

Key VTL features and considerations

VTL	Key features	Key considerations
EMC Corp. <i>Disk Library Series (all models)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EMC NetWorker media server node • Management software updates backup software catalog • Maximum of 256,000 virtual cartridges and 512 virtual libraries • Symantec Veritas NetBackup media server node 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deduplication support forthcoming • No NAS backup target • Supports only Fibre Channel (FC) ports • Supports only RAID 1 and 5, not RAID 6
Fujitsu Siemens Computers <i>CentricStor</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Backup software coordinates copies from disk to tape • Mainframe and open-systems connectivity supported • Modular grid architecture to scale for performance • Virtualizes physical tape libraries 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deduplication not natively supported • No NAS backup target • Internally manages copy of data from disk to tape • Stores data on tape in proprietary format
Gresham Enterprise Storage Solutions <i>Clareti VTL</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Backup software coordinates copies from disk to tape • Modular grid architecture to scale for performance • FC, iSCSI and SCSI connectivity options • Virtualizes physical or virtual tape libraries 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deduplication not natively supported • No NAS backup target • Proprietary management software • Optional licenses needed for physical tape support
IBM Corp. <i>Virtualization Engine TS7520</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Can export tape using backup or TS7520 management software • Virtualizes LTO-2, LTO-3 and LTO-4, and IBM System Storage TS1120 tape drives • 884TB of usable disk capacity • On-demand management of virtual cartridges to maximize utilization 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deduplication not natively supported • No NAS backup target • Optional licensing needed for physical tape support • Supports primarily IBM disk and tape products
IBM <i>Virtualization Engine TS7700</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Groups logical volumes on specific physical disks • Replication similar to IBM's System Storage DS8000 Metro/Global Mirror 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deduplication not natively supported • Internally manages copy of data from disk to tape • Logical volumes a maximum of 4GB in size • Mainframe and FICON support only
Quantum Corp. <i>DXi7500</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Compression and deduplication supported • FC or iSCSI connectivity options • Interfaces with Symantec Veritas NetBackup 6.5 catalog • Virtual tape or NAS target options 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Internally manages copy of data from disk to tape • Maximum of 240TB raw capacity • DXi7500 console-initiated tape copies require manual backup software catalog updates
Quantum <i>Pathlight VX 650</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • IBM, Quantum and Sun physical tape libraries supported • Tape exports can be controlled by backup software • Interfaces with Symantec Veritas NetBackup 6.5 catalog • Virtual tape or NAS target options 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deduplication not supported • No NAS backup target • Product at end of life; Quantum DXi7500 will succeed it • VX 650 console-initiated tape copies require manual backup software catalog updates
Spectra Logic Corp. <i>nTier Series</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supports Windows-compatible backup software • Includes compression, deduplication and encryption options • Tape-encryption key management option • Uses Windows Storage Server 2003 as platform OS 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Doesn't create virtual tape libraries or cartridges • FC and iSCSI connections are optional features • Supports only RAID 6
Sun Microsystems Inc. <i>StorageTek Virtual Storage Manager</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 15,000 rpm disk drives used internally • Ensures full capacity used on virtual cartridges • Scales to support multiple VSMS in a single configuration 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deduplication not natively supported • Internally manages copy of data from disk to tape • Mainframe and ESCON/FICON support only • Pricing starts at more than \$300,000

VTL products listed met one of the following criteria:

1. Own management software (i.e., proprietary) that administrators use to create policies that managed the movement of data from disk to tape.
2. Can host backup software on a node (server) within the VTL to manage the movement of data from disk to tape.
3. Can virtualize disk or other VTLs and physical tape libraries to present a single virtual tape interface to the backup software. The VTL internally moves the data from disk to tape based on commands received from backup or hierarchical storage management software.