



DXi-Series &amp; Scalar Series

## Maple Leaf Sports & Entertainment Ups Its Backup Game with Quantum DXi Solution

As the owner of Canadian hockey, basketball and soccer teams, Maple Leaf Sports & Entertainment (MLSE) has many integral brands and entities to leave business-critical information at risk. With very little downtime, however, backing up data was a daily struggle until MLSE purchased Quantum's disk-based DXi-Series deduplication and replication solution.

### LIMITED BACKUP WINDOW AND STAFF RESOURCES HAMPER DATA PROTECTION

MLSE is one of North America's premier sports and entertainment companies. It owns some of the most highly coveted teams in sports, including the Toronto Maple Leafs of the NHL, Toronto Raptors of the NBA and Toronto FC of MLS. Its other entities include five venues and three digital channels. The company supports more than 600 desktop and laptop computers, as well as 300 point of sale machines.

*The product has been extremely reliable; the replication happens and we don't spend any time worrying about it. In fact, our backup and recovery process has become a non-event.*

**Sasha Puric**

Senior Director of Information Technology

As MLSE's senior director of information technology, Sasha Puric leads a 17-member Information Technology group that supports the organization's teams, venues, broadcast networks and employees. Puric describes his team as a strong group working in a business that is often 24/7, leaving little time to focus full time on backup and recovery strategies.

In addition, the available backup window is often irregular and always short because MLSE conducts its regular business operations during the normal workday and then fills off hours with the hectic activities surrounding games and events. With large

amounts of data to protect, a full backup to an older tape library was taking more than 24 hours.

"We needed to perform our full backups on the weekends, but even then it was challenging to work around the game schedule; a window of five or six hours just wasn't adequate," says Puric. "Finally, we decided that with a growing volume of data, it was clear we couldn't continue to rely on backing up directly to our old system."

Beyond overcoming backup window and resource limitations, Puric was also focused on strengthening the company's business continuity plan in the event of a disaster, such as a fire or flood. His goal was to have data on disk onsite but replicate it to a second location while also creating an archival set of tapes to be shipped regularly to a remote site.

"We wanted a more predictable, stable platform that would give us both simplicity and certainty for our backup and restore strategy," Puric explains. "We began to explore disk-to-disk backup strategies but didn't feel they would be economical—and then we started paying attention to deduplication technology."

### QUANTUM DXI-SERIES CHOSEN AS BEST OF BREED

Puric and his team studied the benefits of a disk-to-disk-to-tape strategy coupled with deduplication by researching providers in the market and holding discussions with vendors about the maturity and reliability of the technology. A number of factors came into play: who had a proven enterprise-ready



MAPLE LEAF SPORTS + ENTERTAINMENT

"I don't give endorsements to products very often, but I feel Quantum's DXi7500 is worthy of one. We had the ideal scenario to take full advantage of deduplication, and Quantum had the product we've been able to count on."

### Sasha Puric

Senior Director of Information Technology

### SOLUTION OVERVIEW

- Two DXi7500 Express systems
- Quantum Scalar 50 tape library
- CA ARCserve backup software

### KEY BENEFITS

- Cuts backup time from more than 24 hours to 6-8 hours
- Lowers typical restore times to just minutes
- Automates disaster recovery protection between sites using remote replication
- Decreases IT staff time required for managing backup process
- Generates cost savings from reduced tape purchases
- Provides capacity for near-term growth and scalability for future needs

## CASE STUDY

solution, the reputation of the vendor and the ability of the vendor's sales engineers to demonstrate the quality of their product.

"The best product was Quantum," declares Puric. "Quantum stood out for its robust disk-to-disk platform. I also liked Quantum's reputation as a leader in backup and storage management and one of the top innovators in the field."

In the end, MLSE decided to purchase two DXi7500 Express systems, installing one system at its headquarters and the other at a secondary site as a replication target.

"Implementation was very smooth," Puric says. "Overall it was a great experience. Quantum's sales engineers took the time to train my staff. We became self-sufficient in managing the DXi® solutions before final implementation."

In addition to the two DXi systems, Puric also bought a Quantum Scalar® tape library for longer-term data retention and disaster recovery.

### MUCH FASTER AND MORE RELIABLE BACKUP AND RESTORE

Since deploying the DXi solution, the problem of finding time for a full backup has disappeared—MLSE now does a full backup of critical systems daily and a full backup of all data weekly. Data is kept on the DXi systems for 30 days, and each week, a full backup is sent to the Scalar 50, with the tapes then shipped offsite.

Puric says deduplication results in "greater backup, storage efficiency and time savings." The company's data can now be managed, even as the business grows and the volume of information continues to expand. What once took more than 24 hours to back up is now accomplished in a matter of 6 to 8 hours. In addition, most restores take minutes to complete.

Another benefit is the more efficient and reliable means of restoring user data. As a result, Puric's IT team can spend time on key strategic initiatives with less time focused on day-to-day management of backups.

Puric is also pleased that he now has a much more viable disaster recovery strategy in place.

"We've run a number of tests of our business continuity plan since installing the DXi solution, and it works well," he reports. "The product has been extremely reliable; the replication happens and we don't spend any time worrying about it. In fact, our backup and recovery process has become a non-event."

Puric estimates that with the existing capacity of the DXi systems and the deduplication rates he's getting, they should meet MLSE's needs for the next three years. And when the need for expansion arises, the scalability of the solution will protect the company's initial investment.

With the reliability of Quantum's DXi systems, Puric can focus his attention on digital asset management challenges that come with owning three television channels. He plans to make good use of what he has learned about disk-to-disk solutions and deduplication. And he wouldn't be surprised if Quantum is a contender when it comes to the next generation of backup and recovery systems.

"I don't give endorsements to products very often," Puric says. "But I feel Quantum's DXi-Series is worthy of one. We had the ideal scenario to take full advantage of deduplication, and Quantum had the product we've been able to count on."

"The best product was Quantum. Quantum stood out for its robust disk-to-disk platform. I also liked Quantum's reputation as a leader in backup and storage management and one of the top innovators in the field."

**Sasha Puric**  
Senior Director of Information  
Technology

### ABOUT MAPLE LEAF SPORTS AND ENTERTAINMENT LTD.

Maple Leaf Sports and Entertainment Ltd. (MLSE), one of the premier sports and entertainment companies, owns the Toronto Maple Leafs of the National Hockey League (NHL), the Toronto Raptors of the National Basketball Association (NBA), the Toronto Marlies Hockey Club of the American Hockey League (AHL), Toronto FC of Major League Soccer (MLS), Air Canada Centre and three digital channels—Leafs TV, Raptors NBA TV and GOLTV. MLSE also operates and manages events at BMO Field, home of Toronto FC, and Ricoh Coliseum, home of the Marlies.

To contact your local sales office, please visit [www.quantum.com](http://www.quantum.com)

**Quantum**  
BE CERTAIN

©2014 Quantum Corporation (NYSE:QTM). All rights reserved. Quantum, the Quantum logo, DXi and Scalar are registered trademarks of Quantum Corporation and its affiliates in the United States and/or other countries. All other trademarks are the property of their respective owners.

CS00200A-v02