InForm

Five Things Your Archive Can Do For You To Make Your Life Easier

By **Marc M. Batschkus**   ARCHIWARE

P5 Archive

Cloud

Disk

Tape

LT0

Archiware P5 Archive

How many times have you searched for a specific file, clip, sound or project? How long did it take to find exactly what you needed? How many times did you give up because it took too long?

Keeping track of which files are located where is a challenge. Too many times, this is done manually using spreadsheets or notes, stickies, printed directories or by memory. The result: a lot of searching, checking of files and trial and error. The most obvious solution is still underrated: the Archive.

The Archive has the potential to take and keep all files and make it a one-stop-shop whenever there is a need for a specific file. Even more, P5 Archive can serve as a mini-MAM and support your work in multiple ways. Let´s have a closer look at the five things your Archive can do for you to make your life easier:

1. The Archive keeps all files together in one place – Once an Archive is installed, all files that need to be kept should go there. P5 Archive keeps track of where exactly a file is. Be it on tape, disk or Cloud. P5 does spanning if necessary and records the block number for fastest access later. This way, the question, "where is that file?" is solved forever.

It also takes the burden off the people working with the files. It is finally easy to put things away and to access them later if needed. Responsibility is shifted towards the Archive.

2. The Archive offers browsing for multiple users simultaneously – Searching on local external disks is tedious, cumbersome and limited to one person having access to one disk at a time. It introduces possible mishaps due to renaming, deleting or simply dropping a disk. Access can be limited per user group to only allow browsing, separating Archives or restoring.

3. The Archive enables searching - for file names, archiving date, description and technical characteristics (metadata). Metadata, descriptive and technical, make it even easier to find what you need. Building an individual metadata schema creates a powerful key to the Archive for years and even decades to come. "Who will be using the Archive in some years?" "What do they know and need?" are helpful questions here. P5 Archive keeps track of all details and files. Building an individual metadata schema only takes minutes in P5 Archive.
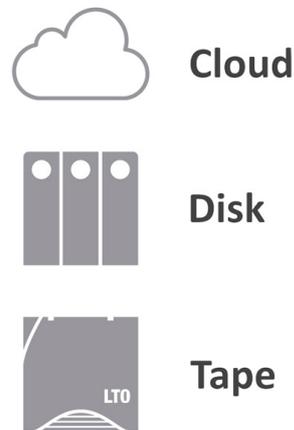
4. The Archive secures files by cloning, off-site storage or the Cloud – With P5 Archive, a multitude of storage options and combinations are there to secure the files. An important principle is off-site storage to protect files in case of a local disaster. Using a cloned tape set or Cloud storage both fulfils this requirement.

5. Save high-performance production storage by migrating completed productions to the Archive – Archiving is usually a migration. This means archived files will be deleted (manually or automatically) after archiving.

Production storage can remain a certain size for longer. The saved cost for expansion of production storage alone can make the Archive pay off. P5 Archive offers the choice of using disk, tape or Cloud storage. Tape, with the price starting at US$10 per terabyte, is extremely attractive for long-term archive. Secondary gains are: less cluttered storage, smaller, faster backup runs and an easier re-use and monetisation of files.

Mini-MAM Functionality

There is much more the Archive can do for you. P5 Archive offers a mini-MAM functionality to help you produce more efficiently. Now, you can find and restore any previous asset anytime. Re-use and referencing become extremely easy. New business opportunities are created, since previous productions of returning clients become so easy to find and re-use. Metadata are the key to the Archive. Technical and descriptive metadata can be added to each asset in P5 Archive. Build your own custom metadata schema to best support your requirements and increase discoverability of files.

Have a closer look at what Archiving can do for you. Download the 30-day full-featured trial of Archiware P5 and see for yourself. To give you the best background for data management decisions, our experts' experience is available in our tech blog http://www. archiware.com/blog/ ■

www.archiware.com

P5

Before

Where's that file?

After Archiving

Here!

Easier searching

P5 Archive Mini-MAM features

File list

Mini-MAM: add technical and descriptive metadata

Previews

Asset with metadata