

Pegasus

Success Story

PROMISE Technology & PANDA PICTURES

▼ BACKGROUND

A visit to Panda Pictures' portfolio page provides a hint of the amazing breadth and high quality of work generated at this reputable film production company. In over 12 years, Panda Pictures has earned a reputation as an exceptionally creative and effective full service film producer for corporate clients; successfully partnering with small and large businesses in many different markets.

Panda Pictures staff have long been enthusiastic PROMISE customers, starting with the very first generation of Pegasus Thunderbolt™ Direct Attached RAID Storage systems. As their film production business grew and evolved, Panda Pictures invested in productivity, adopting many Pegasus2 and Pegasus3 units which were likewise evolving with faster Thunderbolt™ versions.

▼ Challenge

The technological evolution however did not provide a good system for large collaborative video production projects involving input from several team members. Storing assets on numerous local RAID systems became a cumbersome bottleneck to the otherwise smooth team workflow. What was needed was a high performance centralized data storage network that could be easily accessed and enabled fast file transfer among team members.

▼ SOLUTION

Enter PegasusPro R16 10G RAID Network Attached Storage plus Thunderbolt™ 3 Direct Attached Storage, a unique merger of high performance NAS/DAS technologies. Now the entire team has access to all the assets they need on every single project they are working on, quickly and easily – a huge leap in work flow efficiency. The setup and installation process was simple and smooth, the user interface is intuitive, easy to understand. It did not require extensive technical knowledge to get it up and running; completed easily in less than a day. Yet the management interface provides a high degree of control over which users are allowed to use which data.



▼ Workflow

In the Panda Pictures installation, they use the PegasusPro R16 as a central footage and project repository for large film productions. A total of 6 computers are connected via 10G Ethernet. In addition, wireless access is provided to important documents of the project via WLAN. Another Pegasus3 R8 is directly attached to the Thunderbolt™ 3 port of the PegasusPro R16, serving as external backup for footage files. Active projects are stored on the Pegasus Pro R16 NAS partition. As soon as the projects are finished, the cutter moves them to the DAS partition. From there, the entire project can be archived using LTO and released for deletion by the PegasusPro R16.



▼ Testimonial

Prior to the PegasusPro R16, having three editors work on one project in collaboration often came with many challenges. The read/write speed was not always optimal, which would on occasion lead to unnecessarily lengthy sessions. The Panda Pictures team conducted stress tests with three simultaneous project editors and achieved near full 10G read/write speeds. Now 3 or 4 editors can work in a 4K project timeline with no additional effort regarding time or resources compared to single-editor projects.

In our stress tests with the PegasusPro, we achieved almost the full 10 gigabit read and write speeds when three editors were accessing a project simultaneously. It's easy for three or four editors to edit 4K timelines in a DaVinci Resolve project, so, for example, color correction can be initiated while the edit is still in its final stages. This is just one example of efficiency.

PANDA PICTURES

"When it comes to Post Production, the Promise Pegasus Pro R16 is the perfect addition to a multi-collaboration workflow, elevating our editing infrastructure to the next level.

With 128TB integrated into the system, it is the ultimate storage solution for all our high-end projects. The PegasusPro comes with its integrated, highly efficient File Boost Technology, enabling users to quickly switch from DAS to NAS solutions and vice versa.

No more copying from RAID to RAID - with the 4 integrated 10Gbit Ethernet Ports, the performance of every computer whilst editing, color-grading or mixing is just magnificent, enabling me to fully focus on the creative processes in Post Production.

With PROMISE, we are happy to have a reliable partner on our side, supporting us in every aspect, which is fantastic."

- Patrick Trageser, Post Production Supervisor

