

## SECURE ERASURE OPTION GUARANTEED SECURE DATA DESTRUCTION

Secure Erasure™ is a licensed option for SEPATON S2100® data protection appliances that delivers guaranteed, auditable erasure of data on virtual tape cartridges. With Secure Erasure, the storage administrator can schedule all or selected cartridges to be completely destroyed in a process that conforms with National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) guidelines.

Addressing the critical final phase of the data protection life cycle, SEPATON's Secure Erasure option for the S2100-ES2 data protection appliance enables administrators to destroy data on virtual tape cartridges quickly and efficiently and in accordance with NIST 800-88 guidelines.

As a fully integrated feature of the S2100 data protection appliance, Secure Erasure is a simple command choice in the appliance's DeltaView Manager™ user interface.

### **SIMPLE, SECURE ERASURE**

Many government agencies and industries are subject to stringent regulations that mandate complete, auditable destruction of designated classes of data. For example, military and intelligence agencies periodically destroy classified or sensitive information. Health care, financial services, and other private industries also purge systems of proprietary information and regulated types of data, such as medical records, credit card information, and intellectual property records.

Data destruction needs to be complete and irreversible, without the possibility of reconstruction.

In a common scenario, sensitive data may be inadvertently stored on a system

that is not secure enough to protect it. In these cases, administrators need to move the data to a secure location and destroy all instances of the data and its backup from all other systems.

The S2100 data protection appliance with Secure Erasure enables these organizations to destroy data in compliance with regulatory requirements and their in-house policies without the cost, risk, and complexity required in physical tape environments.

### **COST-SAVING OPERATIONAL EFFICIENCY**

Secure Erasure reduces IT administrative cost by increasing productivity of IT personnel and automating time-consuming manual tasks such as mounting, unmounting, and removing physical tape cartridges.

Secure Erasure destroys data while leaving virtual tape cartridges reusable, saving thousands of dollars in media costs annually. In addition, with no physical tapes to destroy and dispose of, Secure Erasure enables a "greener" data center.

### **FULLY AUDITABLE DESTRUCTION**

Many regulations require documented proof that data or entire physical cartridges have been destroyed. Providing this auditable proof in a physical tape

environment requires administrators to spend hundreds of labor hours annually collecting, inventorying, and documenting tape cartridges.

Secure Erasure eliminates this costly administrative burden and the human error that may accompany it by automatically generating an audit report for each destroyed cartridge and emailing it directly to auditors – putting the data destruction status of every cartridge at their fingertips.

### **CONTINUOUS CAPACITY**

Conventional tape destruction reduces the capacity of a tape library until all the destroyed tape media is replaced. With Secure Erasure, you never have to worry about losing critical backup capacity. As data is destroyed, DeltaView Manager provides clear reporting of the cartridge status and automatically adds freed cartridge space to the capacity available for new backups.

Secure Erasure is also more flexible than are other disk-based data destruction options, which require administrators to erase or degauss (demagnetize) entire disks to remove a single backup set. With Secure Erasure, administrators can erase a single cartridge or multiple cartridges as needed.

## RISK REDUCTION

The highly manual nature of transporting and destroying physical tape media presents a variety of potential risks, ranging from human error to media loss or theft to security breaches.

Secure Erasure addresses this risk by eliminating the need to move tape cartridges to an in-house or outsourced tape destruction facility. Data destruction with Secure Erasure is an in-house, operator-initiated process that is performed directly on the S2100 appliance. Secure Erasure eliminates the sources of these risks by providing simple, immediate destruction of data. By keeping data on-site and destroying it immediately, it also eliminates the risk of tapes being lost, mishandled, or stolen in transit to a shredding location or while waiting for periodic shredding services.

BENEFITS OF SECURE ERASURE		
Benefits	Secure Erasure	Physical Tape
Reduced Administration Costs and Labor Time	✓ Fully Automated	✗ Highly Manual
Automatically Documents Data Destruction for Auditing	✓ Generates and Emails Complete Audit Document	✗ Highly Manual
Reduced Risk: Keeps Data In-House, Eliminates Key Sources of Human Error	✓ Yes	✗ Requires Off-Site Shipping
Lower Media Costs, Green Advantage	✓ Yes; Virtual Tape Media Available for Immediate Reuse	✗ No; Physical Tape Cartridges Must Be Destroyed
Flexibility: Erase Individual Cartridges	✓ Yes; Erase a Single Cartridge or Entire Volume	✗ No; Entire Backup Volume Must Be Erased