SYMPLYPRO

Professional Thunderbolt Desktop LTO

LTO tape remains the trusted standard for backup and archive across media, healthcare, finance, education and SMB and SME. It delivers high-capacity, low-cost storage that's portable for off-site protection, easy interchange and provides long-term retention. Following the 3-2-1-1 rule—three copies, two media types, one off-site and one offline—adds an affordable cyber-resilience layer for organizations of any size. For governance and security, all models support LTO WORM media (non-erasable, non-rewritable) and AES-256 hardware encryption to enforce retention policies and protect data at rest. Find out how LTO tape drive total ownership costs compare with HDD and cloud alternatives.

SymplyPRO Thunderbolt is built with creatives in mind. Unlike re-purposed IT boxes, these desktop systems are designed from the ground up for studio, on-set, and lab use, delivering years of reliable, trouble-free service. Featuring a compact, robust all-metal design that's simple, affordable and energy-efficient. Every enclosure integrates a premium PSU and cooling fan. Choose single-drive desktops with half-height LTO-7, LTO-8 or LTO-9; XTH with dual half-height drives; or XTF with a single full-height LTO-9 or LTO-10 drive. All dual-drive desktop models use our **SymplyCABLELESS™** architecture for fast serviceability and easy upgrades.

Each model comes equipped with two Thunderbolt™ 3 ports that support daisy-chaining, with one port delivering 60W of power for device charging. For additional flexibility, every unit also includes SAS Host and SAS Expansion ports, allowing you to connect other SAS devices to your Thunderbolt computer, or use the drive with a non-Thunderbolt workstation.

Every SymplyPRO Thunderbolt configuration supports Linear Tape File System (LTFS), enabling familiar drag-and-drop file operations and simple interchange without heavy backup software. It's also compatible with leading backup and archive applications that support LTO—media-focused tools such as Archiware P5, Hedge Canister, YoYotta, and XenData; plus broader IT platforms including Veeam Backup & Replication, Veritas NetBackup, Commvault, IBM Spectrum Protect, Arcserve, Retrospect, and the open-source Bacula and Bareos.

On Windows and Linux, SymplyPRO Thunderbolt integrates with standard platform tools and LTO software stacks (e.g., IBM tape drivers, IBM Spectrum Archive LTFS, and ITDT diagnostics). On macOS, **SymplyATOM™** provides streamlined tape operations—format, mount/eject LTFS, one-click diagnostics and log capture, and in-app firmware updates for SymplyPRO drives. This ensures straightforward deployment in mixed environment.

FEATURES & BENEFITS

- ◉ **Thunderbolt™ 3 host interface with SymplyLOCK™ cable locking** — dual Thunderbolt™ 3 ports with daisy-chain support (compatible with Thunderbolt 4/5 hosts), including one port providing up to 60W of device charging.

- ◉ **12Gb SAS connectivity** — SAS Host and SAS Expansion ports (via Thunderbolt bridge) allow connection to non-Thunderbolt workstations and attaching additional SAS devices to a computer via Thunderbolt.

- ◉ **Desktop configuration** — available with LTO-7, LTO-8, or LTO-9 half-height and LTO-9 and LTO-10 full-height tape drives.

- ◉ **Half-Height Drive capacity & speed** — up to 18 TB raw / 45 TB compressed (LTO-9) per cartridge; up to 300 MB/s native throughput.

- ◉ **Full-Height Drive capacity & speed** — up to 40 TB raw / 100 TB compressed (LTO-10) per cartridge; up to 400 MB/s native throughput.

- ◉ **LTFS drag-and-drop** — mount tapes like a removable drive for simple copy/move and interchange without heavy backup software.

- ◉ **Compatible with leading software** — Archiware P5, Hedge Canister, YoYotta, XenData, plus broader IT platforms and tools.

- ◉ **Security & compliance built-in** — AES-256 hardware encryption and LTO WORM media support for non-erasable, non-rewritable retention.

- ◉ **Air-gapped by design** — enables 3-2-1-1-0 best practice (offline copy) for ransomware resilience.

- **Advanced all-metal enclosure** — compact footprint with premium fan and integrated PSU for clean installs in offices or comms rooms.

- **Physical security —** Kensington T-Bar™ lock slot.

- **Compliance & certifications —** CE, UKCA, FCC Class A; RoHS.

- **Warranty —** 3-Year Advanced Replacement (optional +2-Year extension).

- **Premium Packaging** — every model comes with high-quality 2m Thunderbolt cable, data and cleaning cartridges, and SymplyLOCK.

Models

Product Name	Drive Form-Factor	No. Drives	LTO Gen	Host Interface	Expansion Interface	D x W x H	Weight
PRO Thunderbolt	Half-Height	1	7, 8, 9	2 x TB3 1 x SFF-8644	1 x SFF-8644	27.5 x 21.1 x 9.2 cm (11 x 8.5 x 3.5 in)	4.0 Kg (8.8 lb)
PRO Thunderbolt XTH	Half-Height	1 or 2	7, 8, 9	2 x TB3 1 x SFF-8644	1 x SFF-8644	30 x 21.1 x 13.6 cm (12 x 8.5 x 5.5 in)	5.6 Kg (12.3 lb)
PRO Thunderbolt XTF	Full-Height	1	9	2 x TB3 1 x SFF-8644	1 x SFF-8644	30 x 21.1 x 13.6 cm (12 x 8.5 x 5.5 in)	5.8 Kg (12.7 lb)
PRO Thunderbolt XTF	Full-Height	1	10	2 x TB3 1 x SFF-8644	1 x SFF-8644	38.2 x 22.1 x 14.0 cm (15.0 x 8.3 x 5.5 in)	7.7 Kg (17.0 lb)

Performance & Capacity

Drive Type	Media Type	Performance Native (Compressed**)	Capacity Native (Compressed**)
LTO-10 Full-Height	LTO-10 Enterprise (Aramid)	400 MB/Sec (1000 MB/Sec)	40 TB (100 TB)
LTO-10 Full-Height	LTO-10	400 MB/Sec (1000 MB/Sec)	30 TB (75 TB)
LTO-9 Full-Height	LTO-9	400 MB/Sec (1000 MB/Sec)	18 TB (45 TB)
LTO-9 Full-Height	LTO-8	360 MB/Sec (900 MB/Sec)	12 TB (30 TB)
LTO-9 Half-Height	LTO-9	300 MB/Sec (750 MB/Sec)	18 TB (45 TB)
LTO-8 Half-Height	LTO-8	300 MB/Sec (750 MB/Sec)	12 TB (30 TB)
LTO-7 Half-Height	LTO-7	300 MB/Sec (750 MB/Sec)	6 TB (15 TB)

** Assumes 2.5:1 compression ratio.

Reliability

Drive Type	MTBF (Hours)	MSBF (Mean Swaps Before Failure)	Load / Unload Cycles
Full-Height	250,000 @ 100% Duty Cycle	100,000	300,000
Half-Height	250,000 @ 100% Duty Cycle	100,000	80,000

Environmental Specifications

Environmental Factor	Recommended [1]	Allowable [2]	Non-Operating
Dry-Bulb Temperature	LTO-9 and LTO-10: 15 to 25 °C (59 to 77 °F) LTO-7 and LTO-8: 16 to 25 °C (61 to 77 °F)	LTO-9 and LTO-10: 15 to 30 °C (59 to 86 °F) LTO-7 and LTO-8: 16 to 35 °C (61 to 95 °F)	5 to 35˚C (41 to 95 ˚F)
Relative Humidity	20 to 50% (non-condensing)	20 to 80% (non-condensing)	20 to 80% (non-condensing)
Maximum Temperature Change	5 °C (41 °F) / hour	5 °C (41 °F) / hour	5 °C (41 °F) / hour
Maximum Humidity Change	5% / hour	5% / hour	5% / hour
Temperature Limitation for Humidity Conditions	LTO-9 and LTO-10: Max Dew Point 22 °C (72 °F) LTO-7 and LTO-8: Wet Bulb Temperature <= 26 °C (79 °F)		
Maximum Altitude	3,048 m (10,000 ft)	3,048 m (10,000 ft)	12,192 m (40,000 ft)
Dust concentration	Less than 200 microgram / cubic meter		

Storage & Shipping

Condition	Environmental Specification
Short-term Storage condition	See operating conditions
Long-term Storage condition	See operating conditions
Shipping Conditions [3]	5 to 45 °C (41 to 113 °F); 10% to 80% non-condensing. RH; 26 °C (72 °F) dew point maximum

Media Compatibility

	LTO-10 Media	LTO-9 Media	LTO-8 Media	LTO-7 Media	LTO-6 Media	LTO-5 Media
LTO-10 Drive	✅	⊗	⊗	⊗	⊗	⊗
LTO-9 Drive	⊗	✅	✅	⊗	⊗	⊗
LTO-8 Drive	⊗	⊗	✅	✅	⊗	⊗
LTO-7 Drive	⊗	⊗	⊗	✅	✅	R

✅ Read/Write ⊗ Incompatible R Read Only

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ULTRIUM 7 ULTRIUM 8 ULTRIUM 9 ULTRIUM 10

[1] Recommended: The recommended operational/storage environmental envelope provides guidance on the environmental range for optimal performance and high reliability. This environmental range protects for 30-year archival storage.

[2] Allowable: The allowable operational/storage environmental envelope defines the test limits to verify that the equipment will function within the environmental envelope. This environmental range is defined for operational storage of less than 6 months.

[3] Shipping: When shipping media over extended environmental ranges, shipping times should be limited to minimize the duration of media being exposed to varying environmental conditions at lower and upper ranges. LTO tape media specifications provided by the LTO program at www.lto.org or specifications provided by the media manufacturer.

Note: The prolonged exposure to conditions outside the recommended range, especially approaching the extremes of the allowable operating environment, can result in decreased equipment reliability and longevity. An occasional short-term excursion into the allowable envelope is generally acceptable but may result in performance and reliability implications and higher power consumption.

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Up to 1856% Return on Investment

Valuable resources — Explore how the total cost of ownership (TCO) of LTO tape compares with HDD and cloud storage:
https://www.lto.org/Data-Economics
https://www.lto.org/tco-calculator/
https://blog.archiware.com/lto-vs-cloud-storage-costs