

Back-Up Tape Technology: 2014

Trends for QIC, DAT, 8 mm, DLT and LTO Media & Hardware Markets

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Back-up tape drive and media sales represented a \$971.32 million market in 2013. Drives had sales of \$396.29 million. Media sales amounted to \$575.03 million. LTO represented 95.34% of drive and 94.16% of tape cartridge revenues.

LTO-6 drives ramped during the year. Lower volumes of earlier generations resulted in a decline for total LTO drives shipments in 2013. **Hewlett-Packard (H-P)** led unit sales among drive makers. LTO media unit sales went down -11.06% to 20.37 million cartridges. LTO-6 ramped to 1.65 million units, 8.10% of total and accounted for 21.49% of revenue. LTO-5 units grew 9.63%. It had the second biggest volume accounting for 34.88% of unit sales and 33.76% of segment revenue. LTO-4 still had the largest volume in 2013. It accounted for 38.99% of unit sales and 30.12% of revenue. LTO-3 sold 14.61% of units and 11.44% of dollars. Intense price competition in the most recent LTO generations continued throughout the year. Hardware manufacturers H-P and **IBM** were among the major suppliers of media although third party vendors were also prominent in the market. H-P led the LTO media market with a 31.07% unit share. **Fuji** was second at 17.98% and **IBM** was third with 17.32%.

DLT-S media shipments declined year over year. Sales of DLT-S media amounted to \$5.32 million in 2013. H-P's leading share of the .087 million DLT-S cartridges sold was 42.10%. **Quantum** was the next largest supplier at 35.18%.

Sales of DAT drives were down in 2013. DAT-160 was again the largest format although its volume contracted. DAT-72 continued its decline. The proportion of DAT-160 and DAT-72 cartridges in the product mix supported average unit prices. DAT drive sales amounted to \$18.45 million representing 1.90% of the total back-up technology market. Sales of DAT media came to \$20.09 million. The leading media supplier was Hewlett-Packard with 70.78% of the 1.558 million units sold. **Imation** was the second largest and **Maxell** was third.

DLT-V media unit sales were down in the year. The market for DLT-V media which consists of DLTtape™ IV and DLTtape™ VS1 cartridges had sales of \$2.01 million. Quantum, H-P, Imation and Maxell were the suppliers of these products.

The 8 mm technologies accounted for .32% of the total back-up technology market. Sales of AIT, AME and metal particle cartridges declined to \$3.15 million. **Sony** was sole supplier of the .52 million unit AIT segment. Sony was the leading supplier in the total 8 mm MP media segment with an 81.08% share of the .08 million units sold.

QIC products represented 0.31% of total back-up technology revenue with sales of \$2.99 million. The QIC cartridge business was dominated by Imation.

LTO drives have the most favorable outlook for hardware products over the forecast period. Their units sales are expected to grow at a CAGR of -5.09% from 2013 to 2018. LTO cartridges have the most favorable outlook among media products with a CAGR of -5.62% leading to sales of \$428.47 million in 2018.

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