

Why a Permanent Still Store? SVS Slidecache is the best solution for you.

Still store products traditionally hold complete frames of video in volatile memory or magnetic storage media, such as hard disk drives. An example of a volatile still store would be that used in modern production switchers; used to hold a few 'segway' scenes or background images captured during a live show and used during that same program. These images are lost when power is removed.

Disk drive based still store products typically hold dozens or hundreds of images, even after power is removed. Because they contain disk drives, they typically take up at least one rack unit (RU) of space, require a significant fraction of a second to recall a given image, and have reliability issues related to the mechanical disk drive.

They are also the most expensive form of still store.

A permanent still store provides non-volatile storage of one or more images without moving parts in a relatively small form factor at a price lower than the least expensive disk based still store. Permanent still stores are especially useful where stills need not be changed often, but must be available when needed. Station ID's, PSA slides, leader slides for video tape duplication, and test signals sources are all cost effective uses of permanent still stores.

The SVS SlideCache permanent still store takes up only 1/6th of a 1 RU frame, costs as little as \$2900.00, and holds as many as 12 frames of uncompressed component digital video. Recording on the SlideCache is as simple as feeding a serial digital video signal to the video input of the product and pushing the record button. The use of flash EPROM memory ensures reliable image retention over many years. Slide selection and timing are remotely controllable via the SmartLinx network.

About the Author: Mike Henderson has been at SVS for 6 years. In his role as Principal Engineer, Henderson defines and designs our digital and mixed signal video processing and routing products. He has also developed hardware for the majority of our DigiLinx modular terminal equipment.

With 14 years of experience in video design engineering, Mike has contributed to the Grass Valley Group, designing subsystems for a handful of their products and was also a design engineer at VTEL for their teleconferencing products, as well as Motorola for their remote control circuitry in automobiles. He obtained a BSECE from the University of Wisconsin, and holds one patent in video technology. You can always contact him via email mhenderson@sierravideo.com.