

DISC Stakka®



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**Mr Hiroki Ohka,
Manager BPCJ Library
Department**

How Japan’s Cultural Treasures Stack Up



When the Broadcast Programming Center of Japan was looking for an affordable and effective way to manage and protect archived broadcast programs, they found the perfect solution in Imation’s Disc Stakka CD & DVD Manager.

This non-profit organization was established in March 1968 by Japanese broadcasters. Its Broadcast Library in Yokohama was opened to the public in October 2000 and is the only archival facility in Japan that collects and maintains broadcasted programs, and offers them for public viewing at no cost.

“Radio and TV programs are historical records of Japanese lives, customs and culture. We consider them

to be national treasures,” said Mr Hiroki Ohka, who is the Manager of the Center’s Library Department.

The Broadcast Library has a collection of DVDs with more than 15000 TV programs, radio programs and commercials, and continues to expand both the variety and quantity of its collection.

DVDs on Demand

Clients can search by program name, broadcast date and theme, and then view their selected program in one of the library’s specially-equipped booths. This search and retrieval system was created by Mitsubishi Electric.

“We use a tiered approach to manage our programs,” said Mr Ohka. “Those in the highest demand are copied onto the hard disk of an AV server. These programs can be viewed at several booths instantly and simultaneously.

“For medium- to high-demand programs, we use a DVD auto-changer. This system has 79 DVD drives, can store 6000 DVDs, and takes about 40 seconds to locate and play a program after receiving a client request.

“Lower demand programs are stored using an array of Imation Disc Stakkas, which holds 4800 discs and cost us around 1/100th the price of the auto-changer! After receiving a client request, a librarian retrieves the required DVD from the Disc Stakka array and plays it using one of the drives in the auto-changer. This process takes about 3 minutes from request to viewing.”

The Disc Stakka is an automated carousel that holds up to one hundred 12cm discs and links to a PC or Mac computer via a single USB connection supplying both power and data. Units can be stacked up to five high to create a tower that holds 500 discs without needing additional cables or desk space. The system can be expanded so that 50,000 discs are managed from a single computer.

With no built-in drive, the Disc Stakka supports all types of 12cm discs including next-generation HD-DVD and Blu-ray DVDs.

“As our DVD collection grows, so will the number of Disc Stakkas in our array,” said Mr Ohka. “Purchasing units one at a time allows us to pay for only the capacity that we need.

“Overall, we find the Disc Stakka to be a very cost-effective solution, which is critical for a non-profit organisation like ours. The initial purchase price is very affordable and the on-going maintenance costs are negligible.

“In addition to cost savings, our DVDs are protected against damage that can be caused by dust, UV light and improper storage. We thank Imation for helping to keep our national treasures safe and secure.”



- ▼ *Each compact Imation Disc Stakka unit holds up to one hundred 12 cm discs.*
- ▼ *The bundled OpdiTracker software automatically catalogues in its database the volume, file and folder names from computer-readable CDs and DVDs.*
- ▼ *Search by name or keyword to find any file, folder or disc within seconds, and then instantly eject the required disc.*
- ▼ *Single USB connection for both power and data.*
- ▼ *Stack units five high to store 500 discs without needing additional cables or desk space.*