The management, storage and preservation of digital content can be a constant challenge. QStar Technologies and Hitachi Data Systems solve these challenges with a massively scalable, self-managing, active archive in a cloud environment.

Hitachi Content Platform and QStar Archive Manager Create Digital Media Cloud Archive

Retain Digital Content in a Flexible, Cost-Effective Cloud Environment

Overview
The combination of Hitachi Content Platform and QStar Archive Manager software in the cloud enables a truly unique digital media cloud solution. The joint solution protects valuable digital content while creating a flexible, highly scalable archive, robust enough for the media and entertainment industry.

QStar’s software creates a file gateway for the Hitachi Content Platform media cloud and presents the archive as a network share or mount point. Using standard network protocols, such as CIFS or NFS, creative users, editors and administrators can easily store, search and retrieve data within the archive. In addition, completed digital content from production, post-production, mastering, transcoding or distribution, can be archived, freeing up capacity on primary storage for new content. QStar software then uses HTTP or HTTPS to move content across the LAN, WAN, Internet or virtual private network into Hitachi Content Platform, an action that is transparent to applications (see Figure 1).
The Hitachi Content Platform media cloud can scale to 40PB in a single cluster, and each cluster can be divided into multiple virtual content platforms, with their own unique configuration and access control. Disk drives are automatically powered down during low activity periods, which reduces power and cooling costs.

About Hitachi Content Platform

Hitachi Content Platform is a multipurpose, distributed storage solution that addresses many challenges in the growth of digital content. An intelligent, content-based system, it supports multiple tiers of storage for all digital content, all on a single platform. IT professionals use Hitachi Content Platform to securely segregate data and provide different features and levels of service for different datasets. The system does this by providing a number of important capabilities, including a multitenant architecture, object versioning, retention and disposition services, encryption, immutability, high availability and search.

About QStar Software

QStar Archive Manager software offers performance and cost flexibility with unlimited scalability. The software can be easily integrated with an organization’s network environment and can be installed on servers using a range of operating systems, including Microsoft® Windows®, UNIX, Linux or Mac OS X. It integrates seamlessly with popular digital asset management and media asset management systems, providing simple access to the Hitachi Content Platform media cloud, without API support.

QStar software allows retention periods to be set, converting data into a secure read-only format for a set period of time. Data can be automatically removed at the end of this period, allowing the re-use of the freed archive capacity. Multiple retention periods can be created to support different data sets to meet varying business needs. Additionally, QStar software can replicate archived data to multiple sites and multiple storage technologies, such as a tape library, for example. This capability supports the flexible creation of disaster recovery copies.

For digital content already stored on SAN or NAS primary disk systems, organizations can create policies using QStar Network Migrator software, which will automatically copy, move or migrate content to QStar Archive Manager and then to the Hitachi Content Platform media cloud.

**BENEFITS OF THE HITACHI CONTENT PLATFORM AND QSTAR ARCHIVE MANAGER SOLUTION**

- CIFS/NFS gateway for simple connectivity and accessibility.
- Bottomless content repository of “massive scale.”
- Secure logical content repositories that support multiple customers.
- Self-managing, intelligent policy-based archive.
- Automated data integrity; data protection and backup eliminated.
- Built-in self-healing to support automatic error recovery.
- Single-instance storage with compression.
- Automated replication for business continuity.
- Seamless migration to new-generation storage technology.
- Optional data migration from existing SAN and NAS storage.