

# Particulate Magnetic Tape for Data Storage and Future Technologies

Masahito OYANAGI

Recording Media Research Laboratories,  
FUJIFILM Corporation

# Outline

---

## 1. Background

- Exponential growth of data and storage
- Advantages of tape storage

## 2. Innovation of Tape technologies

- Key technologies to increase capacity
- Future tape technologies

## 3. Summary

# Outline

---

## 1. Background

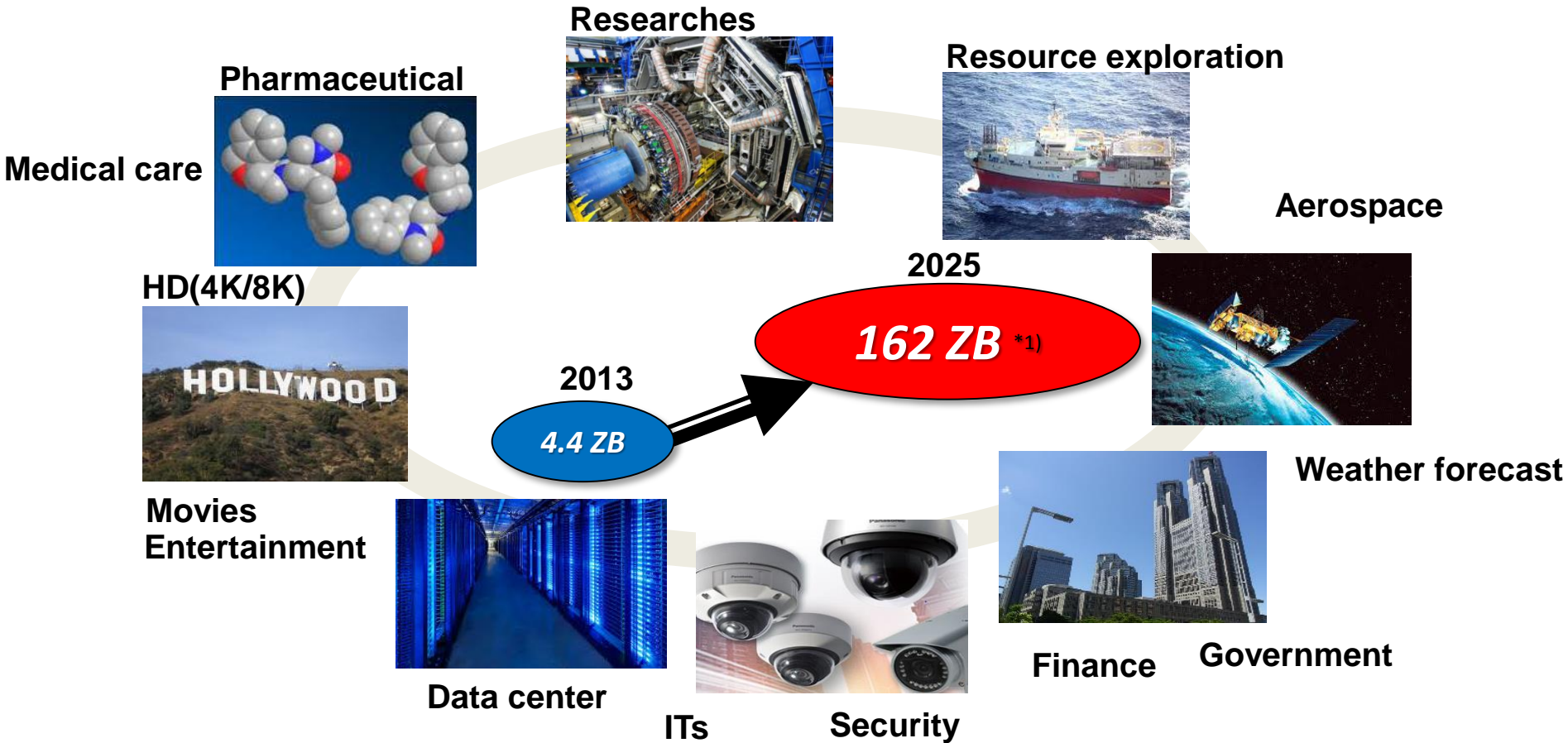
- Exponential growth of data and storage
- Advantages of tape storage

## 2. Innovation of Tape technologies

- Key technologies to increase capacity
- Future tape technologies

## 3. Summary

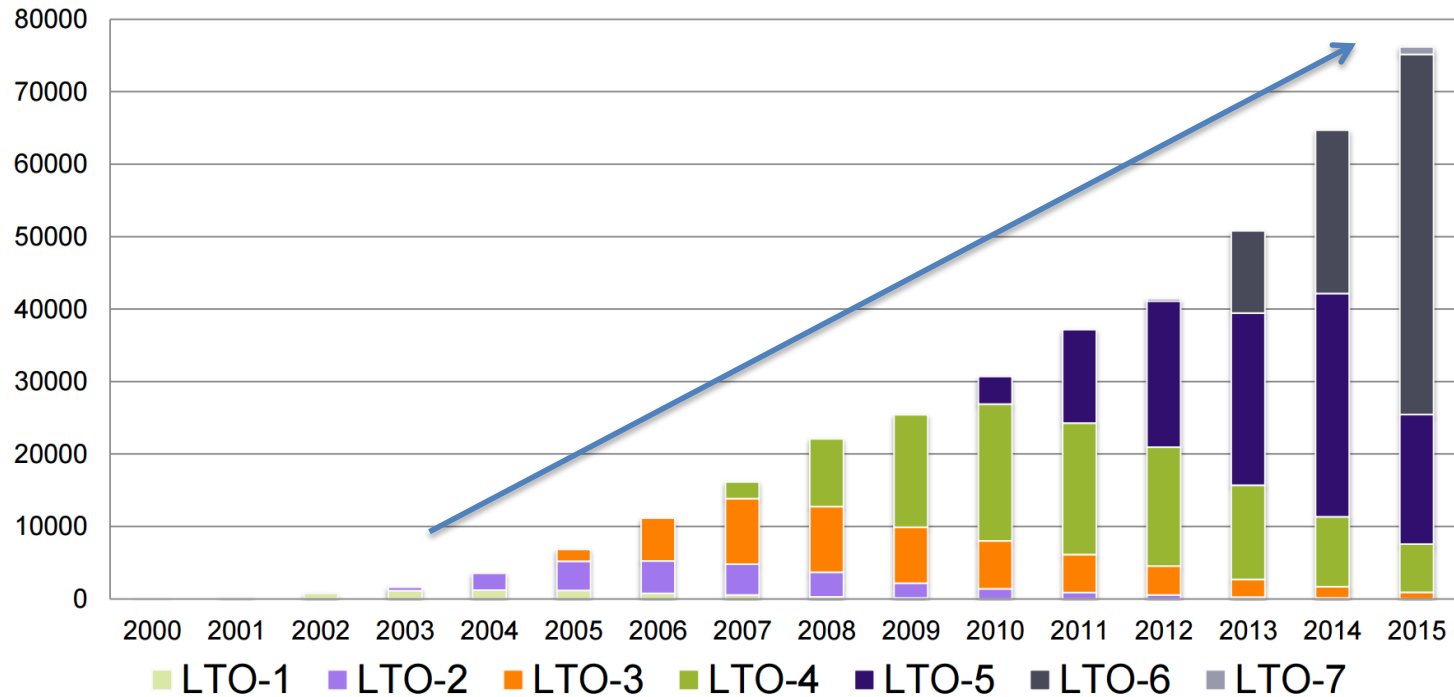
# Exponential Growth of Data and Storage



\*1) The IoT Cloud: Infrastructure Options for Accelerating the Shift to Digital Business Services, IDC, 2016.

Because of the exponential data growth, the demand for storage is also increasing.

## Total Capacity by Year (PB Compressed)



Source: [http://www.lto.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/03/LTO\\_Media-Shipment-Report\\_3.22.16.pdf](http://www.lto.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/03/LTO_Media-Shipment-Report_3.22.16.pdf)

- Tape has increased its demand in the market with the background of the exponential data growth

# Advantages of Tape Storage

---

## 1. Cost effectiveness

- Low Total Cost of Ownership (TCO)

## 2. Energy efficiency

- Low power consumption

## 3. High reliability

- Low hard (unrecoverable) error rate
- Long media life (30+years)

## 4. High capacity

- 15TB per single cartridge
- Continuous growth of cartridge capacity

**Tape storage is suitable for data archiving !!**

# Outline

---

## 1. Background

- Exponential growth of data and storage
- Advantages of tape storage

## 2. Innovation of Tape technologies

- Key technologies to increase capacity
- Future tape technologies

## 3. Summary

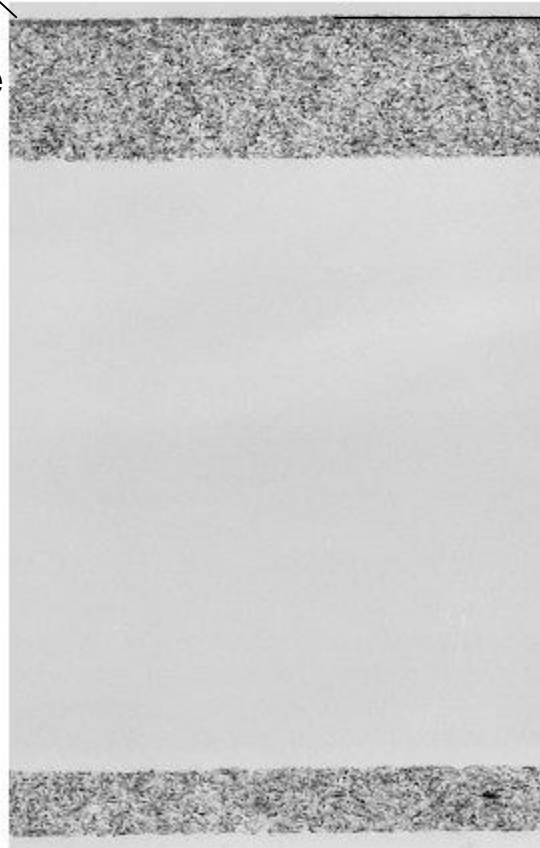
# Structure of Particulate Magnetic Tape

**Magnetic layer**  
Data recording

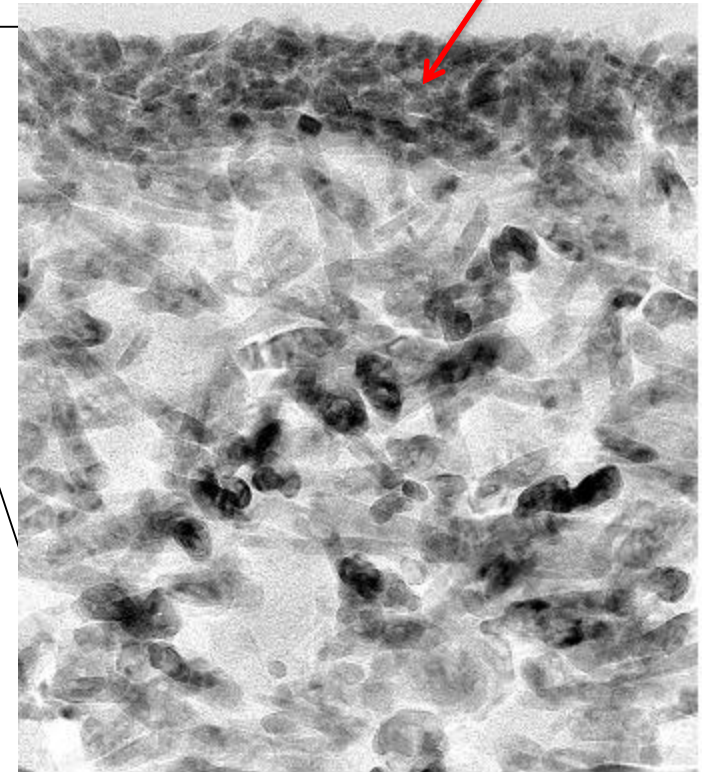
**Under layer**  
Prevent static charge  
Roughness control

**Substrate**

**Backcoat**  
Prevent static charge



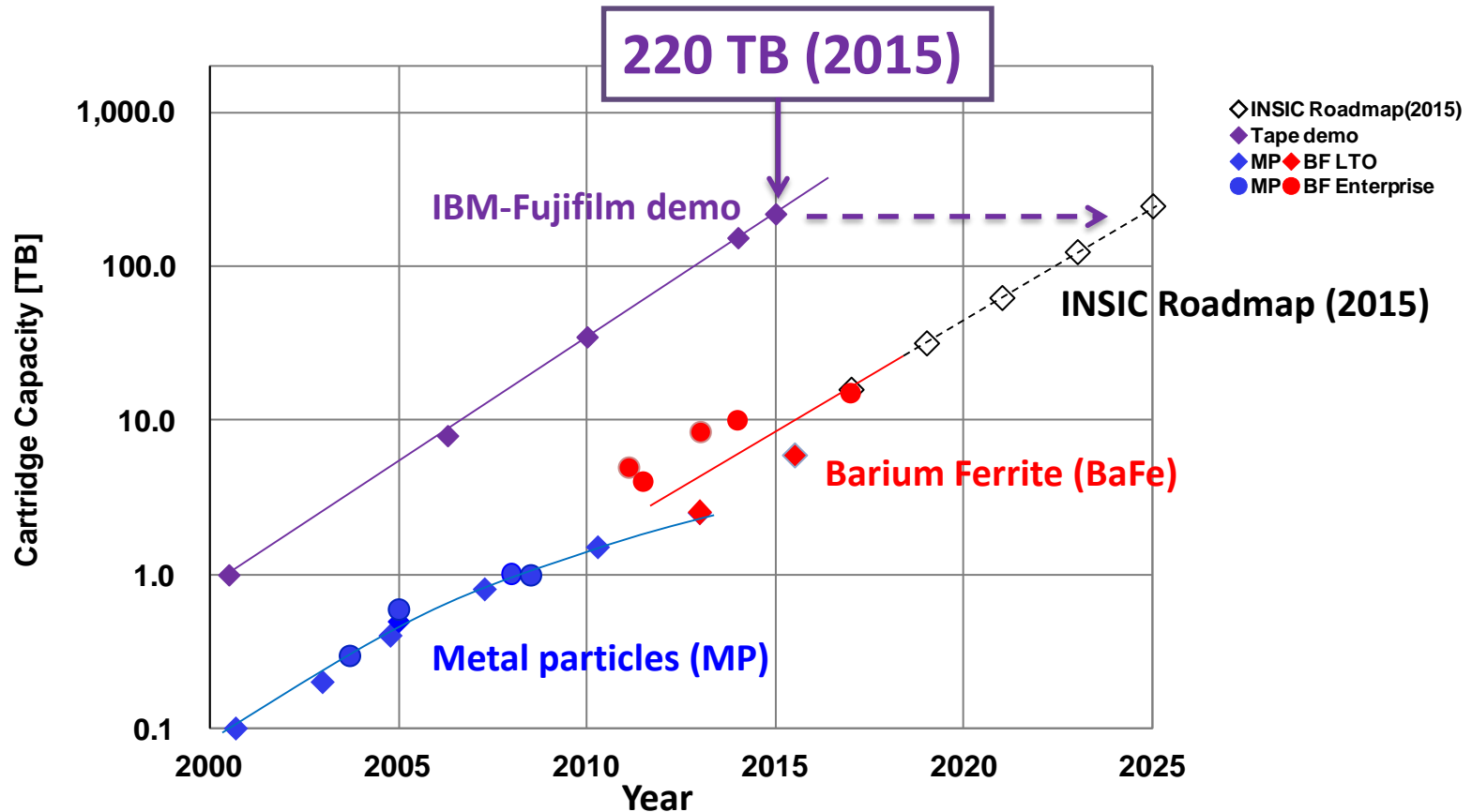
**Magnetic particles**



50 nm



# Cartridge Capacity Trends



- IBM-Fujifilm have been developing tape technologies to continuously increase cartridge capacity.
- All the latest tape systems use Fujifilm's BaFe particle technology.
- The latest BaFe demo can support the next 10 years roadmap.

# Key Technologies to Increase Capacity

---

## Extend tape length in a single cartridge

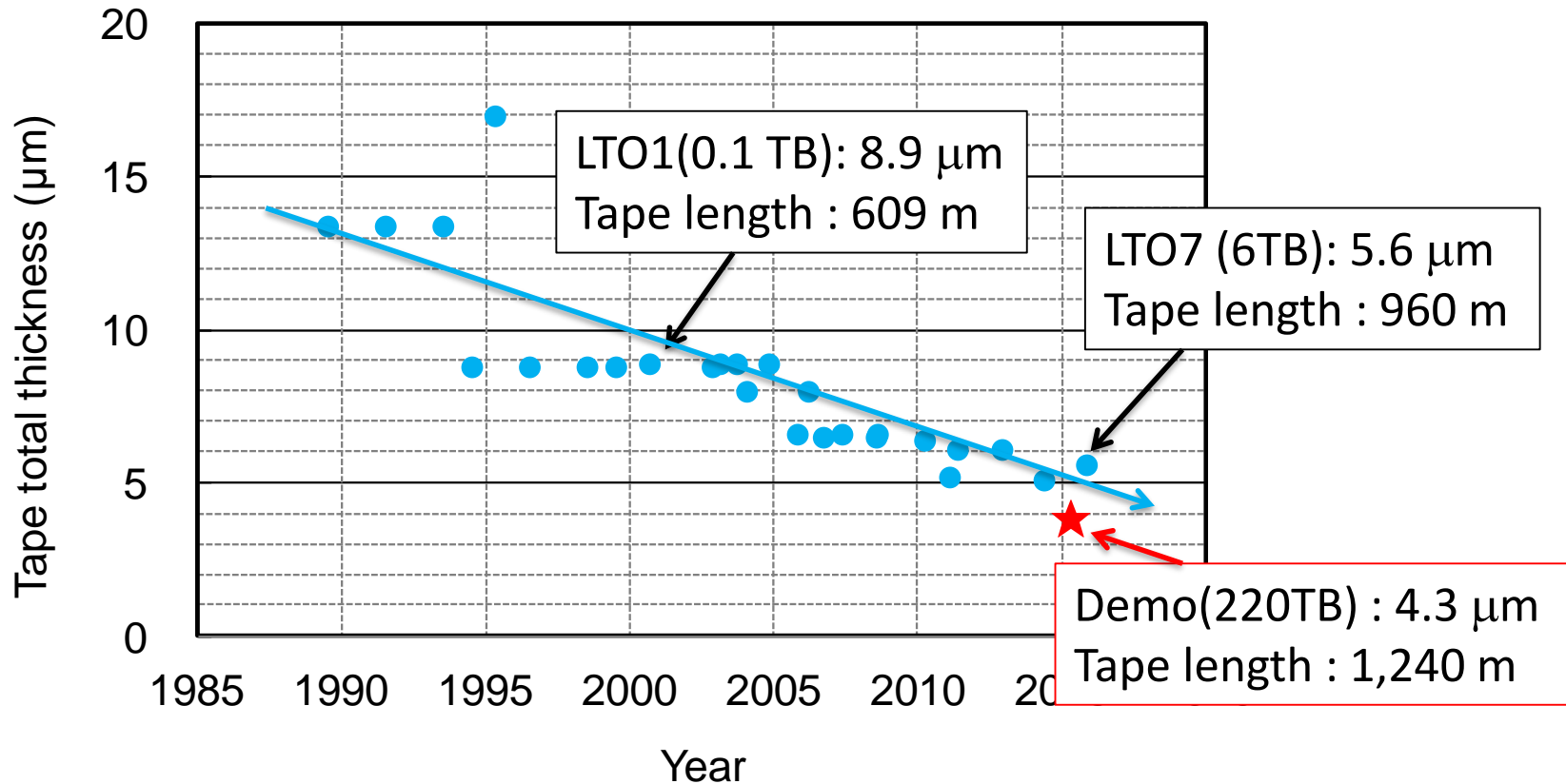
**Reduce tape total thickness**

## Increase areal recording density

**Enhance recording performance**

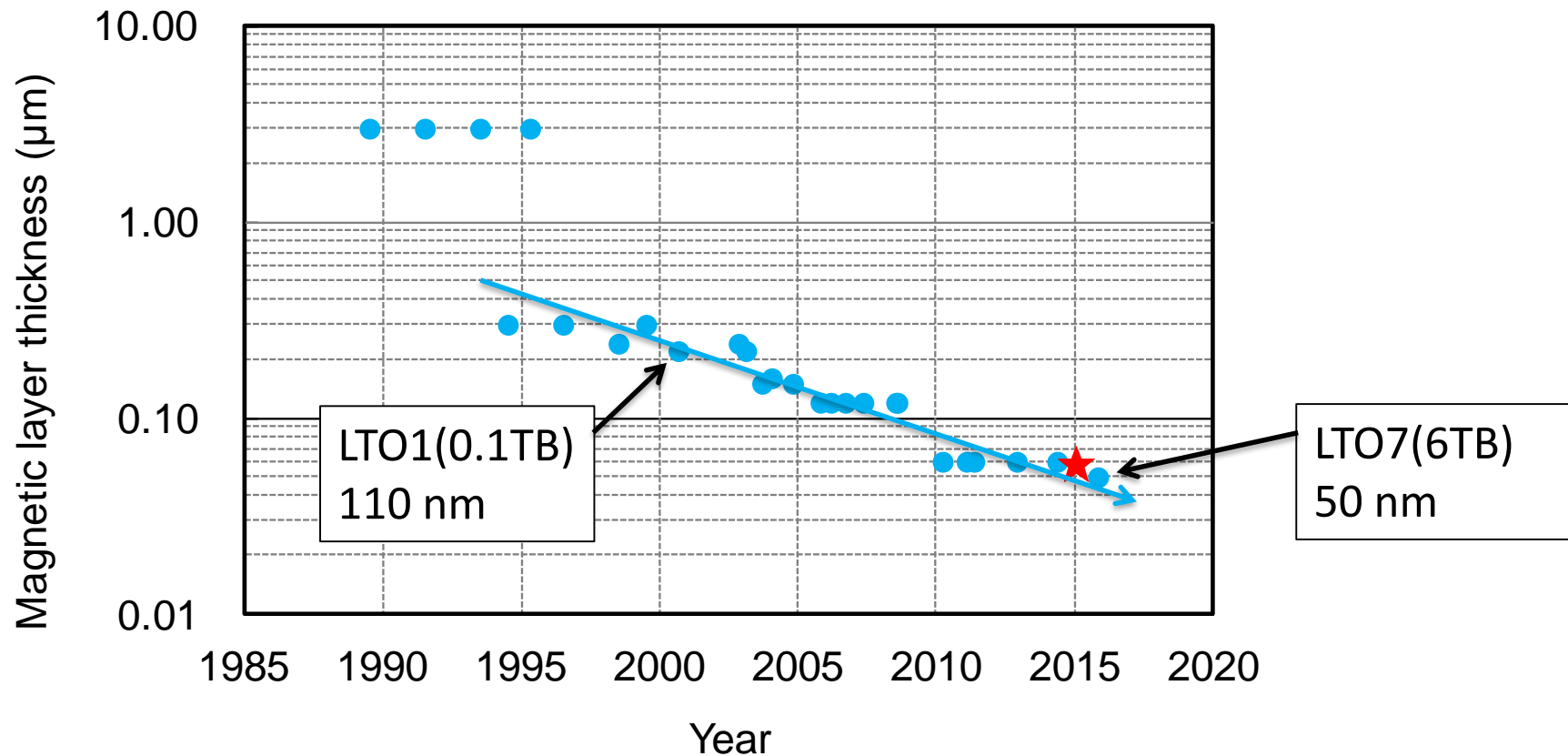
- Thin & Uniform coating
- Reduce tape surface roughness
- Reduce magnetic particle size

# Tape Thickness Trends



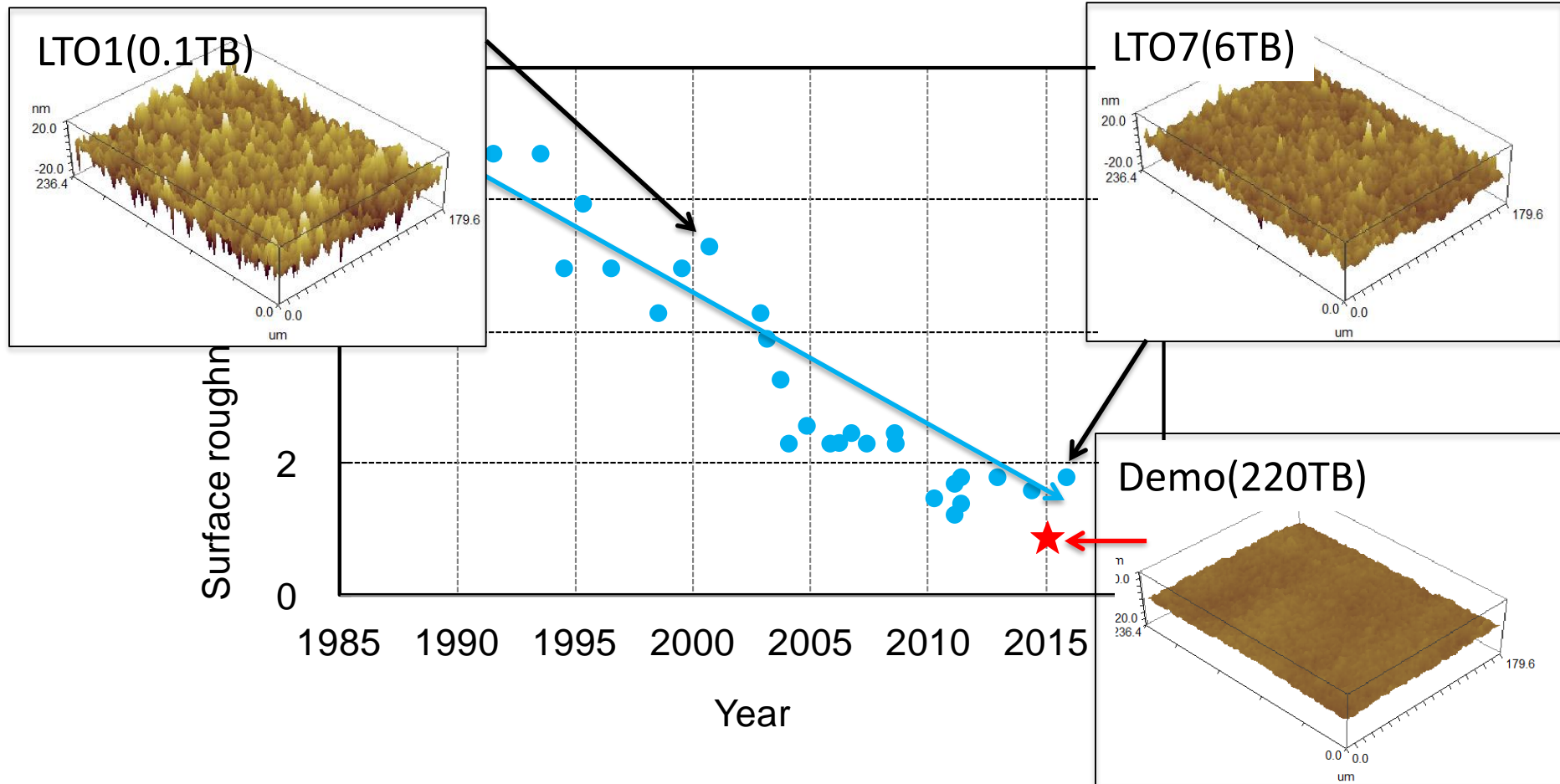
- Thickness of tape media decreases year by year.
- The demo(220TB) achieved a thickness of 4.3 µm, enabling tape length to exceed 1.2 km in a cartridge!

# Magnetic Layer Thickness Trends



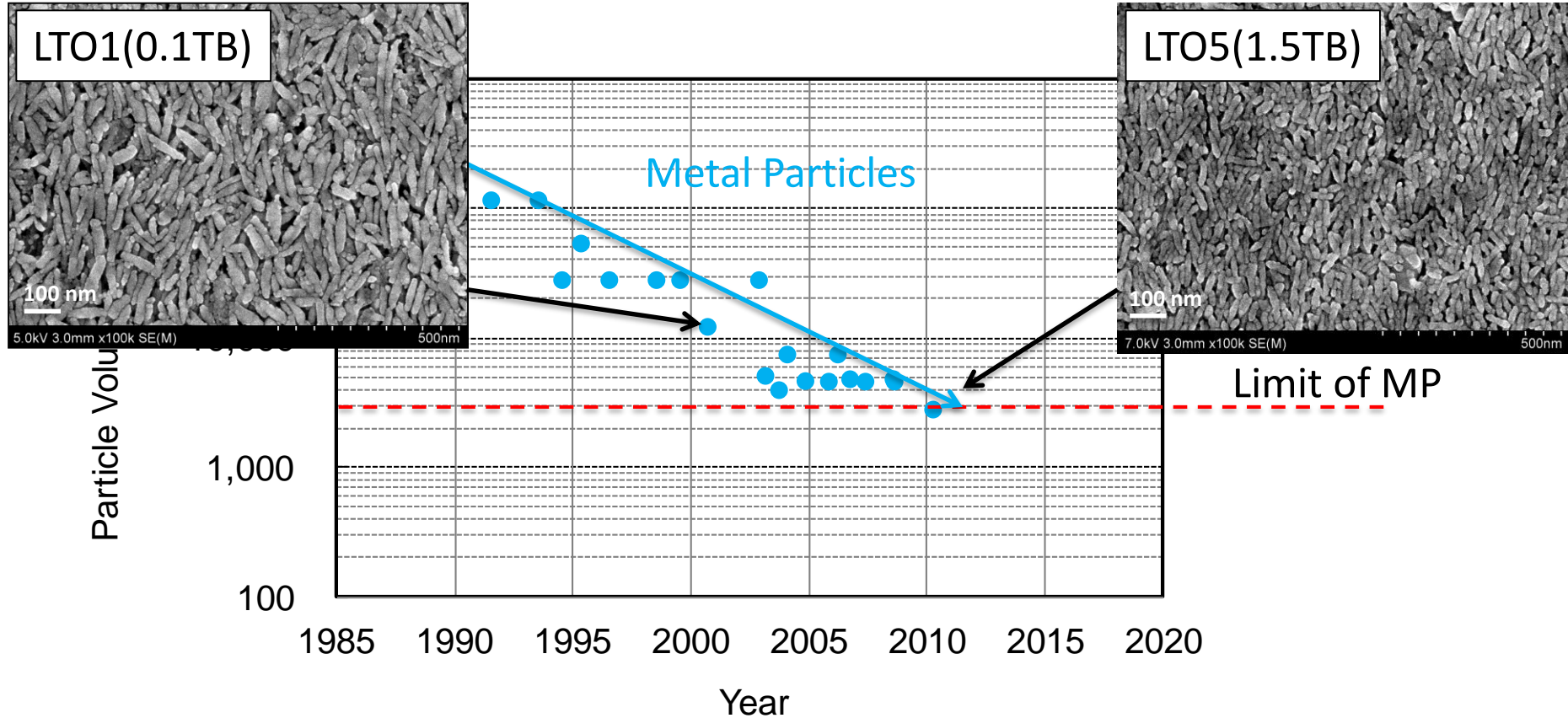
- Thickness of magnetic layer decreases year by year.
- Fujifilm has been developing advanced coating technologies to reduce magnetic layer thickness.

# Surface Roughness Trends



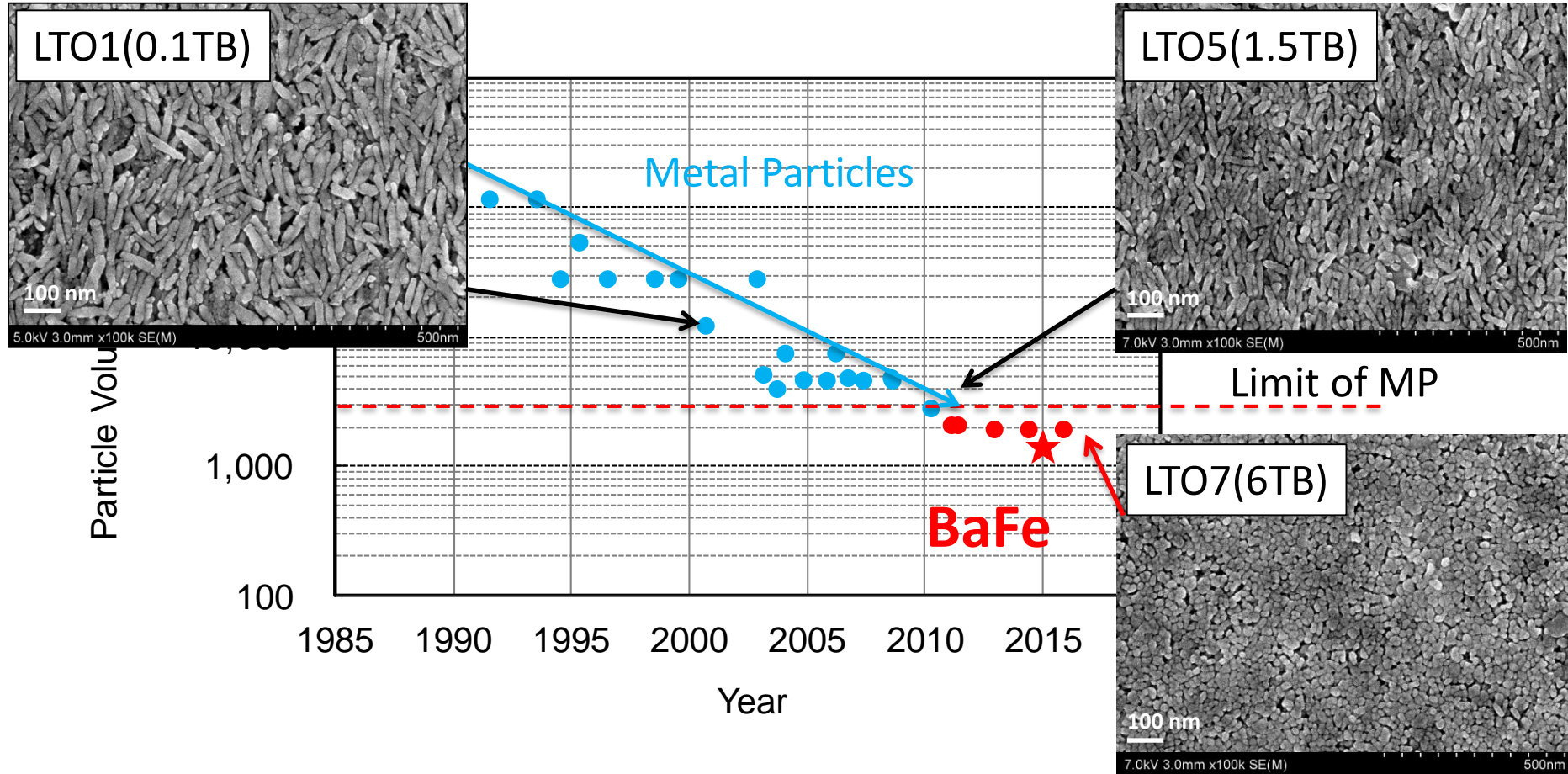
- Surface roughness of tape media decreases year by year.
- The demo media achieved a much smoother surface as compared to the production media.

# Magnetic Particle Volume Trends



- The size of magnetic particle decreases year by year.
- Metal particles (MP) faced limit to reduce their size below 2,800 nm<sup>3</sup>.

# Magnetic Particle Volume Trends (Cont'd)

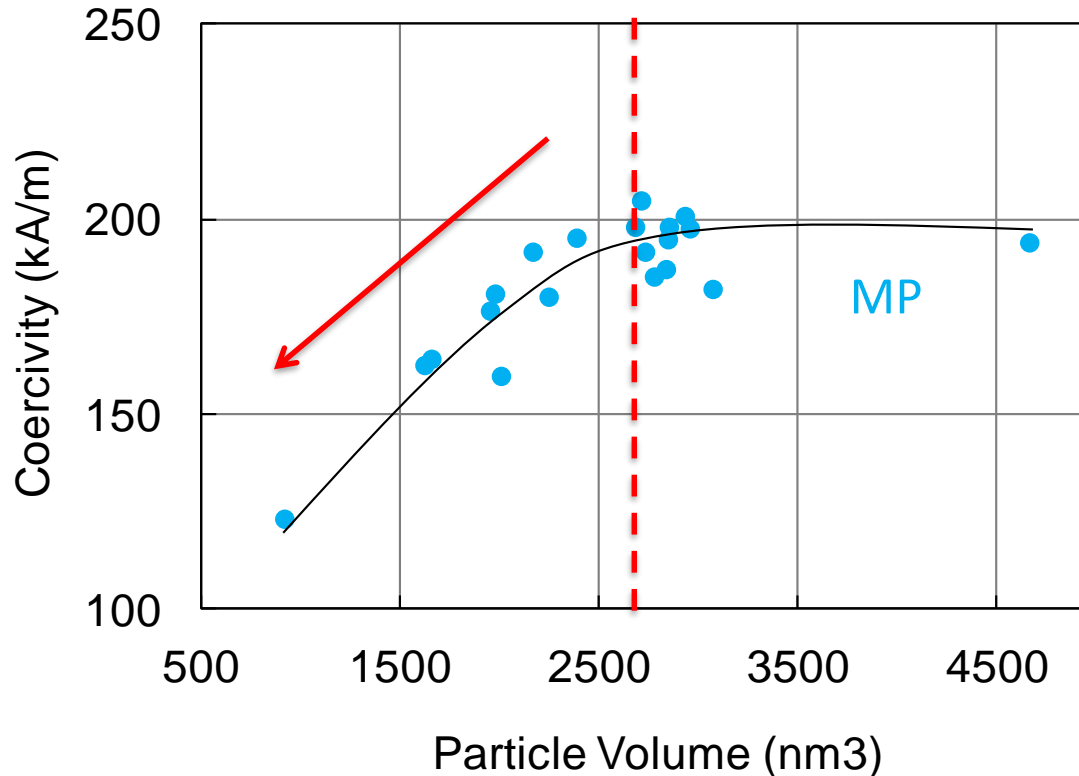


- The size of magnetic particle decreases year by year.
- Metal particles (MP) faced limit to reduce their size below 2,800 nm<sup>3</sup>.

→ BaFe has become the de facto standard for tape storage

# Size constraint on Metal Particles

Coersivity vs. particle volume

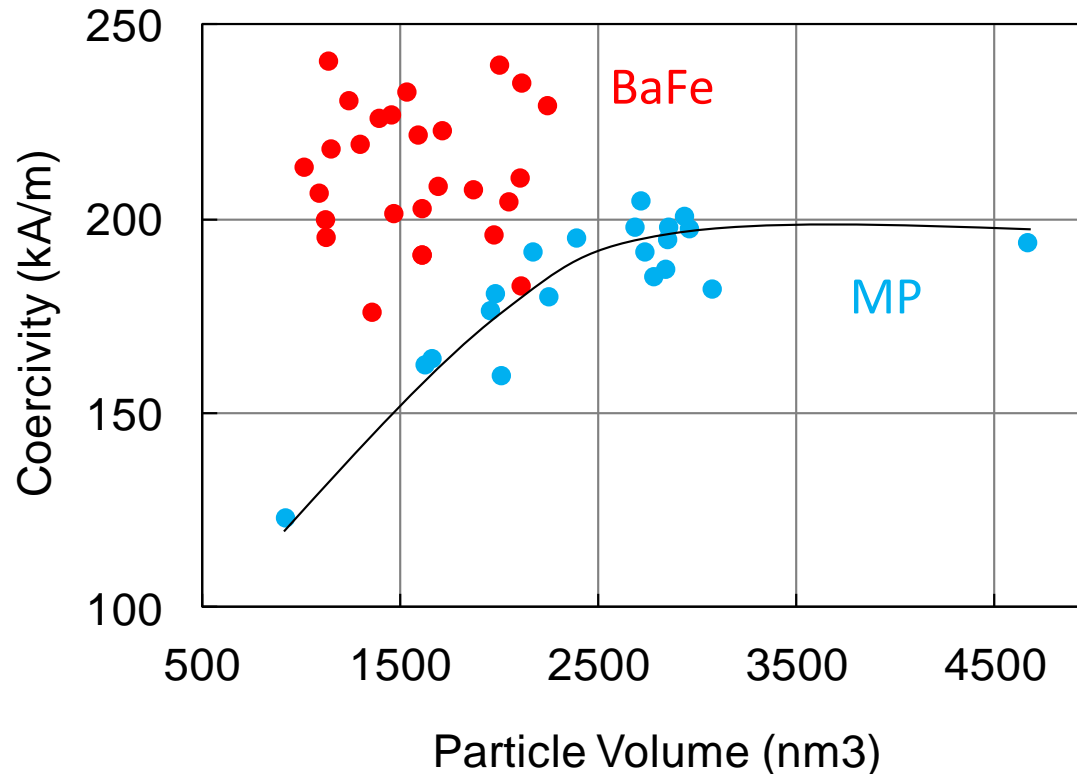


- Reducing the particle size to less than 2,800 nm<sup>3</sup> degraded the magnetic coercivity, which is critical to long-term storage of recorded data
- Capacity limit with metal particles



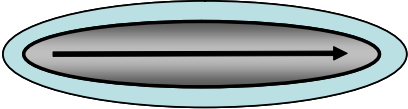
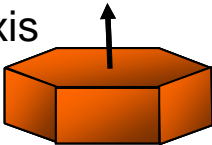
# Advantages of BaFe particle

Coersivity vs. particle volume



- The coercivity of BaFe particles is independent on their size, and controllable by changing the particle composition  
→ The size of BaFe particles can be reduced for increased capacity!

# Metal particles vs BaFe particles

	MP	BaFe
Particle Shape	 <p>Passivation layer Acicular</p>	<p>magnetization axis</p>  <p>Hexagonal platelets</p>
Material	FeCo alloy	$\text{BaO}(\text{Fe}_2\text{O}_3)_6$ Oxide
Origin of magnetic energy	Shape anisotropy	Magneto-crystalline anisotropy
Passivation layer	Required	Not Required

- The magnetic properties of BaFe particles are not influenced by their particle shape.
  - A passivation layer is not required since BaFe particles are oxides.
- The size of BaFe particles can be reduced without degradation of their magnetic properties

# Outline

---

## 1. Background

- Exponential growth of data and storage
- Advantages of tape storage

## 2. Innovation of Tape technologies

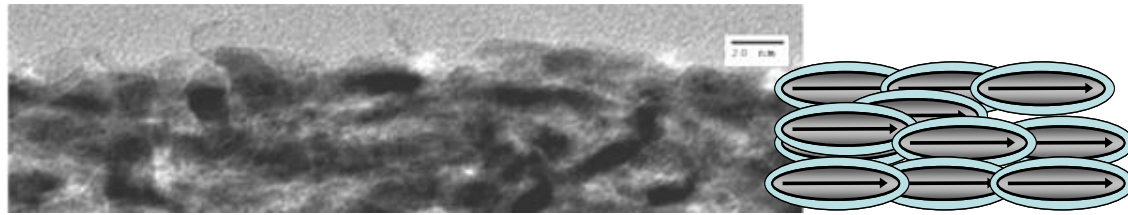
- Key technologies to increase capacity
- Future tape technologies

## 3. Summary

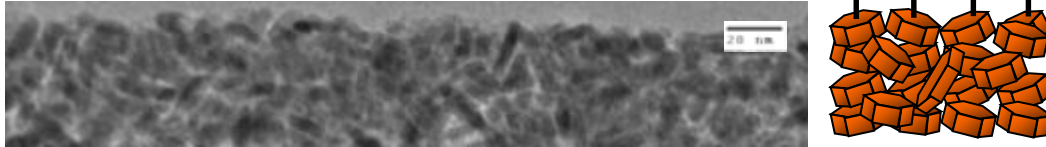
# Perpendicular Orientation Technology

## Particle orientation

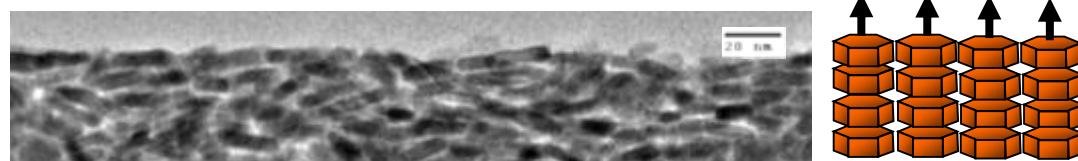
Longitudinal orientation (MP tape)



Random orientation (Current BaFe tape)

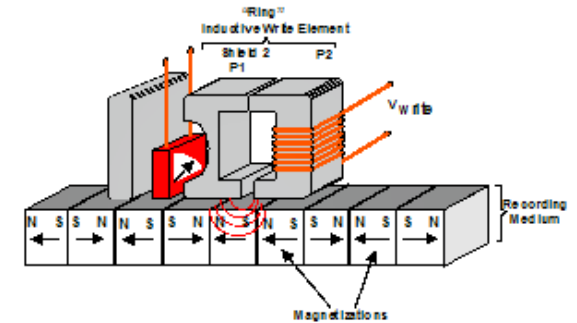


Highly perpendicular orientation (Demo 2015)

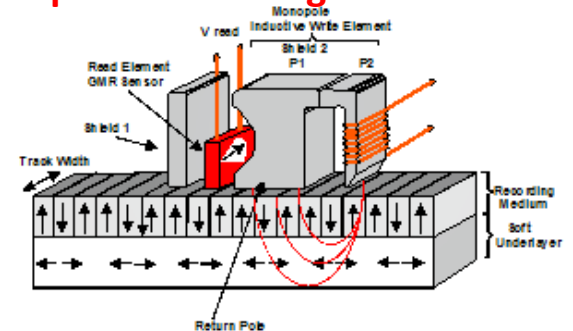


## Recording system

### Longitudinal Magnetic Recording



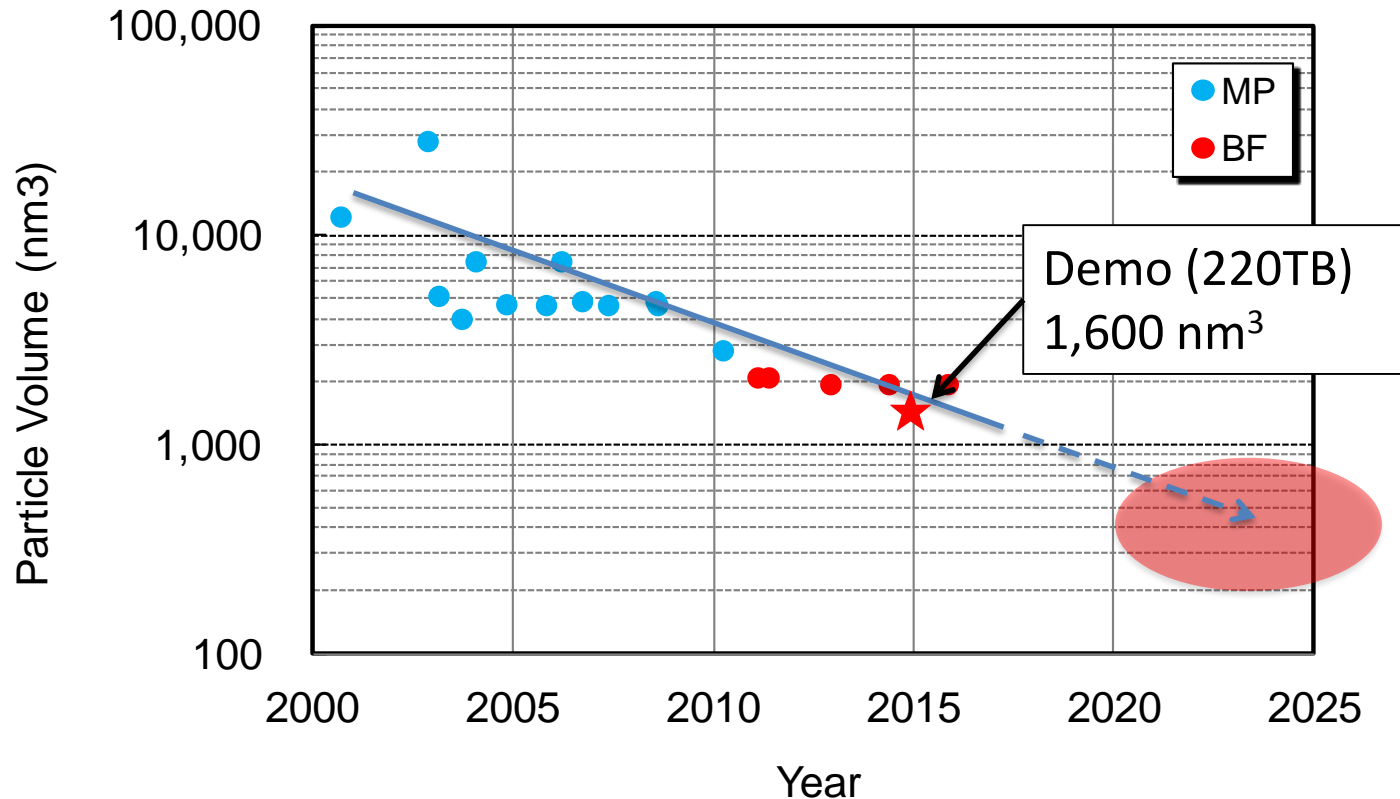
### Perpendicular Magnetic Recording



© 2005, Hitachi Global Storage Technologies

- BaFe particles can be oriented in perpendicular direction.
- PMR, which contributed to increase capacity of HDD can be applied in the tape storage system.

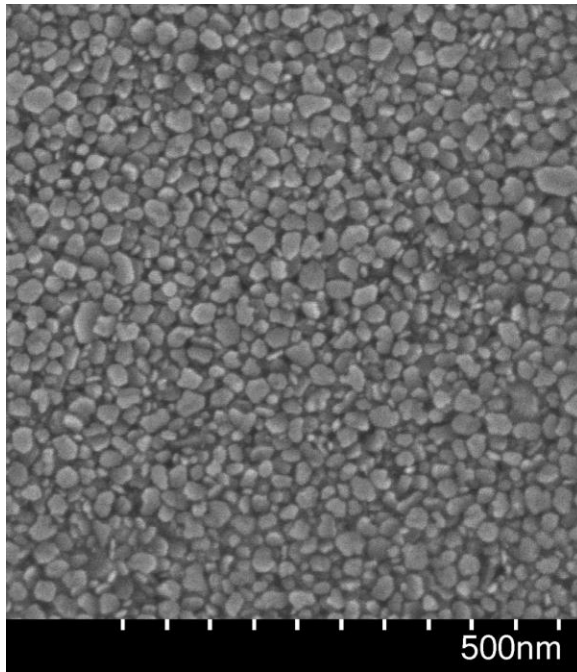
# Magnetic Particle Volume Trends



- For the future tape, technologies to reduce particle size to less than 1,000 nm<sup>3</sup> will be required.

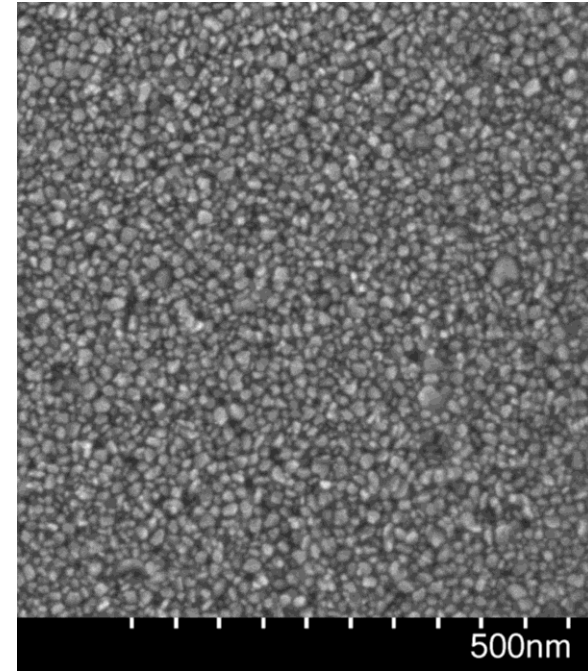
## Barium Ferrite

Particle volume 1,600 nm<sup>3</sup>  
Capacity (demo) 220 TB



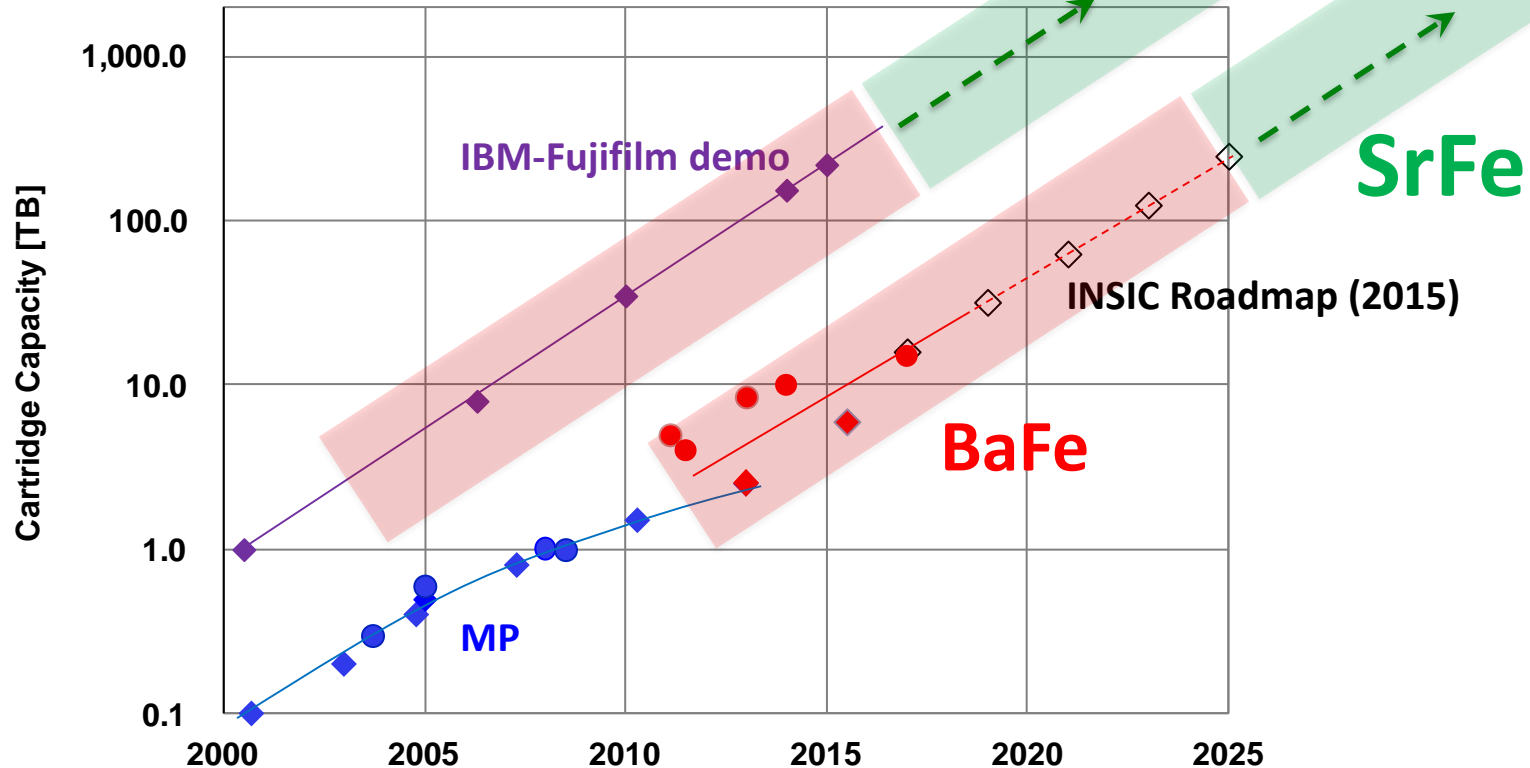
## Strontium Ferrite **NEW!!**

900 nm<sup>3</sup>  
(To be confirmed)



- Fujifilm has successfully developed “**Strontium ferrite particles**”, with a particle volume of 900 nm<sup>3</sup>.

# Cartridge Capacity Trends



**BaFe** can support the next 10 year's tape roadmap.

**SrFe** will enable to further high capacity cartridge in the future !!

# Summary

---

- Tape storage is suitable for **data archiving** owing to its advantages.
- The cartridge capacity of particulate tapes has increased as a result of **innovations in tape technology**.
- Fujifilm's **BaFe particle technology** contributes to continuous growth of cartridge capacity of tape storage, and can support tape roadmap over the next 10 years.
- Fujifilm has successfully developed “**Strontium ferrite particles**”, with a volume of  $900 \text{ nm}^3$ , which will enable to further high capacity cartridge in the future.

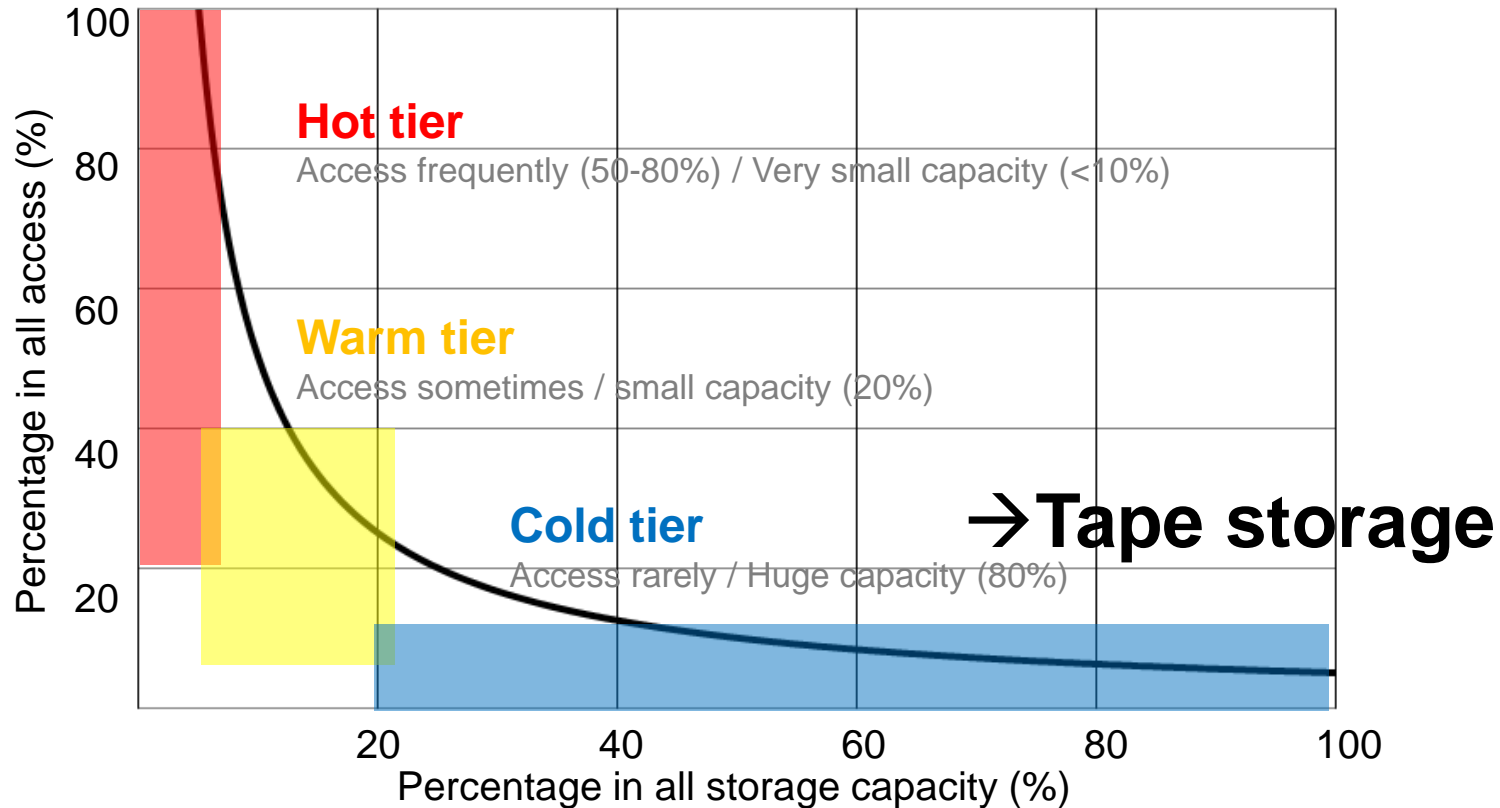
**Future of tape storage is brighter than ever!!**



**FUJIFILM**  
Value from Innovation



# New Role of Tape as Cold Data Storage



- Most data is very rarely accessed, however, data must be retained for preservation to ensure compliance with legal requirements or, for future reference to analyze business opportunities.\*\*

→ Storage for COLD data has become a HOT topic

- But budget is limited.

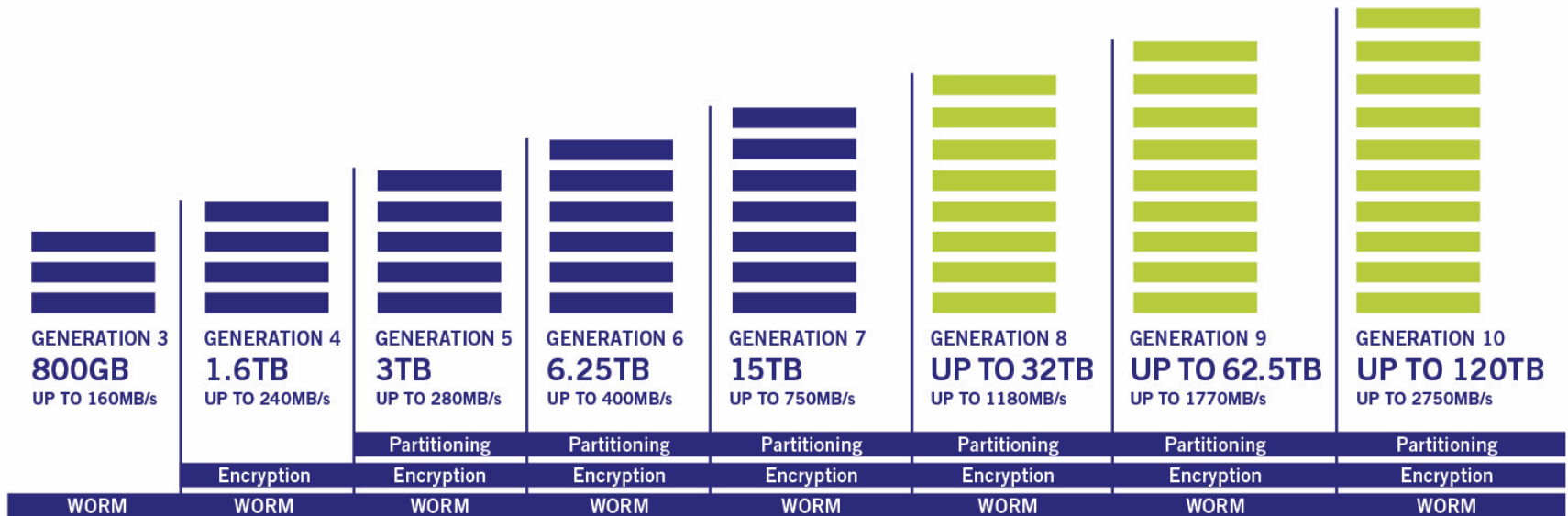
→ Reliable yet inexpensive storage media is required.

\*90% data in NAS is never accessed. (Source: University of California, Santa Cruz)

\*\*Retention of 20 year or more is required by 70%. (Source: SNIA-100 year archive survey)

# LTO Roadmap

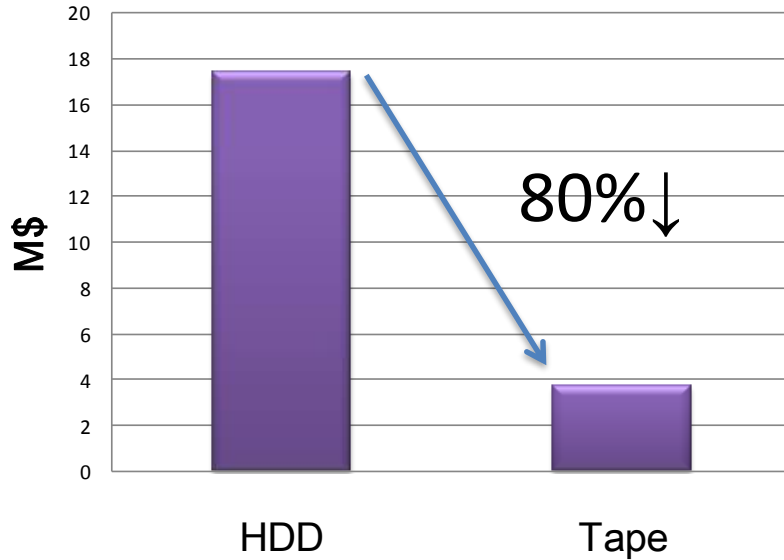
## LTO ULTRIUM ROADMAP ADDRESSING YOUR STORAGE NEEDS



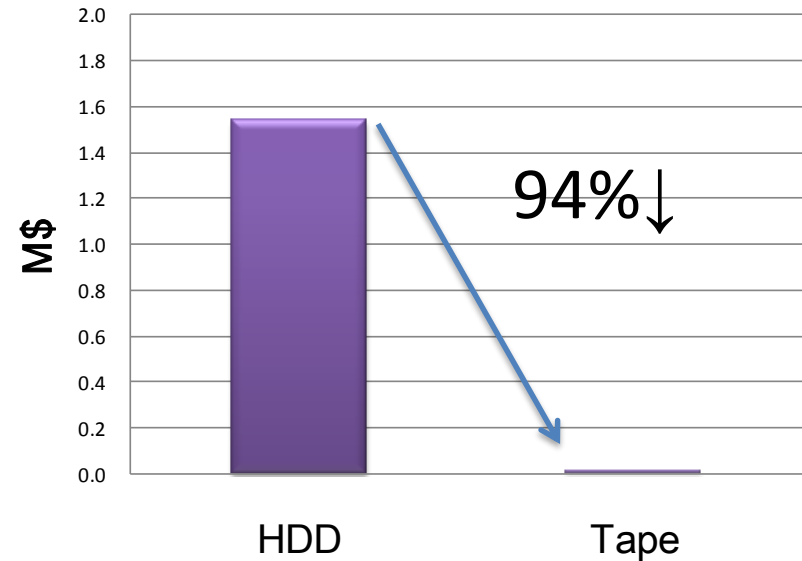
Note: Compressed capacities for generations 1-5 assume 2:1 compression. Compressed capacities for generations 6-10 assume 2.5:1 compression (achieved with larger compression history buffer).  
 Source: The LTO Program. The LTO Ultrium roadmap is subject to change without notice and represents goals and objectives only.  
 Linear Tape-Open, LTO, the LTO logo, Ultrium, and the Ultrium logo are registered trademarks of Hewlett Packard Enterprise, IBM and Quantum in the US and other countries.

# Case Study of TCO (The Clipper Group)

### Total Cost of Ownership (TCO)



### Energy Cost



#### Preconditions:

- Initial Capacity: 1PB
- Annual Growth Rate: 55%
- Storage Refresh Period: 3 years
- Total Storage Period: 9 years

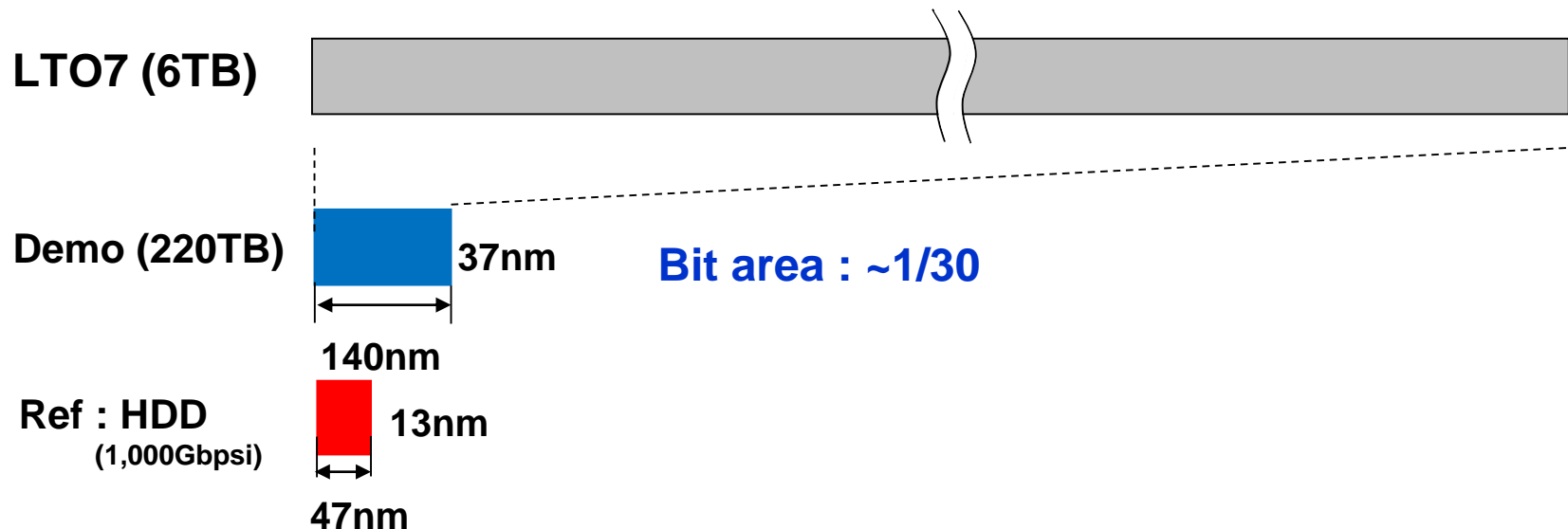
Source: The Clipper Group

- Tape storage provides large capacity with a low TCO and low energy consumption

# Technical demonstrations

## 220TB demo in 2015 (IBM and Fujifilm)

- Media type: BaFe particulate tape
- Areal recording density of 123Gbps was achieved, enables a single tape cartridge to store up to 220TB, which is 37 times larger capacity than the latest LTO format.



## 330TB demo in 2017 (IBM and Sony)\*

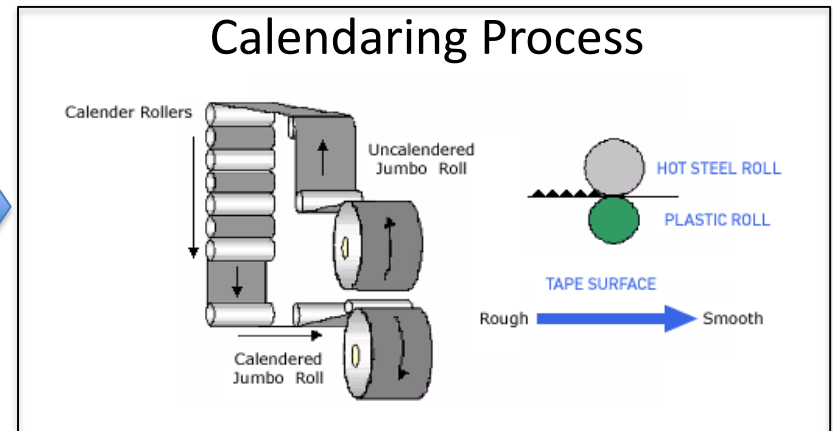
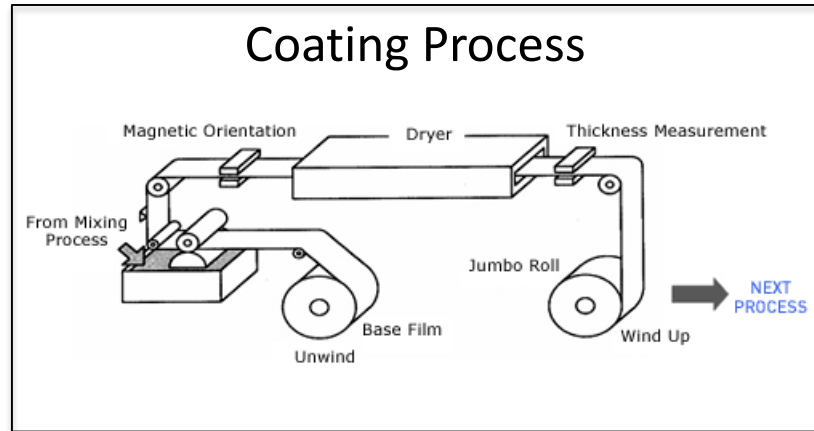
\*<https://www.sony.net/SonyInfo/News/Press/201708/17-070E/index.html>

- Media type: Sputtered tape
- Areal recording density of 201Gbps was achieved, corresponding to 330TB

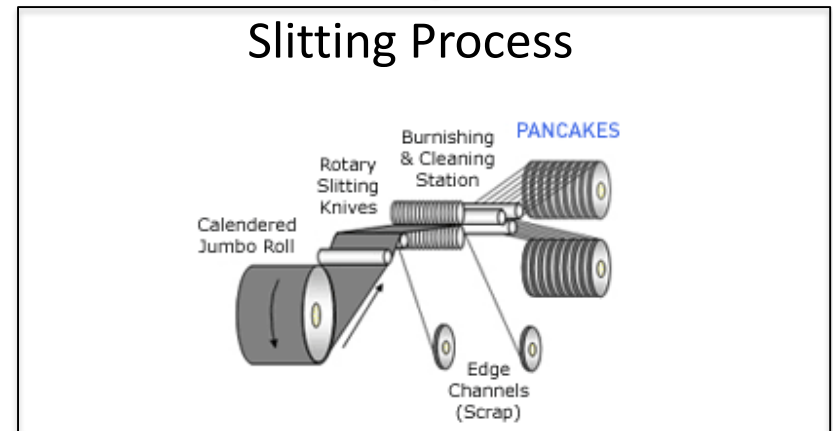
# Tape Manufacturing Process

## Dispersion Process

Figure; <http://www.sony-asia.com/microsite/b2b/technical/manufacturing-technology/metal-partical-tape/>



## Format & Packaging



- High productivity coating manufacturing system  
 → Mass production at a low media cost

## ***ATOMM Technology***

Average thickness    110 nm  
Thickness deviation    25 nm

Magnetic layer

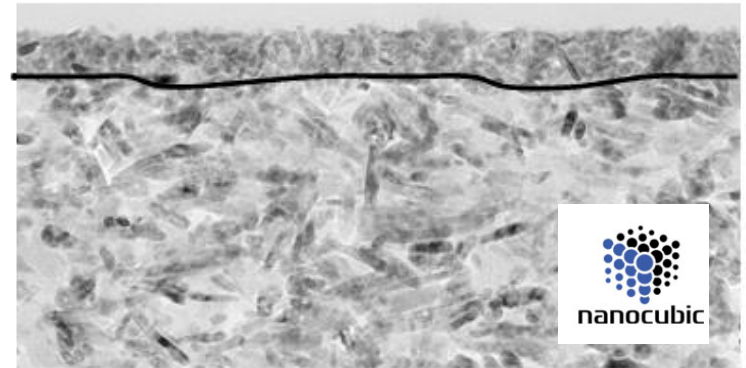
Under layer



50nm

## ***NANOCUBIC Technology***

Average thickness    60 nm  
Thickness deviation    6 nm



- Thinner magnetic layer with less deviation was achieved by NANOCUBIC coating technology.



# Storage Media Comparison for Cold Data

Blue characters show advantages		Tape (Latest formats data)	Capacity Optimized-HDD	Optical disc	
Current	Capacity	[TB/unit]	6 to 15	4 to 10	0.128(Blu-ray) 1.5TB/cart(12 discs)
	Sustained transfer rate	[MBps]	252 to 360	≈160 to 249 (Slower at inner positions**)	Up tp 138 (Read) Up tp 55 (Write) (Slower at inner positions**)
	Access time in libraries	[s]	≈30(shorter tape)-80 (incl. loading)	mili	≈60-90 (incl. loading)
	Media lifetime	[year]	30	3 to 5	50
	Cost/GB	[\$/GB]	≈0.01 (LTO)	≈0.05	≈0.10 (Archival disc)
	CO2*	Relative value	1/10 to 1/30	1	Similar to tape
	Hard error rate		1E-19 to 1E-20	1E-15 to 1E-16	-
	Write after verify		Yes (No transfer rate loss)	Optional (Transfer rate may drop in write operation)	Optional (Transfer rate may drop in write operation)
	Latest media tech		BaFe	SMR/He-Shield	Multi layer
Future	Capacity	[TB/unit]	220(Demonstrated in 2015) 48(LTO10)	20 with HAMR / TDMR 100 by 2025?	≈0.46/disc
	Transfer rate	[MBps]	Multi Ch / Linear density 1,100(LTO10)	Up to 250? (Constrain of rpm)	≈250 (Read) ≈125 (Write)

\*Source: JEITA tape storage committee (2013)

\*\*Bits per rotation at an inner position are less than at an outer, so transfer rate is slower at an inner position. (up to -50%)

\*\*\* <http://www.everspan.com/specs>, [http://hlds.co.kr/v2/HL200\\_eng.pdf](http://hlds.co.kr/v2/HL200_eng.pdf)