

Tape Drive Comparison and Backward Compatibility

Rent IT provide rental hire and lease of a variety of standalone tape drive units based on either Ultrium or DLT technologies. The information below tabulates storage size and performance of our stocked models.

Tape Drive Comparison

Drive Type	Native	Compressed	Internal Buffer	File Access
	Capacity & Transfer	Capacity & Transfer	MB	Seconds
Ultrium LTO-4	800GB at 120MB/s	1.6TB at 240MB/s	128	62
Ultrium LTO-3	400GB at 80MB/s	800GB at 160MB/s	128	68
Ultrium LTO-2	200GB at 24MB/s	400GB at 48MB/s	64	49
SDLT 600	300GB at 36MB/s	600GB at 72MB/s	64	79
SDLT 320	160GB at 16MB/s	320GB at 32MB/s	64	70
DLT 8000 (40/80)	40GB at 6MB/s	80GB at 12MB/s	8	60

Tape drives usually have a limited backward compatibility to previous generations of tape formats. The Ultrium range can normal read and write 1 generation back and can read only 2 generations previous. This information is provided below as a guide to our clients.

Tape Drive Backward Compatibility

Drive Type	Read & Write Compatibility	Read only Compatibility	Native Tape Type
Ultrium LTO-4	LTO-3 (unencrypted)	LTO-2	LTO 4 800/1600 GB data cartridge
Ultrium LTO-3	LTO-2	LTO-1	LTO 3 400/800 GB data cartridge
Ultrium LTO-2	LTO-1		LTO 2 200/400 GB data cartridge
SDLT 600		SDLT 320, SDLT 220 and DLT VS160	SDLT tape II
SDLT 320	SDLT 220	DLT 8000, DLT 7000, DLT 4000, DLT1 & DLT VS80	SDLT tape 1
SDLT 220		DLT 8000, DLT 7000, DLT 4000, DLT1 & DLT VS 80	SDLT tape 1
DLT 8000 (40/80)	DLT 7000, DLT 4000, DLT 2000XT & DLT 2000		DLT tape IV
DLT 7000	DLT 4000, DLT 2000XT & DLT 2000		
DLT 4000	DLT 2000XT & DLT 2000		