



## OVATION CELEBRATES SUPPORTING 50 YEARS OF MAGNETIC TAPE

*Ovation salutes Imation in celebrating 50 years of Innovation (see next article)*

Ovation is proud to still be able to support the original digital magnetic tape reel invented by IBM and 3M (Imation) back in 1953. Ovation's 7-track tape drive systems are still in operation, today!

Over the past 50 years, we have seen many changes; many have come, and most have gone. (see *Obsolesce*) Today, Ovation supports over 181 different media technologies (from the past 50 yrs.), and is constantly adding more every couple of months. If you think it is becoming difficult to keep track, please see our newly announced program for providing protection from these problem. (see *The Future Brings ... OD<sup>2</sup>SP Program*)



## IMATION HERITAGE: 50 YEARS OF DATA STORAGE

*Tape was just the beginning...*

Tape has been a part of data storage for so long; it's easy to take it for granted. Yet, it's been 50 years since the first commercially available magnetic tape was pioneered by IBM and 3M. The year was 1953. And the

product was the Model 726 tape drive, which used a 12" movie reel to store 1.4 megabytes on a special tape media. It was the first truly removable storage media — a breakthrough that ushered in a new era of information processing.

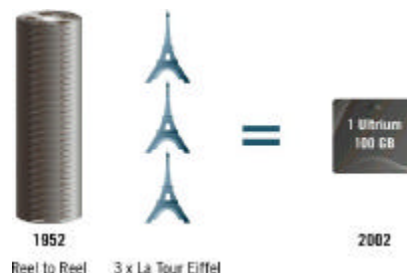


*The first digital tape drive in the world...*

## 1953 IBM 726 TAPE DRIVE

The IBM 726 tape reader/ recorder (launched in 1953) used oxide-coated, non-metallic tape, approximately a half-inch wide. Information was recorded on the tape in six channels that ran parallel to the length of the tape. A seventh channel on the tape served to check the reading and writing of the other six channels by an odd-number redundancy check. The tape density was 100 bits per linear inch. Tapes could be interchanged between different 726 units. Two 1,200-foot and two 200-foot reels of magnetic tape were furnished as standard.

If you were to try to use reel-to-reel computer tape from 1953 to hold the information contained in a single 100 gigabyte LTO Ultrium data cartridge, the stack of reels would be three times the height of the Eiffel Tower!



## OVATION NOW SUPPORTS

*New media and technology that is now supported by Ovation since last update*

### LTO-2

April 2003 - Second Generation of Linear Tape Open (LTO) Ultrium 3580

Media: 11 1/2" Cartridge, 2000', MP  
Capacity: 200 GB, Transfer: 35 MB/s  
Backward Compatible: LTO-1  
Connection: UltraScsi LVD/HVD

### S-AIT

July 2003 - Super AIT based upon third generation of AIT.

Media: 1/2" Cartridge, 600m, AME  
Capacity: 500 GB, Transfer: 30 MB/s  
Backward Compatible: n/a  
Connection: UltraScsi LVD, Fibre Channel

## THIS JUST IN...

*New media and technology that has just been announced or released and will be supported by Ovation in the future*

### S-DLT600

October 2003 - Second Generation of Super DLT by Quantum.

Media: 11 1/2" Cartridge, 2066', MP  
Capacity: 300 GB, Transfer: 32 MB/s  
Backward Compatible: SDLT220/320, VS160  
Connection: UltraScsi, Fibre Channel

### 3592

August 2003 - New Generation of Magstar technology by IBM, (Not compatible with 3590/3590e) IBM plans to introduce Write Once Read Many (WORM) media technology.

Media: 1/2" Cartridge, 2001', MP  
Capacity: 300 GB, Transfer: 40 MB/s  
Backward Compatible with: n/a  
Connection: Fibre Channel, ESCON

THIS JUST IN ... continued

## DDS-5/DAT72

June 2003 - Fifth Generation of 4mm DAT by Certance(Seagate).

Media: 4mm Cassette, 170m, MP  
Capacity: 36 GB, Transfer: 3.5 MB/s  
Backward Compatible: DDS-3, DDS-4  
Connection: UltraSCSI LVD

## SLR140

October 2003 - Nineteenth Generation of QIC cartridges by Tandberg.

Media: 1/4" Cassette, 1660',  
Capacity: 70 GB, Transfer: 6 MB/s  
Backward Compatible: SLR-7/40/50/  
60/75/100  
Connection: UltraSCSI LVD

## T9840c

August 2003 - Second Generation of T9840 by StorageTek.

Media: 1/2" Cartridge, 886', AMP  
Capacity: 40 GB, Transfer: 30 MB/s  
Backward Compatible with: T9940a/b  
Connection: Fibre Channel, ESCON

All Capacities/Transfer numbers are Native and Backward Compatible are Read only compatible.

## OBSOLESCE

*Is your information on the verge of being OBSOLETE? Or is it ALL READY THERE????!!*

The technology that information is being stored on is rapidly becoming obsolete in just a few years, much faster than in the past.

Of the 181 Media technologies that **Ovation** supports from the past 50 years: **70% of the devices are unavailable, and 40% of the media are unavailable.** Of the device

technologies introduced after 1990 and has since been discontinued, the average LifeSpan was 4.2 years. Of the device technologies still available today, their current average age is only 5.1 years. **Ovation** recommends that any information residing on media technology that is over 5 years old should be immediately migrated onto a current media. (see OD<sup>2</sup>SP)

## MILESTONES in Technology

**April 2003, Imation** ships its **FIVE BILLIONTH** Floppy Diskette.

**April 2003, DLTtape** with an installed base of nearly 2 Million drives in use and more than 90 Million DLTtape media cartridges shipped to date.

**July 2003, LTO Ultrium** format reaches milestone with more than 10 Million cartridges, and 350,000 drives shipped to date.

## THE FUTURE BRINGS ...

*Do we know what the future brings?*

Not always. That is why we have developed the **Ovation Digital Data Stewardship Program (OD<sup>2</sup>SP)**.

OD<sup>2</sup>SP is a digital data archiving and preservation program that provides the highest, unprecedented, levels of assurance that a customer will have access to all of their digital information well into the future.



The OD<sup>2</sup>SP program removes the **burden** of archiving and preserving a customer's digital data, and **eliminates** the customer's uncertainty in archiving and preserving their digital data.

Contact Ovation for further info or visit [www.ovationdata.com/od2sp](http://www.ovationdata.com/od2sp)

## OVATIONS WATCH LIST

### Coming ...

*Media and Devices that may be introduced in the very near future*

#### 8mm

AIT-4	24MB/s	200GB
Mammoth M3	18MB/s	120GB
VAX-3	12MB/s	160GB

#### Disc

Blu-Ray Laser	9MB/s	23.3GB
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#### 1/2" Cartridge

DLT VS320	15MB/s	160GB
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### ... Going ...

*Media and Devices that may be discontinued in the very near future  
Current supplies may be limited for the following media:*

#### QIC

DC600a, DC2000, DC2120,
DC2120xl, MC3000xl, Magnus 1.35
Travan-1, Travan-2

#### 1/2" Reel/Cartridge

9-Track (3240), 9490EE, 3490eXL
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#### 4mm

DDS-1 60m
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### ... Gone

#### Devices

Exabyte Mammoth-1 (May 2003)
Exabyte Eliant 820 (May 2002)
Qualstar 9-Track (April 2002)
Fujitsu 3480/3490e (August 2001)