

Achieving Continuous Availability for Mainframe Tape with Synchronous Tape Matrix

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Discussion Topics

- Innovations in mainframe tape
- What have these innovations affected?
- The next evolutionary steps
- Example configurations
- Customer experience
- What's the next innovation?





Innovations in Mainframe Tape

- Physical tape
 - Better recording technologies (3480, 3490, 3590)
- Robotics (automated tape loading)
 - Dual robotic arms
 - Higher slot counts
- Virtual tape (disk cache with physical tape back store)
 - Replication of disk cache
- Encryption
- Tapeless (no physical tape)
 - Deduplication
 - GRID
 - Synchronous replication
 - Cloud storage





What Have These Innovations Affected?

Innovations

- Physical tape
- Robotics
- Virtual tape
- Encryption
- Tapeless

Effects

- Performance
- Capacity
- Media utilization
- Data Security
- Host devices
- RPO/RTO capabilities
- Copy creation
 - Number of copies
 - Number of locations
 - Copy consistency
- Operational accessibility
- Impact of equipment failure
- Impact of media failure





What Have These Innovations Affected?

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- Synchronous Tape Matrix

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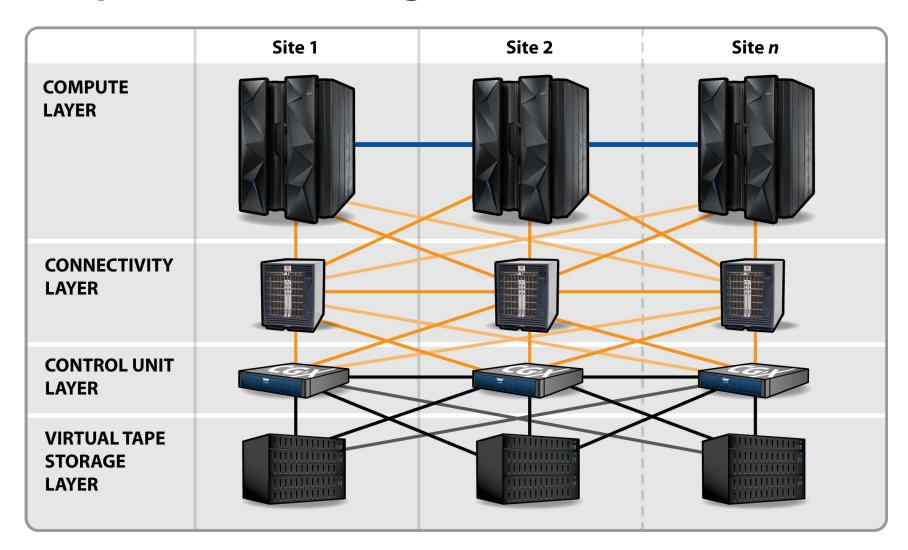
Synchronous Tape Matrix (STM)

- Continuous Availability
 - Resilient architecture instantly and automatically adjusts to multiple failures without interruption
 - Data is always available for I/O
 - No downtime from failover or restore processes
- No idle components to buy
 - All components contribute to day-to-day operations, not just during failure events
- Easy to implement
 - No host scripts or policies required
- Scalable
 - No limitations for throughput, capacity or degrees of redundancy
- Modular design ensures investment protection
- Supports dissimilar storage systems and compression/deduplication technologies



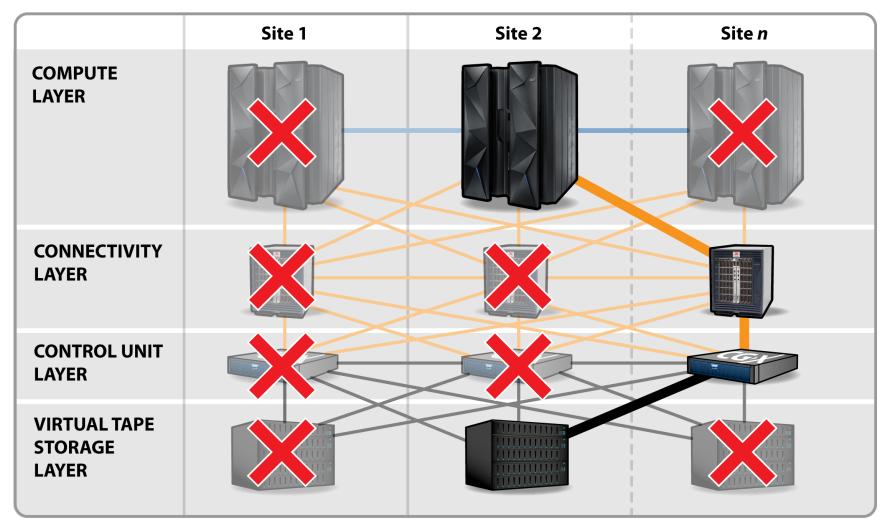


Simplified STM Configuration with *n*-Sites





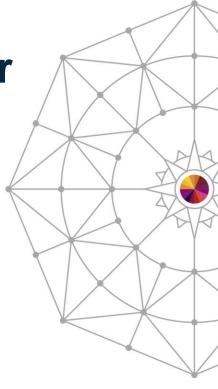
Operational STM Configuration with Multiple Failures Across Layers and Sites





Customer Experience: Major U.S. Healthcare Provider

Andrew Graham Production Control Manager













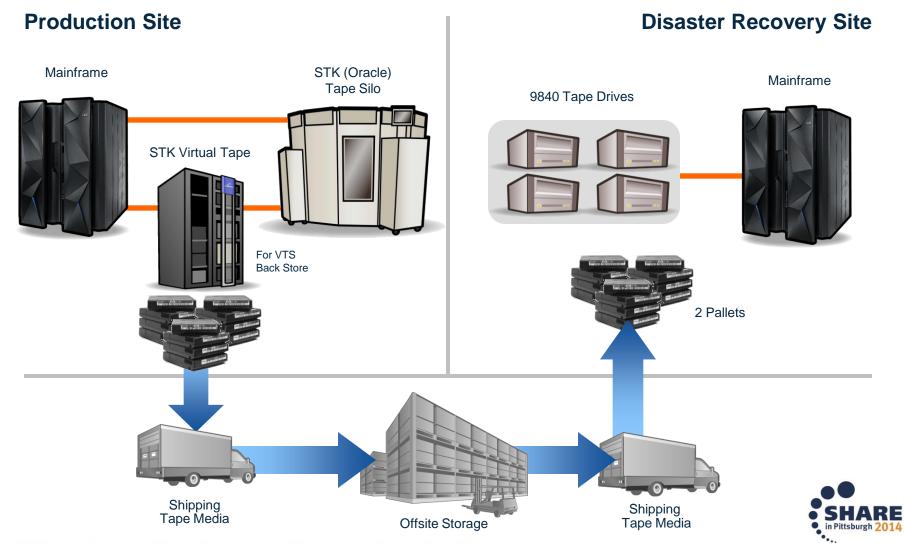








Initial Mainframe Environment





Goals And Objectives for Initial Mainframe Environment

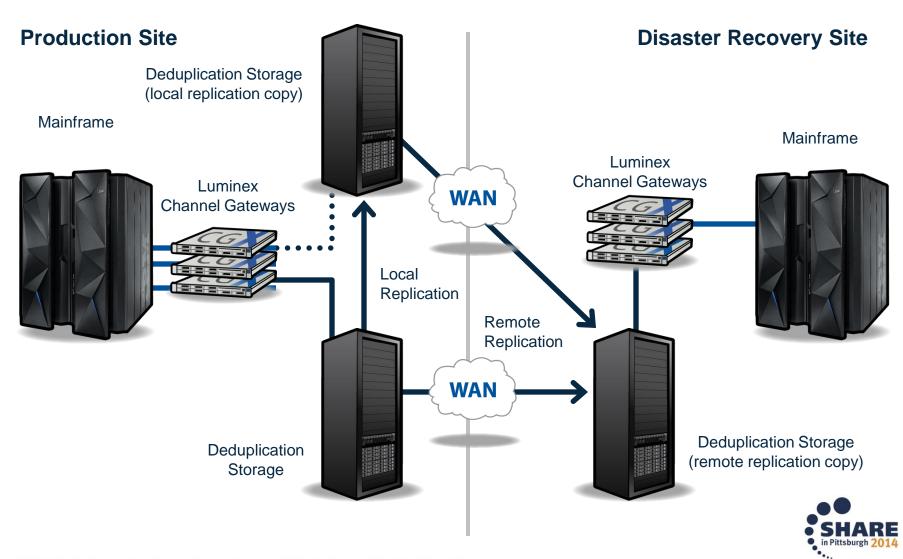


- Address physical tape capacity limitations
- Improve performance
- □ Achieve uninterrupted service
- Completely tapeless environment
- Maintain "Belt and Suspenders" approach (3 copies of data)





Intermediate Mainframe Environment





Intermediate Benefits and Achievements

- ☑ Eliminated physical tape
 - ☑ No longer shipping 2 pallets of tapes
 - ☑ Eliminated offsite storage of tapes
- All tape data available at DR site, not just a subset of critical data
- ☑ Expanded capacity
- ☑ Improved performance (initially)

 - ☑ Significant improvement in production run times



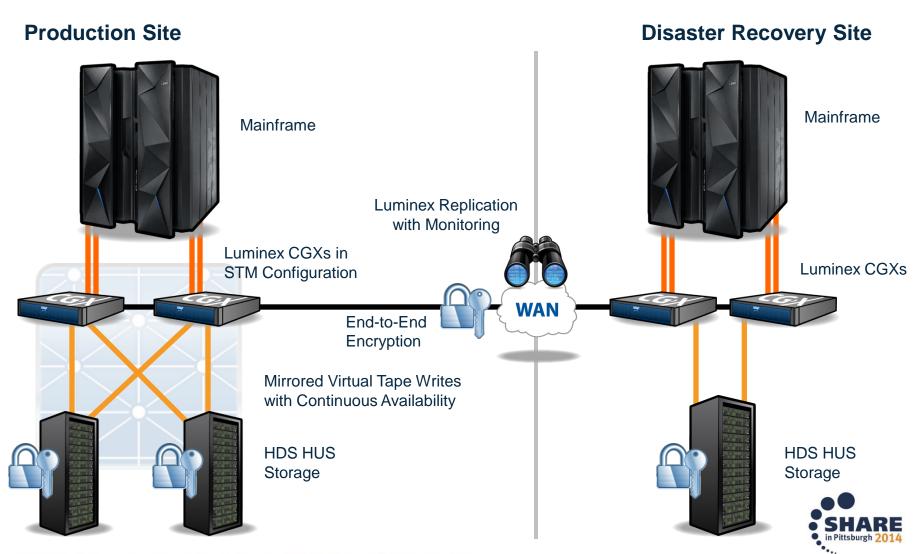


Goals And Objectives for Intermediate Mainframe Environment

- Address virtual tape capacity limitations
 - ☐ Tape data continued to grow
- Improve performance
 - Deduplication system "read" performance degraded over time
- Local replication still required an outage in the event of a disaster
 - Manually taking storage offline and putting copy online
- Manually managing 3 copies of data
- Managing multiple replication streams was a challenge with existing deduplication storage systems



Current Mainframe Environment



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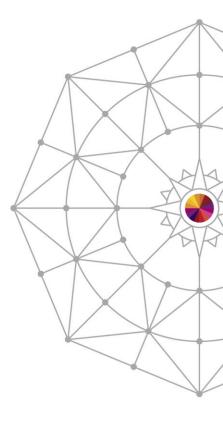


Current Benefits and Achievements

- ☑ Automatic management of multiple replication paths and copies
- ✓ Increased overall capacity
- ☑ Improved security by implementing CGSafe encryption
- ✓ Simplified DR testing with Push Button DR
- ☑ GUI-based monitoring of replication queues (RepMon)
- ☑ Improved performance (again)
 - ☑ 8-9x reduction in time for DASD restore over physical tape
 - ✓ Nearly 2x reduction over deduplicated virtual tape
 - ✓ Improved mainframe I/O performance and workload management
- ☑ Continuous availability for local data (STM)
 - ☑ Potential storage outages can be automatically managed



















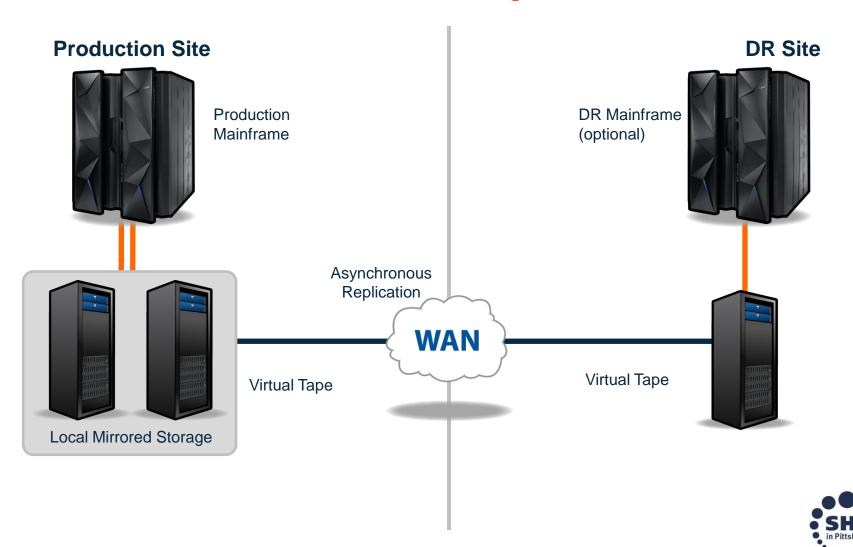






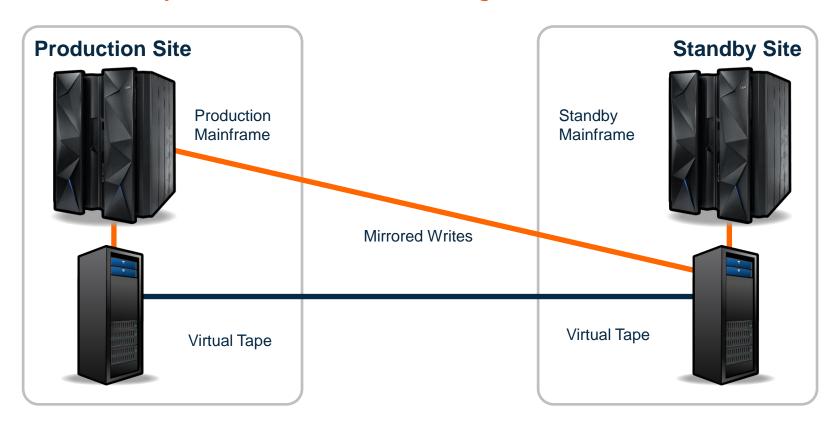


Active-DR Host, Active-Active Local Storage with DR





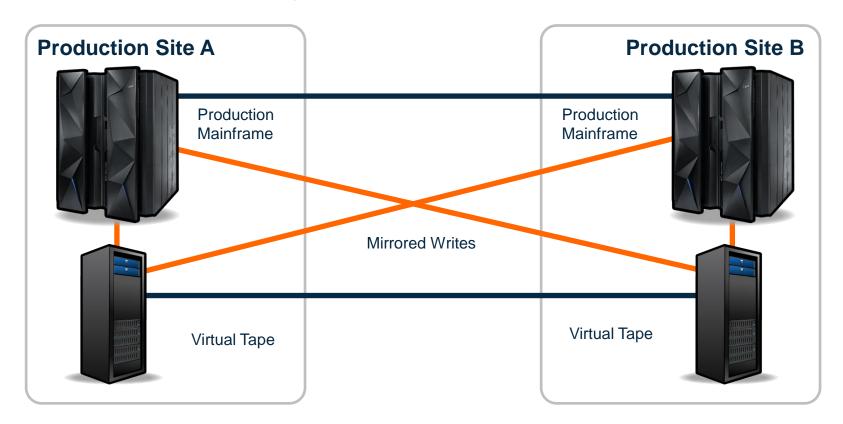
Active-Standby Host, Active-Active Storage







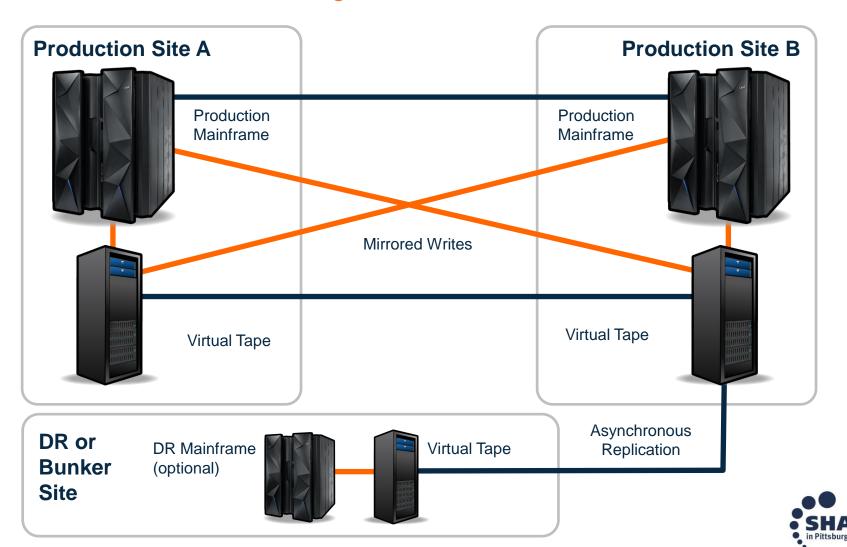
Active-Active Host/Storage

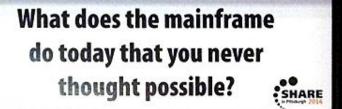


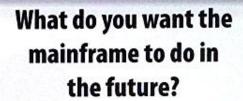


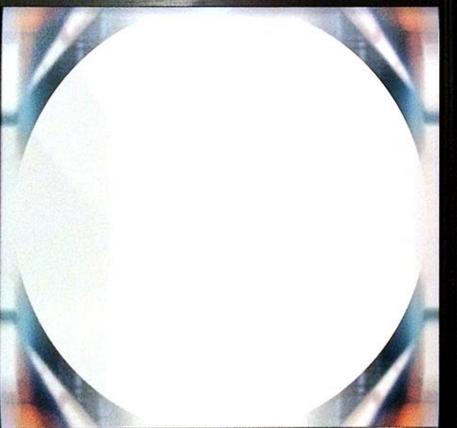


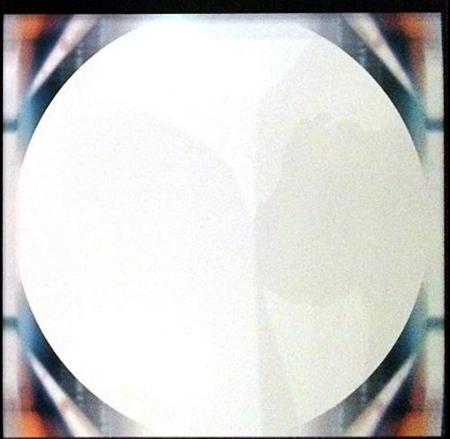
Active-Active-DR Host/Storage

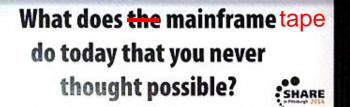




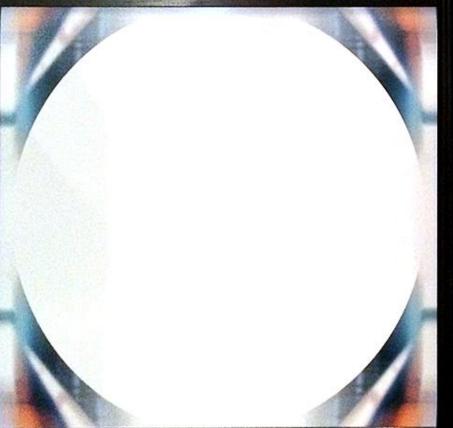










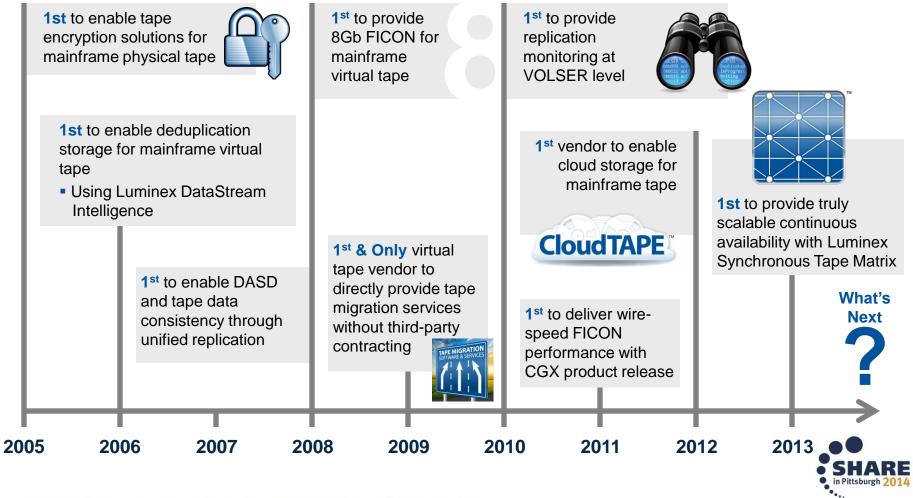






What's the Next Innovation?

Luminex's Heritage of Innovation





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