BridgeHead Software's HT Storage Manager product suite was designed for storage and data compliance management. The suite is made up of several software modules, each offering unique features and functionality. These systems are available individually, or they can be bundled with special "application aware" modules to solve industry specific requirements.

One of the strongest components of HT Storage Manager is OpenMedia, the enterprise class media manager that fully automates all aspects of handling offline media (tapes, optical devices, etc.), for volume, saveset, and device management under robotics or human operator control. OpenMedia provides optimal device utilization capable of consolidating resources throughout the enterprise. It enhances operations by managing backup and restore activity in libraries, with automated procedures to support the device rotation and vaulting policies that many organizations have for data protection and archiving. Additionally, OpenMedia uses policies to control which jobs have access to resources and it ensures that no job will ever overwrite or mishandle media from another job. These capabilities translate into extensive cost savings for organizations of all sizes.

OpenMedia
Enterprise Media and Device Management

A Complete Media Management Solution

A key component of the HT Storage Manager suite, OpenMedia is the most robust media manager on the market today. The system is highly flexible and adaptable, for use in a wide variety of organizations. The system itself is a standalone media management product, however, it can work in concert with other products and integrate with other storage applications for complete storage management.

Unique Database Architecture

At the heart of OpenMedia is a database providing a model of your enterprise's media resources and management policies. This database can represent physical items such as devices and hosts, or abstract entities such as media pools and user privileges.

OpenMedia's unique client/server database architecture utilizes a dynamic service broker, allowing clients to ask for a 'service' rather than a particular 'server'. The client does not need to know where the server process is actually running, or what operating system it is using.

OpenMedia allows for distributed implementations of backup and storage management strategies at multiple locations, across a worldwide computing enterprise.

Cross-Platform Capabilities

OpenMedia is designed to be inherently portable. All client/server communications are architecture neutral, allowing it to work in both homogeneous and heterogeneous environments.

Scalable Media Management

OpenMedia is used by both small and large companies alike, as it grows with your storage management needs. It can easily be introduced into sites with or without massive amounts of distributed data. New devices, jukeboxes, hosts, and backup clients can be added dynamically. And, sites can be managed centrally or distributed to domains of responsibility. OpenMedia can also be used for load balancing and fault-tolerance without any reconfiguration of backup jobs.

Load Balancing

OpenMedia keeps a record of device usage so it can balance tape loads across all devices to reduce wear and tear. Additionally, prior to asking for a device, OpenMedia checks whether a suitable device is already loaded to avoid unnecessary burdens, thus speeding up operations.

Fault Tolerance and Disaster Recovery

With OpenMedia, backup jobs are not limited to specific routes or devices. Instead, if there is a failure, your policy rules cause jobs to be automatically redirected to another suitable resource on the network, whether robot, server, tape, or disk repository. And in the event of a site disaster, OpenMedia implements multiple rotation models and facilitates network backup, multi-site interoperation, and off-site media tracking for protection. OpenMedia provides integrity checks, administrative utilities, and database backup and restore facilities that all significantly reduce the time taken to recover after a disaster.

Common User Interface

OpenMedia's interfaces provide a common view of the data storage environment, regardless of the host.

With OpenMedia, a Graphical User Interface (GUI) and Command Line Interface (CLI) are supplied. The GUI allows users to administer data management tasks across the enterprise from any client workstation, with a simple, familiar way of manipulating the database. The CLI is designed to produce command scripts for direct storage management, or for interfacing with existing systems.

OpenMedia communicates between clients and servers with a well defined network wide Application Program Interface (API). This is available separately for OEMs and system integrators.

Shared or Distributed Robot Support

Because OpenMedia models both the control and the data connections, it automatically manages storage robots where drives are connected to different or multiple systems, even allowing large robots to be connected to multiple platforms.

Storage Area Networks (SANs)

OpenMedia was specifically designed to allow for multi-hosted devices — devices that can be accessed by multiple hosts. And, it will automatically serialize the access to SAN devices (or to OpenVMS Cluster-attached devices).

Saveset Model

OpenMedia's sophisticated saveset model means that applications do not have to remember volume names, but rather symbolic names for their data. OpenMedia supports multi-streamed savesets where one saveset is being written simultaneously to multiple volumes. This is needed for replication, or for splitting the data between multiple devices. Furthermore, OpenMedia allows a saveset to be split into arbitrary sized segments to make positioning faster for restore operations.

Platform Support

OpenMedia Manager Server
- MS Windows/Intel

OpenMedia Client
- MS Windows/Intel
- MS Windows NT Alpha
- OpenVMS VAX
- OpenVMS Alpha
- Linux
- Sun Solaris
- Compaq Tru64 UNIX
- HP UX
- IBM AIX
- SGI IRIX
- Reliant UNIX
- Sequent DYNIX/ptx
- UnixWare (SCO)

In Conclusion

OpenMedia enforces common media management policies throughout the enterprise, avoiding the need to dedicate particular devices to particular applications or robots. Its flexibility also allows integration with third party systems. Overall, it is the most robust media manager on the market today.

www.BridgeHeadSoftware.com