

Sun StorageTek™ ACSL Manager Software

Centralized, multi-platform library management



Management of distributed tape libraries is both time consuming and costly—multiple libraries, multiple backup applications, multiple administrators, and poor resource utilization. It all adds up to a high cost of ownership. The Sun StorageTek™ Automated Cartridge System Library Software (ACSL Manager software) offering from Sun solves this problem by centralizing the management of physical and logical tape libraries for easier administration, increased utilization, and a lower total cost of ownership.

Highlights

- **Centralize storage** – StorageTek ACSL Manager software enables a centralized storage operations model that allows you to manage more with less
- **Simplify administration** – The user interface is Web browser-based so you can more easily monitor and manage physical and logical resources
- **Create logical libraries** – Partition physical libraries to improve utilization and gain capacity on demand
- **Reduce costs** – Library resource sharing reduces capital equipment, maintenance, and operating costs while simplifying library management
- **Increase availability** – StorageTek ACSL Manager software helps you keep your business up and running. The ACSL High Availability solution goes even further to prevent downtime, providing dual-server, fault-tolerant protection and serviceability and redundancy features
- **Protect your investments** – A highly flexible client/server architecture supports your legacy systems to protect capital investments in libraries, drives, and software applications
- **Leverage leading technology** – StorageTek ACSL Manager software is interoperable with the leading backup/recovery and HSM applications
- **Enhance security** – StorageTek ACSL Manager software offers enhanced security features to protect data from unauthorized access

A strategic solution

Centralized management

StorageTek ACSL Manager software allows you to implement a strategic, centralized library management solution. It functions as a central service provider for operating Sun StorageTek libraries in heterogeneous environments. It allows you to collapse disparate, application-dedicated libraries to one centralized library or string of libraries accessed via a single point of control.

StorageTek ACSL Manager software works seamlessly with today's most popular operating systems and backup products to leverage the benefits of efficient, cost-effective StorageTek libraries. It supports more than 30 of today's most popular tape management systems and more than 10 different StorageTek libraries.

ROI advantages

StorageTek ACSL Manager software is designed to interoperate with major operating systems, backup/recovery software and Hierarchical Storage Management (HSM) applications to support a heterogeneous systems environment. This allows you to consolidate your library resources, load balance them, and fully utilize your available storage capacity. This eliminates the need to purchase additional direct-attach libraries while other dedicated libraries in your arsenal remain partially used. The resulting library architecture can help you reduce capital equipment, maintenance, and personnel costs.

Simplifying the client/server architecture

StorageTek ACSL Manager software has demonstrated its ability to work consistently and reliably over the years in thousands of enterprises. It allows any supported application, or combination of supported applications,

to dynamically allocate library resources without hard-partitioning tape slots in the library. Yet, to each application, the libraries appear to be operating under their exclusive control.

Continuous business operations

Whether you earn revenues through e-commerce, have global operations, or have to complete backups during tight windows, StorageTek ACSL Manager software helps your tape environment meet your high-availability objective. Its dynamic drive upgrade feature is designed to help you dynamically update and hot-swap drives and change their configurations without necessarily having to restart ACSL.

ACSL high availability solution

Minimize downtime

For maximum business continuity protection of your StorageTek libraries, look to the ACSL High Availability (ACSL HA) solution. It helps you eliminate single points of failure in the management of your StorageTek tape libraries.

The ACSL HA solution leverages the Solaris™ Operating Environment and Solaris Cluster high availability software in a dual-server configuration, housing your library management ACSL application on two separate servers. In the event of a hardware or software error, the ACSL HA solution automatically fails over to the redundant server to enable continuous library control and access to data.

ACSL HA is a 100 percent Sun developed and supported high availability solution, offering a single point of contact for support of your mission critical environments. Investing in the ACSL HA solution can help you minimize both unplanned and planned downtime, especially in

lights-out datacenters, to improve data access and greatly reduce the costs associated with such outages. For large enterprises, the ROI benefit of an ACSLS HA solution could literally pay for itself by preventing even short periods of unexpected outages or by reducing the maintenance window that cuts into productive operations time.

Sun's StorageTek Professional Services support

Sun fully supports the ACSLS HA solution. Sun's StorageTek Professional Services team must implement and test your ACSLS HA solution implementation. Sun has the resources you need to get your ACSLS HA solution up and running in short order.

ACSLS Manager software features

Rich management capabilities

ACSLS Manager software helps you fully optimize your libraries with advanced features such as a Web browser-based user interface, logical libraries, auditing, reporting, event-log recording, querying, issuing service requests, and automated drive cleaning. These features provide exceptional operational flexibility.

The user interface runs as an application within the Java Web Console. It allows you to perform most legacy `cmd_proc` operations and the operations related to logical library management. When you partition the Sun StorageTek SL8500, SL3000 or SL500 libraries into logical libraries, you can assign volumes and drives to the logical library to enable library consolidation, gain capacity on demand, and allow only the client connected to the logical library to access those volumes and drives.

The display command report allows users to obtain information about the StorageTek ACSLS Manager software database using highly customizable queries. The event notification feature informs users of volume and library status changes as well as hardware errors.

Robust cartridge and volume support

Cartridges that are ejected or cannot be found in the library are marked absent or ejected rather than being deleted. When these cartridges are re-entered or found, they are

reactivated and ready for immediate use. StorageTek ACSLS Manager software recovers volumes that are not found in their expected locations in the library by searching all of a volume's recorded locations and asking the library for their current locations instead of automatically deleting them.

Cartridge exchange support

ACSLS Manager software supports enterprise environments by utilizing the pass-through-port feature of StorageTek tape libraries. This enables StorageTek libraries to exchange cartridges between library storage modules to optimize the use of those resources. If all of a library's tape drives are busy and a cartridge resident in that library receives a mount request, the requested cartridge can be passed to another library with the nearest available transport for continuous operation.

Access control

Administrators can selectively limit client access to StorageTek ACSLS Manager software commands through passwords and permissions. The StorageTek ACSLS Manager software server itself can be protected behind a firewall. StorageTek ACSLS Manager software also supports a locking mechanism so that tape drives can be selectively allocated to multiple users or dedicated to a single user. Tape drives and volumes assigned to a logical library can only be accessed by the client managing the logical library.

Dynamic resource management

The media pool feature allows you to assign each application or user its own pool of tapes to manage. In addition to supporting high and low watermarks, it provides a common scratch tape pool for applications to draw from. Pools can easily span physical libraries, making it easy to scale your library environment to accommodate growth or additional applications.

The Dynamic Configuration feature allows you to conduct near-continuous operations by dynamically adding or updating drives or entire libraries without restarting ACSLS Manager software.

Mixed media support

ACSLS Manager software lets you choose the right mix of drive and media cartridge types in the same library, to tune your resource use for its most cost-effective configuration.

Options

- LibraryAttach software enables StorageTek ACSLS Manager software to manage applications running in Windows environments. It uses a TCP/IP network to provide a seamless connection between Windows backup applications and ACSLS Manager software
- MVS Client System Component (MVS/CSC) software enables applications running in MVS environments to share an ACSLS-managed library
- RMLS Client System Component (RMLS/CSC) software enables applications running in an iSeries (AS/400) environment to share an ACSLS-managed library.

Baseline Implementation Services

Sun's Implementation Services help you achieve the full benefits of your storage solution investments, right from the start. The Baseline Implementation Services offering for StorageTek ACSLS Manager software include standard ACSLS and ACSLS HA solutions. The Implementation Services for ACSLS Manager software provide knowledge transfer of the implementation and environment operations detail to your organization. This offering includes the installation and configuration of StorageTek ACSLS Manager software and hardware in a standard or HA configuration, testing of utilities and configuration of the StorageTek library in your operations environment. The tape library is integrated into your existing backup operation. In addition, the service includes design validation, documentation, and project management.

In addition to Baseline Implementation Services, Sun Professional Services offers higher-level consulting services for the organization whose implementation needs go beyond the baseline level.

What's new

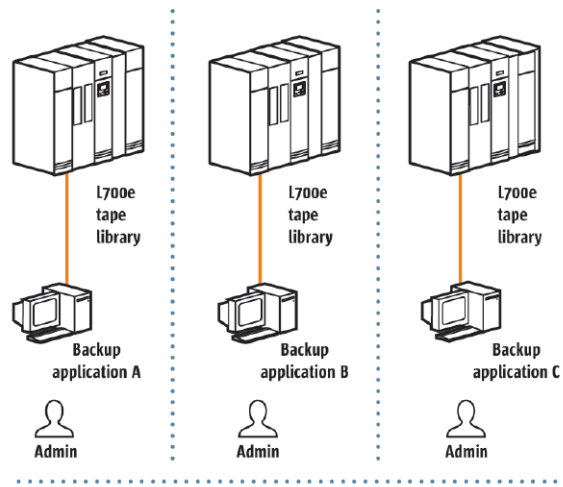
Capabilities in Sun StorageTek™ ACSLS Manager 8.0 software

The newest release of StorageTek ACSLS Manager software includes features for easier management, enhanced performance, and more.

New enhancements:

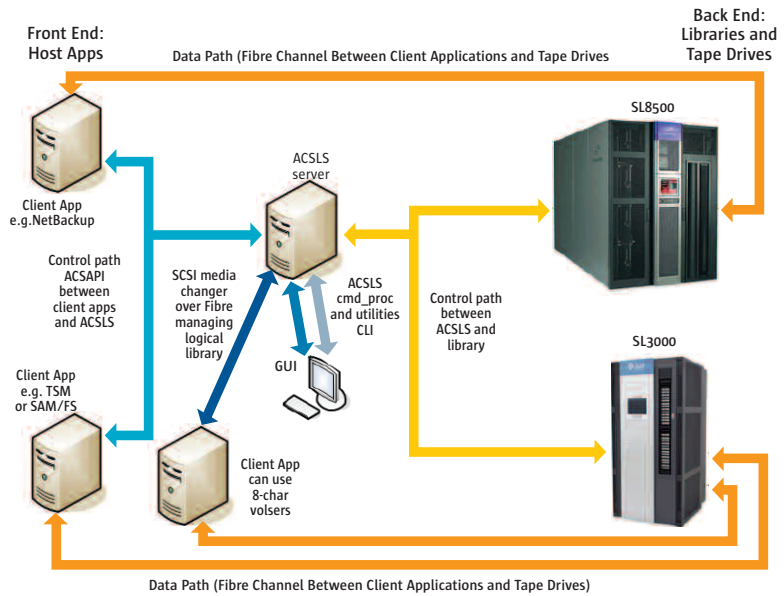
- Web browser-based user interface
- Logical libraries
- SCSI Fibre Channel front-end interface
- Backward compatibility with all legacy ACSLS Manager software commands and interfaces
- Support for eight-character volume labels, including media domain and type

Without ACSLS Manager software



Without StorageTek ACSLS Manager software: distributed management, several administrators, multiple libraries, excess environmental consumption, poor workload balancing and resource utilization, higher total cost of ownership.

With ACSLS Manager software



- The control path is used to send library automation commands (e.g. mounts and dismounts from client applications to ACSLS and on to the library). ACSLS is only on the control path.
- The data path is for writing and reading data to and from the tape drives.

With StorageTek ACSLS Manager software: centralized management, single administrator, one library, lower environmental consumption, standard policy management, balanced workload and resource utilization, maximum storage efficiency, lower cost of ownership.

StorageTek™ ACSLS Manager software specifications

Minimum software requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Solaris 10 update 6, SPARC and x64 platforms For ACSLS HA only: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ACSLS HA Agent 8.0 • Solaris 10 update 7, SPARC platform only • Solaris Cluster software 3.2
Minimum hardware requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 GB or greater RAM • 40 GB disk space (includes free space for database backup)
Supported tape libraries	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sun StorageTek SL8500 Modular Library System • Sun StorageTek SL3000 Modular Library System • Sun StorageTek SL500 Library System • Sun StorageTek L1400 Tape Library* • Sun StorageTek L700e Tape Library* • Sun StorageTek L180 Tape Library* • Sun StorageTek L5500 Tape Library* • Sun StorageTek PowderHorn 9310 Tape Library* • Sun StorageTek legacy tape libraries*
Supported tape drives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sun StorageTek T10000 A* and B • Sun StorageTek T9940 A* and B* • Sun StorageTek T9840 A*, B*, C*, and D • LTO 2*, 3, and 4 • DLT-S4* • SDLT 320* and 600 • Sun StorageTek legacy tape drives* • DLT legacy tape drives*
Supported backup client environments (dependent upon backup application)**	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • IBM MVS • IBM AS/400 • UNIX • Windows (x86, ia64, x64) • Linux

*Supported but not currently sold by Sun.

**AIX 5.3 Technology Level 6 (TL6) or later versions are supported by ACSLS Manager software 7.3.

Learn More.

To learn more, talk to your Sun representative or visit sun.com/acsls