



CASE STUDY

Studio Hamburg preserves award-winning cinema and television with Spectra's BlackPearl NAS

“ The idea was to move aging media assets that had not been used in a long time to a storage system with a very low cost. Spectra's hardware infrastructure offered the performance we needed at a great value, with good references and strong system partnerships. ”



Spectra BlackPearl NAS

Dietmar Schuldt, IT Services Manager, Studio Hamburg



STUDIO HAMBURG
ENTERPRISES

Founded in 1947, Studio Hamburg is known internationally as a leading provider of cinema and TV productions. Its services cover all areas of the modern film industry,

including broadcast/IT projects, studio operations, decoration, post-production, dubbing and the rights and licensing business. The group's production portfolio reaches across all programming segments, from award winning cinema, documentaries and television films to long-standing series, mini-series, daily soaps and entertaining television variety shows.

Its well-known subsidiaries include Studio Hamburg UK, Hamburg-based Letterbox, Berlin-based Real Film, Riverside

The Challenge

Studio Hamburg, which is comprised of 40 companies and production teams, has been experiencing significant content growth. The organization's entire workflow is digital, including filming, video editing, cutting, retouching, sound recording, fine tuning, and finalizing the product. A 45-minute TV series can generate several hundred gigabytes of original footage, as well as working copies, editing material, photos and the like. Because these digital assets are rarely retrieved once production is complete, Studio Hamburg has a constant need for large-scale media storage and bandwidth for the long-term preservation of cold content. Some of their subsidiaries and production teams had maintained their own archives, which typically meant standalone external hard drives or NAS systems locked in a storage cupboard.

After five years of operating, it was time for the existing storage infrastructure to be adapted to suit this continuous data growth. Studio Hamburg wanted a hybrid and scalable solution that could provide a central archive across their



The entrance to Studio Hamburg's headquarters. Photo credit: Studio Hamburg.

Entertainment, Nordfilm and
Doclights.

CASE STUDY: Studio Hamburg

companies and production teams. The new system needed to offer transparent asset management and shift their growing content to secondary storage. Studio Hamburg was looking to incorporate online, nearline and archive storage repositories in a flexible structure connected via Fibre Channel. User access to the archive was also deemed necessary.

The Solution

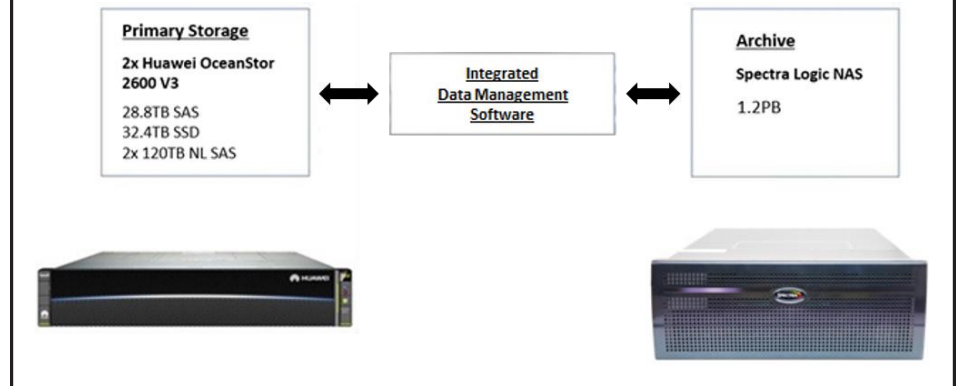
With the guidance of system integrator itiso, Studio Hamburg adopted a new online storage system by Huawei, as well as a Spectra® BlackPearl® NAS Solution for long-term content preservation, along with a partner data management software. The new structure replaces an EMC system with 147TB that had been in operation since 2013.

The Spectra BlackPearl NAS enables an active archive solution that provides appropriate access and a performance of over 800 MBps. Its verification features permanently check the content, which ensures that digital assets are available when needed. The solution consists of a BlackPearl NAS master node with two expansion nodes, currently providing a gross capacity of 1.2PB. If necessary, the solution can be expanded to as much as 15.5PB. Files are moved transparently into this long-term storage tier with integrated software, deleting files at the source after they have been migrated off the primary storage to free up space. The whole process happens automatically based on storage policies set by the studios' IT department.

Just eight months after installing their first Spectra solution, Studio Hamburg added another 4U Spectra BlackPearl NAS Solution. With a read/write performance of over one gig per second in a single CFIS file share, this NAS system attaches to five editing stations where Studio Hamburg converts short clips into different formats for several large media organizations.

Studio Hamburg plans to continuously expand the current storage and archive installation as needed. For the near future, they are considering adding

Studio Hamburg storage workflow with Spectra Logic



a Spectra Stack Tape Library to their storage architecture to enhance their data protection strategy with multiple copies.

Environment Snapshot

- Spectra® BlackPearl® 4U NAS Solution with two expansion nodes and over 180 8TB HDDs (1.2PB gross capacity)
- Single Spectra BlackPearl 4U NAS Solution with 35 8TB HDDs (280TB gross capacity)
- Integrated data management software
- Two Huawei OceanStor 2600 V3 arrays

Why Spectra?

- Great performance
- Hybrid and scalable solution
- Easy to use
- Affordably
- Active archive
- Strong relationship with partner Itiso

Solution Recap

Spectra BlackPearl NAS – Designed as the optimal disk platform for the storage of mid-tier data, including primary storage offload, data staging, backup and archiving, the Spectra BlackPearl NAS costs as little as pennies per gigabyte. Scaling capacity, performance and

platform, the BlackPearl NAS allows users to easily and affordably manage large files while planning for the future. The expandable solution provides raw storage capacities from 44TB to 15.97PB.

Designed for a variety of workloads, a single BlackPearl NAS can support multiple drives, including 4TB, 8TB, 12TB and 16TB enterprise disk drives. Reliable, economical and archive-ready, Spectra BlackPearl NAS simplifies the data storage process and accommodates future data growth.

Partner Profile:



ITISO GmbH is an information technology and services company based out of Hamburg, Germany. Working with partners like Spectra Logic, ITISO consultants and system architects integrate tailor-made IT architectures and individual solutions with the purpose of supporting and assisting companies in the development and implementation of data management solutions that optimally reflect their specific business processes and future requirements.