AIT4 media, Sony AIT 4 backup tapes

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