

Active Circle

Media-oriented storage and archive management system

Media-oriented storage and archive

Active Circle is a software-based storage archiving system specifically designed for rich-content like video and images. It is the reference place to store any content when not broadcast nor edited. It combines the benefits of IT technology with the specific features you need in Media & Entertainment.

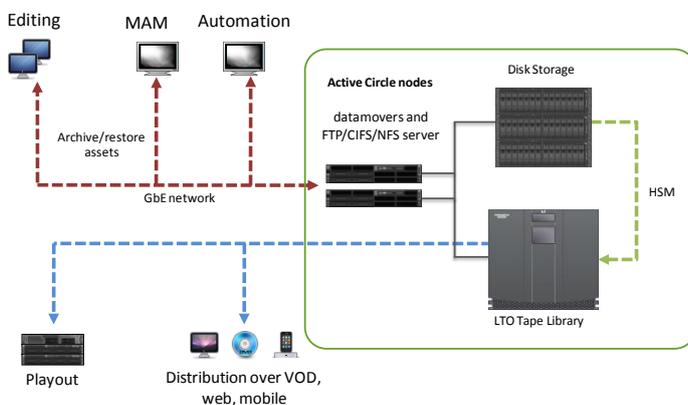
Active Circle is used by a number of large clients in the broadcasting and media industries for managing a flexible archiving environment that is perfectly integrated with their workflows and media asset management systems.

Thanks to Active Circle, you can leverage your organization's video and audio assets, making them available when you need them at a fraction of the cost of traditional storage solutions.

Benefits

- Your Archives are always available and easily accessible
- Your content is safe: It is protected against loss, corruption, and accidental deletion
- Production servers are free from unnecessary content.
- Prepare the future: Increase capacity and performance with no impact on the workflow
- Hardware Independence: Liberate your storage from proprietary storage vendors or technologies
- Reduced Storage Cost: Use disk when needed, use LTO tape for its very low cost.

Example of broadcast workflow

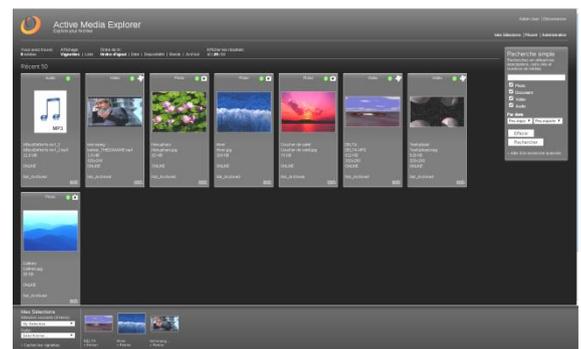


Active Circle Highlights

- HSM / Storage on disk and LTO tape: disk storage tier for fast access and a second tier on LTO tape
- Partial Restore on various formats to retrieve only the required sequence
- Web Services API for easy workflow integration
- Direct access: Your archives can be accessed as if they were sitting on a file server using standard network protocols FTP or CIFS
- Active Media Explorer: the AME is a user interface for indexing, searching and viewing the archives
- Open format: archives in TAR format for preservation, and LTFS export for data exchange
- Hardware independence: a software solution that runs on standard hardware, that supports any type of disk array and tape library
- High-availability solution: redundant access to the archives; clustered architecture

Active Media Explorer Interface

Active Media Explorer is a user-oriented interface to explore the Active Circle Archive. Search, browse and view low-res proxies. Select and retrieve the hi-res media.



Target applications

- Central Archive repository for premium or local broadcasters
- Active Archive with direct access for post-producers
- Media Storage Platform for Service Providers
- Central Archive for Enterprises managing massive collections of video assets

Active Circle – Features

Main features

Architecture	Software solution for managing disk storage and LTO tape archive while offering a media-oriented user interface. Integrated to media workflows.
HSM / tiered storage	Data tiering between disk and LTO tape. The oldest files are moved to tape, the vision of the file system remains unchanged.
Sharing content in Cloud mode	Servers (storage nodes) can be placed in distributed locations to share the same logical content while accessing it locally
Partial restore	Timecode-based direct access, read and restore from disk or tape. Supported formats: DVCPRO25/50/100, MXF IMX D10, MXF DVCPRO 25/50 frame wrapped, MXF LongGOP XDCAM-HD, QuickTime IMX / ProRes / DV.
Disaster / Recovery	Automated data replication on remote site for disaster recovery. Requires a distant node and storage.
Integrity management	Integrity check using MD5 algorithm. Comparison with the original signature.

Interfaces

Active Media Explorer	Web interface to explore the archives. Main features are index, search, view proxies. H264 proxies are generated when the archive is ingested.
File mode	Active Circle shares can be mounted as CIFS or NFS shares or accessed via FTP. Users can browse and read files even if the files are on LTO.

Compatibility and integration

Type of media file	Any type of file is stored and archived, then it is visible in file mode. The AME interface generates low-res proxies of video or image files.
Web Services API	The Active Media Connector is a set of web services for integrating with media workflows and applications.
Applications	Active Circle has been validated with the MAM, playout or editing applications from the following vendors: Apple, Avid, Chyro, EVS, Harris, MBT, Netia, Ninsight, Opsomai, Proconsultant, SGT. Check Active Circle for updates to this list.
Hardware	Server running Linux RedHat or CentOS. Any disk technology. LTO libraries from the following vendors: Overland Storage, Quantum, Dell, HP, Grau Data Storage, IBM, Oracle-STK, Tandberg Data, Spectra Logic...
Format on LTO	TAR or LTFS format



Active Circle is a media-oriented storage and archive system: it offers specialized user interfaces and it is integrated with the most popular media applications.

