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Based in London and Cape Town, Take 2 Films is one of the largest independent suppliers of motion picture and digital camera equipment. Offering the latest technology from every major industry manufacturer, the company creates customized packages to meet the requirements of each production. With decades of experience, Take 2's highly trained staff has an intimate knowledge of the equipment and workflow for feature films, television dramas, and commercials.

The company provided services for Marmalade Films on behalf of Studio Canal for the feature film, "Paddington", one of the many film and television projects Take 2 has provided services for since 1999.



## THE CHALLENGE

"Paddington" was shot in the 4:3 (full height sensor area) ARRIRAW format, generating a large volume of camera data at approximately 2TB to 4TB of content per day. Contributing to data management issues were the inherent problems of archiving frame-based media, including the enormous number of small files that are generated. Slow data transfer speeds and a high performance load on existing backup systems were not ideal for the production's timeline or budget.

Take 2 needed a high performance workflow solution to securely archive and manage millions of data files captured for the production and to reduce the time-consuming manual conform process in post.



## THE SOLUTION

DNAevolution was used by Take 2 to archive, restore, and access the ARRIRAW frames directly from LTO LTFS tape for "Paddington". A 50-slot autoloader with four LTO drives was deployed to increase efficiency, and DNAevolution wrote four archives in parallel while tracking the frames across all of the LTO tapes.

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When DNAevolution is used for the conform process, ARRIRAW media resides on LTO LTFS and only selected clips are brought online for color grading and finishing freeing up valuable space on nearline and SAN storage. Clips are conformed directly from LTO LTFS with DNAevolution's built-in conform engine, Smart Conform.



## THE RESULT

"For archiving, restore, and conform from LTO LTFS there is nothing else that comes close to what DNAevolution offers," continued Shell. "The level of support is exceptional and no other company works as hard and is as responsive to customer issues."

Faster offload of ARRIRAW content was achieved to reduce the cost of field media for the production, with DNAevolution's management of multiple LTO drives. Smart Conform provided time and cost savings in post by accelerating the conform process for the selected VFX turnovers. By creating secure, verified, searchable, and accessible archives, DNAevolution helped to make the ARRIRAW pipeline more cost-effective for "Paddington".