How large will the server storage capacity need to be for the FamilySearch Scanning project?

Question

With the FamilySearch scanning project and the improvements being made to FamilySearch, the storage capacity of all this new information will be huge. How large will the server storage capacity need to be and how is the Church preparing for this?

Answer

We are not disclosing any specific numbers or vendors involved with the project at this time. However, we are dividing the problem into two areas: image distribution and image preservation. For image distribution, we are building very large storage arrays and accompanying software that exposes the arrays to the Internet. The software will provide access to the data via an access control layer. For preservation, we are planning on large tape libraries and will build software that multiplies the reliability of the library using cross-media error correction. In both cases, we are starting with Bit Mountain, a software system that has been mentioned before in the forums.