

## Macarthur Anglican School Relies on Tandberg Data Safety Net

Teaching staff, pupils and management at the thriving Macarthur Anglican School, in New South Wales, are pursuing their daily activities free from all doubts about the safety of data underlying their important work. This was not the case until recently, when the school installed a Tandberg Data StorageLibrary T24 tape library to store and back up all their important projects.



Before that, data generated by a wide range of activities was stored on a large RAID drive, backed up only by a relatively small AIT tape drive which was able to keep only the most important information secure.

Thousands of projects generated by around 1200 students and staff remained at risk. The students share 400-plus Apple Macintosh computers, including 150 laptops. They use multiple applications ranging from word processing to video editing.

According to Network Administrator Scott McGill, there were no business-threatening incidents before the new system went live, although one teacher lost a thesis when the system went down. Fortunately there was a printed copy, although the entire work required re-entering.

“Critical data was always safe, but now all the information that is really important to our students and staff is also protected,” says Scott. “The Tandberg Data tape library is working well, and has certainly delivered peace of mind.”

### ‘Peace-of-mind’ Change for the Better

The new Tandberg Data StorageLibrary T24 is configured with one LTO-3 tape drive and 12 slots, giving a capacity of around 4.8TB with room to double that as need by adding a second drive and another 12 slots. The tape library is supported by NetVault data backup, recovery and replication software, which gives full disaster protection. About 3TB of data is downloaded from the RAID system every working day to the tape library. Tapes are taken offsite each week for safekeeping.

Scott recalls that opting for the StorageLibrary T24 was an easy choice: “We needed something that would run under Mac OS X and work with NetVault. We rely on our consultancy partner Computers Now, whose judgment we trust, and they recommended Tandberg Data technology as being reliable and cost effective. This has proved to be the case—it’s a boring system because we never have to think about it, so boring is good!

### Solution Overview



- StorageLibrary T24 LTO-3 (12 slots)
- BakBone NetVault
- RAID System



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**Scott McGill,**  
Network Administrator

“Once we tweaked the T24 to get it running, it has been extremely reliable. Plus it gives us an easy expansion route.” He adds: “It has given us a peace-of-mind change. Now we have a solution that can handle everything we throw at it, whereas before we had to move data off the system. The T24 has enabled us to expand the amount of data we can extract and the speed at which it downloads, so we are able to save more per day and per week. We have never had this luxury before.”

The school runs its computer systems over a gigabit fibre network that connects more than 20 buildings, some more than a few hundred metres from the network server.

**School’s IT Future Secured**

The Tandberg Data StorageLibrary T24 will serve the school well into the foreseeable future. Macarthur Anglican School has a history of steady expansion: the first 90 students were enrolled in 1984, when the school moved from temporary facilities in Campbelltown to the 5 acre site at Narellan. In that year, the school had five members of staff and one secretary. The present Headmaster, Mr. Riley Warren, was appointed in 1989, as the school was reaching 500 students. In 1993, 60 students were enrolled in the newly established Junior School.

Rapid growth beyond early expectations confirmed the need for independent school education in the surrounding district, and all secondary students and facilities were moved to a 120 acre Cobbitty in 1997, while the Junior School expanded to 400 children at the Narellan Campus. Today, Macarthur Anglican School provides a high quality Christian education for approximately 1,000 young people of the Macarthur Region, ranging from 4 to 18 years of age.

**Reseller Confidence in Tandberg Data**

Comp Now’s Education Manager, Helen Colquhoun, said the company had a long history of recommending Exabyte products for their performance and reliability.

“The 2006 acquisition of Exabyte by Tandberg increased our confidence in selling this brand as we found Tandberg’s local support to be superior. Compared to other vendors, Tandberg products were priced competitively, which is important considering the tape library is just one component of

the whole solution. The sales support at Dastator, our Tandberg Data distributor, streamlined the quoting process. They visited the site with us and played an active role in implementing the solution.”

Established in 1990, Computers Now prides itself on being a leading, innovative and expert provider of information technology solutions. The company believes that computers should make life easier, not harder, helping users to be more productive and more creative.

The company is Apple’s largest Education reseller in the Australian states of Victoria and New South Wales, with 7 retail locations in Sydney and Melbourne. Currently Computers Now has the largest and most experienced Technical Services Group in the Apple channel.



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**Scott McGill, Network Administrator**

**About Tandberg Data**

Tandberg Data is a leading global supplier of backup and archiving technologies. Tandberg Data offers a complete range of tape libraries, tape autoloaders and tape drives (based on the LTO™, SLR™, VXA® tape technology platforms), storage software, data media and disk-based storage such as the RDX™ QuikStor. These solutions are marketed exclusively through a channel of qualified resellers and distributors. These solutions are underpinned by OEM agreements with major server manufacturers including IBM, Hitachi, Fujitsu, Fujitsu-Siemens, Apple and Dell and supported by all major operating systems and storage software applications to operate in heterogeneous network environments. All solutions are designed to meet the growing storage requirements of small and medium-sized organisations with scalability, reliability and backward compatibility features that ensure cost effective operation and long-term investment protection.

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