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**Ewan Johnson**  
Quantum Storage UK

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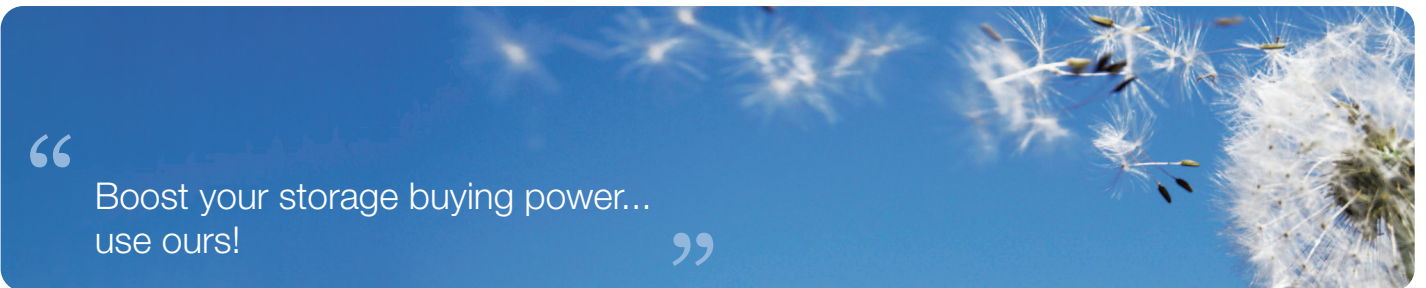
24 The Bridge Business Centre  
Beresford Way  
Chesterfield  
S41 9FG

#### Get in touch

Call us on: 01246 454222  
Email us: [web@coolspirit.co.uk](mailto:web@coolspirit.co.uk)  
Find us: [View location map](#)  
Web: [www.coolspirit.co.uk](http://www.coolspirit.co.uk)

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# Music Right Distribution Alliance Optimizes Performance and Capacity with Quantum

Heavy metal is all the rage at the MCPS-PRS. The alliance of the UK Mechanical Copyright Protection Society (MCPS) and the Performing Right Society (PRS) have deployed a reliable, high density and flexible Quantum PX720 Enterprise Tape Library with DLT-S4 tape drives to overcome the ailing performance of its existing Overland environment. The enterprise-class solution helped the MCPS-PRS to reduce backup and recovery administration from three hours each day to 30 minutes and treble the size of its nightly backup.

## COLLECTING AND DISTRIBUTING MUSIC ROYALTIES

The Performing Right Society (PRS) collects and distributes license fees for the public performance and broadcast of musical works. It comprises a membership organization of composers, songwriters, authors and publishers of music of all styles including classical, pop, jazz and music for films, advertisements and TV. The Mechanical-Copyright Protection Society (MCPS) collects and distributes 'mechanical' royalties generated from the recording of music onto many different formats. The income is distributed to their members – writers and publishers of music. The MCPS currently represents more than 18,000 composers, songwriters and music publishers. To make the best use of their individual strengths, they are now working as an operational alliance: The MCPS-PRS Alliance.

Backup and recovery are at the heart of the MCPS-PRS Alliance's success – but it has not always been a smooth road. The Alliance was steadily enhancing its ability to measure, collect and distribute royalties and which resulted in a massive increase in data. For example, the Alliance used to check national radio to determine how many times musical works were being played, but now it also checks local radio stations, satellite television channels, and other media. As a result, data doubled in size year on year and the existing Veritas Backup Exec Shared Storage Option (SSO) environment was struggling to cope. Backup on the Alliance's Storage Area Network (SAN) was increasingly slow and unreliable.

Terry Rumsey, Project Manager at systems integration specialist and MCPS-PRS service delivery partner ISGWebb, explains what happened next. "We had an overnight batch scheduled, all controlled by the scheduling software," he explains. We commonly experienced tape communications problems though. The solution was to backup to disk and then to an Overland Neo 4000 tape library using SDLT 320 tape drives. Capacity improved, but the speed of backup was still a problem. We were struggling to complete the overnight backup within the timeframe owing to the volume of data."

The MCPS-PRS infrastructure comprises 120 Windows-based HP Proliant servers, four HP SAN sub-systems, and a new HP EVA8000 storage array SAN which was deployed last year. "With the entry of the EVA array, we needed a more flexible, fast and efficient tape-based backup solution. It had to be a reliable library, which would manage tapes more efficiently than the existing solution, where we were switching tapes week in, week out," said Rumsey.



"This solution will serve the MCPS-PRS for at least the next five years; we can add capacity and performance seamlessly as demand grows."

**Terry Rumsey,**  
Project Manager, ISGWeb

## SOLUTION OVERVIEW

- Quantum PX720 enterprise-class library
- Tape technology: DLT-S4
- SAN network for backup of music publishing data under Windows
- 120 Windows-based HP Proliant servers
- Four HP SAN sub-systems
- HP EVA8000 storage array SAN

### RELIABILITY AND FLEXIBILITY IN A LIBRARY

It was this environment that MCPS-PRS chose to deploy a Quantum PX720 enterprise library, with eight native Fibre Quantum DLT-S4 tape drives. Blending highly reliable robotics, the flexibility to accommodate between one and 20 drives, and up to 726 cartridges, the PX720 offers the MCPS-PRS Alliance the flexibility and versatility to support its burgeoning backup and recovery needs. With innovative features such as Web-based management and monitoring, plus redundant power supplies, the PX720 offers the Alliance cost-effective, reliable and high performance backup and restore. The solution was implemented in collaboration with Cognitive Network Solutions.

Part of the reason for the cost-effective, high performance reliability was the decision to deploy native Fibre DLT-S4 drives in the PX720. The Alliance has eight drives (1,600GB of compressed storage per drive) and together they offer the capacity, manageability and security features needed to easily manage data. The solution was also upgraded with Symantec NetBackup from has also been deployed to replace the struggling Backup Exec system.

All of this is wrapped up with Quantum StorageCare™ Guardian support, a remote monitoring and diagnostic solution that enables Quantum to proactively monitor the health of the MCPS-PRS library over the internet and use intelligent diagnostics data to remotely service the equipment if issues arise. "We were an early adopter of the Quantum DLT-S4 drives and we've been very pleased with the support we've received. All round great support from experienced professionals," said Rumsey.

"We're now sharing the drives among the servers, managed by NetBackup," he continued. "We have three backup media servers that can use any of the eight drives, but we limit it to two drives using the Vault feature. This way, the drives are never a bottleneck, we can run them as hard as we want, and the backup never has to wait."

Previously, using the Overland library/Backup Exec environment, up to three hours each day were devoted to investigating, checking, and fixing the backup process. Now, using the extensive automation functionality of the new solution, this has been reduced to 30 minutes. Moreover, the old environment was sized to manage two TB of backup each night. The new Quantum system can manage up to six TB each night and twice that during the weekend's full backup.


"The solution will serve the MCPS-PRS for at least the next five years; we can add capacity and performance seamlessly as demand grows," said Rumsey. "Altogether, we're really pleased with the solution and the quality of support we're receiving from both Quantum and Cognitive. Great products, delivered by great people."

### ABOUT MCPS-PRS

The Performing Right Society (PRS) collects and distributes license fees for the public performance and broadcast of musical works. It comprises a membership organization of composers, songwriters, authors and publishers of music of all styles including classical, pop, jazz and music for films, advertisements and TV. The Mechanical-Copyright Protection Society (MCPS) collects and distributes 'mechanical' royalties generated from the recording of music onto many different formats. The income is distributed to their members – writers and publishers of music. The MCPS currently represents more than 18,000 composers, songwriters and music publishers. To make the best use of their individual strengths, they are now working as an operational alliance: The MCPS-PRS Alliance.

### ABOUT ISG TECHNOLOGY

ISG technology delivers a comprehensive range of IT, network and infrastructure services and solutions through three operating divisions: IT Services (consultancy, product supply, support, maintenance and managed services); Network Infrastructure (providing voice and data connectivity solutions nationwide); and Outsourcing (helping customers to realize their full potential). Over 25 years, ISG has earned an enviable reputation with private and public sector clients, including global blue-chip brands.

 For contact and product information, visit [quantum.com](http://quantum.com) or call +44 (0)1344 353500

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### About Quantum

Quantum Corp. (NYSE:DSS) is the leading global storage company specialising in backup, recovery and archive. Combining focused expertise, customer-driven innovation, and platform independence, Quantum provides a comprehensive range of disk, tape, media and software solutions supported by a world-class sales and service organisation. As a long-standing and trusted partner, the company works closely with a broad network of resellers, OEMs and other suppliers to meet customers' evolving data protection needs.