

Media Asset Management and Archive Solution for Apple and Adobe Video Production Environments Quantum StorNext and CatDV MAM

Final Cut Server customers have long wanted an easy-to-use, easy-to-adopt asset management solution that worked well in their video production environments. Many production environments managing a centralized storage pool of video files are now using HDCAM and other digital camera technologies have eliminated the ability to go back to physical media if these files are ever lost on hard disk and are looking for a solution that can not only meet the demands of their all-digital workflows, but also meet the challenge of managing the extreme growth in the number and size of these new files.

A SOLUTION TO MEET EVER-GROWING DIGITAL DEMANDS

A collaborative solution from Quantum StorNext® and CatDV brings order to the mass of digital files in the Apple and Adobe Video Production Environments.

The makers of CatDV and StorNext have integrated the hottest media asset management platform with the industry's highest-performing shared file system and archive appliance in a solution offering to simplify deployment and lower the cost of managing video, audio, and rich media assets for collaborative video production environments.

CATDV OVERVIEW

CatDV is at the heart of your workflow, managing all aspects of a complete production.

Media is ingested from tape or disk and logged, enabling subclipping and tagging of the media to turn them into usable assets. You can drop or import any kind of media file into CatDV to catalogue and build up a searchable database of all your clips, whether the file is HD, H.264, MXF, MPEG, or any other format.

CatDV will intelligently harvest metadata in the file (such as the video format, audio sample rate, or copyright annotations) and store that in its database, together with thumbnail images and any log notes or other annotations that you may enter—letting you browse, search, and filter your assets until you find that one special shot.

Couple this rich set of metadata with the low-resolution proxies that CatDV automatically creates and searching and retrieving those key shots becomes a simple exercise even if the original media file is offline, on a removable drive, or archived to tape.

Above all, CatDV is a communication tool that's easy for the whole team to use, allowing loggers, producers, and editors to work together effectively and efficiently within a Quantum StorNext environment.



SOLUTION PROFILE

Together, CatDV and StorNext are ideal for:

- Professional video production facilities using Apple Final Cut Pro or Adobe Premiere Pro
- Universities, corporate video, television stations and cable channels, churches, and libraries looking to catalogue content, re-version, and store their content in a searchable archive
- Video professionals using HD/SLR cameras and needing a replacement for physical film to protect and archive content
- Small to mid-sized environments that have limited resources to integrate and deploy a content archive solution

BENEFITS

- Cost-effective archive for video production environments
- Strong integration for Apple Final Cut Pro and Adobe Premiere Pro environments
- Storage infrastructure from one vendor eliminates compatibility challenges
- "Tagging and Bagging" of all types of media reduces the time spent searching for your assets
- Filtering the assets for specific users, e.g. loggers, editors, producers, etc.
- Ability to transcode your media for low- and high-bandwidth users
- Integrated enterprise search across the archive
- Ability to archive entire project directories based on policies or on a file-by-file basis based on user direction
- Investment protection for video professionals worried about Apple's commitment to the market
- Pre-defined recommended configurations based on StorNext appliances reduces costs
- Seamless upgrade or transfer from Xsan

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Quantum's StorNext 5 is a staple for enabling high-throughput workflows for video production environments, being used by hundreds of post-production environments and the major studios. The tight compatibility with Apple Xsan and ability to provide a single pool of storage to Windows, Mac, and Linux workstations and servers in the workflow has made it a popular choice for Final Cut Pro editing. StorNext provides an integrated policy-based tiered storage and archive on top of this collaborative environment to protect valuable content and seamlessly move it to lower-cost storage devices.

AN INTEGRATED SOLUTION FOR CONTENT ARCHIVAL AND RETRIEVAL

CatDV provides intelligent media management for video, audio, and rich media content. Each asset is tracked throughout its lifecycle—from ingest to edit and archiving. Editors can share content and metadata with producers and each other. Producers can preview content remotely using low-res proxies and send catalogue changes back to the central production environment to merge with hi-res files. Editing projects are tracked and managed as a unit and sent to the StorNext archive for content protection and long-term retention. Content retrieval is made easy through the CatDV MAM—which has been integrated with StorNext APIs to enable users and operators alike to archive, retrieve, and see the status of projects in the archive.

The StorNext AEL Archive appliance integrates Quantum hardware and software to deliver a reliable, self-monitoring and self-healing, high-capacity archive intended for the long-term storage of near-line content. Quantum is the only vendor in the industry that offers the integration of a tape library and policy-based tape data integrity checking, giving customers the additional assurance of knowing that the data on their tapes is being tested and validated on a continuous and ongoing basis. And the unique slot-based pricing model preserves your investment—effectively doubling your capacity with no additional software license fees when upgrading between LTO technology levels, for example from LTO-6 to LTO-7.

THE CATDV ADVANTAGE

In a fast and ever-changing production landscape, CatDV is a scalable and flexible solution that adapts to production workflows and provides high-end tools for producers and editors to tag and share metadata within a facility.

CatDV is able to pull metadata directly from the files themselves, so-called "harvesting". User-keyed input and global tagging at ingest stage provide an organizational tool vital to production workflows. It becomes a "hub" within a facility tying together the storage and the archive for all users to find and retrieve their digital assets.

CatDV can create editorial proxy files with frame-accurate representations of the original footage, which can be employed in the editorial process without triggering a restore process. When the edit is finalized, CatDV can then bring the original material back "online", providing an intuitive method for retrieving files from the archive.

THE QUANTUM STORNEXT ADVANTAGE

In addition to providing a complete, workflow optimized storage and archive solution for CatDV, StorNext 5 provides a next-generation high-performance shared storage pool to other applications running on multiple platforms. Content is held on the most appropriate disk and tape tier, freeing up valuable high-performance disk and providing cost-effective long-term storage. StorNext appliances are built to handle large content production environments with pre-built configurations tweaked to maximize collaborative workflows and intelligent archive and retrieval.

Base Configuration - Components

The base configuration environment includes:

- CatDV Enterprise (including Worker Node and Quantum Store Manager plug-in)
- StorNext Pro Studio solution with:
 - Xcellis™ Workflow Director
 - QXS-412 RAID Storage
 - Optional StorNext AEL Archive

This base configuration provides:

- An appliance-based storage management environment for your CatDV media asset library
- 48TB raw space of local, performance disk for your library
- An integrated tape library starting with 50TB of active tape capacity with vaulting capabilities, expandable to over 1PB

Expansion Options:

Whether you are ready now, or planning on growing in the future, CatDV and Quantum are ready to grow with you using:

- Expanded working capacity with additional drive enclosures. Additional controllers can be added with additional enclosures for up to 1.7PB (2.1PB raw)
- Expanded bandwidth with additional disk arrays. Additional disk arrays can add additional bandwidth for single stream performance up to 2.2GB/s and up to 6.4GB aggregate performance
- Expanded archive capacity up to 21PB of active vault with the AEL6000 Tape Archive
- Additional attached SAN and network workstations can be added to up to 1500 total clients

ABOUT QUANTUM

Quantum is a leading expert in scale-out storage, archive and data protection. The company's StorNext® 5 platform powers modern high-performance workflows, enabling fluid, real-time collaboration and keeping content readily accessible for future use and re-monetization. More than 100,000 customers have trusted Quantum to address their most demanding content workflow needs, including top studios, major broadcasters and cutting-edge content creators. With Quantum, customers can Be Certain™ they have the end-to-end storage foundation they need to manage assets from ingest through finishing, and into delivery and long-term preservation. See how at www.stornext.com.

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