

**OVERVIEW**

The largest casino complex in the Western Hemisphere

**BACKUP APPLICATION**

IBM® Tivoli® Storage Manager

**KEY BENEFITS**

- Eliminated TSM primary disk pool
- Reduced backup times by 30%
- Reduced restore times by 50%
- Eliminated tape media management

# SEPATON a Sure Bet for One of the World’s Largest Casino Complexes

One of the largest resort casino complexes in the world relies on a wide range of advanced computer systems to keep its operations running smoothly. The casino turned to SEPATON for a disk-based data protection platform that could deliver the high performance, agility, and management control needed to backup, deduplicate, replicate, and protect their massive data volumes efficiently and cost-effectively. The casino achieved impressive results by implementing a SEPATON S2100®-ES2 enterprise-class system and an S2100®-DS3 remote office system for comprehensive, enterprise-wide data protection and disaster recovery.

“The performance and deduplication are so efficient, we were able to cut our backup times while completely eliminating our TSM primary disk pool. We backup directly to the SEPATON system.”

*Principal IT Engineer*

One of the largest casino complexes in the world comprises six casinos, three hotels, more than 50 restaurants and retail outlets, seven nightclubs, and a 4,000-seat theater. Their key business operations depend on a variety of very large database-driven IT systems, including slot machine monitoring, state-of-the-art financial management, and reservations systems. These systems generate approximately four terabytes (TB) of new data daily that has to be backed up, deduplicated, replicated, and stored.

**THE ENVIRONMENT**

The casino uses Tivoli Storage Manager (TSM) backup application to manage their data protection policies. Before choosing SEPATON, they used an IBM TotalStorage tape system. They created two sets of tapes for all data – an on-site set for rapid access and an off-site set for disaster protection.

“The volume of our data and the complexity of our infrastructure had grown to a point where tape backup was no

longer an option for us,” said the casino’s principal IT engineer. Managing tape media was also an inefficient use of our limited IT resources. Sending tapes to a third-party’s off-site location for disaster protection added to our cost and administrative burden.

**THE EVALUATION**

“SEPATON was much faster for both backup and restore operations than any of the other solutions that we looked at,” said the principal engineer.

The IT staff also valued SEPATON’s in-depth knowledge of the backup requirements of large enterprise TSM environments. “If we had a question, we wanted to get the answer with one phone call,” said the principal IT engineer. “Other vendors were not nearly as knowledgeable about TSM as SEPATON.”

With large and growing data volumes to protect, having both efficient deduplication and bandwidth-optimized replication were key priorities for the casino. They

## CUSTOMER CASE STUDY

needed a solution that was optimized to deliver these key capabilities even in a TSM progressive incremental backup environment.

### THE SOLUTION

The casino staff installed a SEPATON S2100-ES2 enterprise-class data protection platform with 60 TB of capacity and two processing nodes in their main data center. "Our SEPATON system was up and running in a few hours," said the principal IT engineer. The casino IT staff configured the SEPATON system in the same way that they set up their physical tape library, without needing to change their policies, procedures, or backup target.

### ENTERPRISE TSM-OPTIMIZED

The SEPATON ES2 system offered the only deduplication and replication technology specifically optimized for enterprise TSM environments. "The

performance and deduplication are so efficient, we were able to cut our backup times while actually eliminating our TSM primary disk pool. We backup directly to the SEPATON system."

### REMOTE REPLICATION FOR DISASTER PROTECTION

Based on the success of the S2100-ES2, the casino added a SEPATON S2100-DS3 with DeltaRemote replication software in their remote data center for disaster protection. "The deduplication and bandwidth-optimized replication provided by SEPATON enable us to eliminate our off-site tape storage and the media management time and costs it required," said the principal IT engineer.

The SEPATON systems completely off-loaded the burden of remote replication from our TSM server. They enabled us to incorporate more major business applications into our backup scheme without adding costly primary disk.

"The SEPATON systems cut our backup time by one-third (saving significant costs associated with our primary disk pool). They also cut our restore time in half."

*Principal IT Engineer*

### DRAMATIC RESULTS

The SEPATON systems exceeded the casino IT staff's expectations for performance. "The SEPATON systems cut our backup time by one-third (saving significant costs associated with our primary disk pool). They also cut our restore time in half," said the principle IT engineer.

For this casino the biggest advantage of the SEPATON system was the elimination of time-consuming media management tasks. The casino staff are also pleased with the added reliability provided by the system. It has run continuously since it was implemented. "We no longer waste time loading and unloading physical tapes and troubleshooting backup and tape drive failures," said the principal IT engineer. "That makes everyone's life easier and more productive."