

HP VLS 6200/ESL 712e/LT0-4 Video: Impossible I.T. "Piranha" DRAFT - December 7, 2007

The Set-Up

The Producers of the reality show, "Impossible I.T." have devised another ultimate "IT Challenge." They've assigned Al Jones, this week's I.T. professional, to a unique data protection challenge. Al's computing platforms: the HP StorageWorks VLS 6200 and the ESL 712e Tape Library running LTO-4 Ultrium tape.

The Script

FADE IN

DRAMATIC MUSIC begins over a bold, full-screen GRAPHIC that stamps on, *IMPOSSIBLE I.T.* We hear a SOUND EFFECT as the graphic shatters to reveal the next scene.

INT. "CAPTAIN JACK'S DEADLY FISH" - NIGHT - ESTABLISHING

We're in a rundown fishing warehouse: an old, wooden affair that's seen better days. Pools of light reveal rope, nets, gaffing hooks, mechanical scales, algae-covered fish tanks and other odd equipment, some of it under old tarps. An aging sign on one of the shabby walls reads, "Captain Jack's Deadly Fish".

We see a large, round, low-walled tank filled with water sitting in the middle of the warehouse. CAPTAIN JACK, a grizzled, curmudgeonly fisherman in his 60's, leans against the tank. He's holding a long wooden pole with one arm as he jabs at something in the tank. His other arm is missing.

WILLIS, the "Impossible I.T." stagehand, works on some equipment near the tank. He's wearing earbuds connected to a music player in his pocket. You have to love Willis: He's as eager as ever, but still completely ineffective.

There's a pulley hanging over the center of the tank of water. A thick rope spans the pulley. One end of the rope is tied off to a platform next to the tank. There's a large banner sporting the "Impossible I.T." logo hanging halfway up from the tied-off end of the rope to the pulley. The other end of the rope runs down from the pulley to a makeshift "chair" rig hanging about 15 feet over the tank. AL JONES sits on the rig.

Al is in his 40's. He's a good-natured guy with eyeglasses. He's wearing a dress shirt and necktie beneath a tight "shorty" wetsuit. Al could probably stand to lose a few pounds. He could also do with a little more sunshine: his pale, exposed feet and legs dangle beneath him as he hangs above the tank. He's got an HP notebook computer perched on his lap.



MEDIUM HANDHELD SHOT OF THE WAREHOUSE

MELANIE FOX, the attractive and energetic host of "Impossible I.T." steps into view next to the tank. She looks smashing in a wetsuit and pearls.

MELANIE

(to camera)

Hello Folks. We've got another great one for you this week on "Impossible I.T."! Meet our contestant, Al Jones.

Melanie gestures up into the air over the tank.

CUT TO A LOW ANGLE, Melanie's point of view (POV) as she looks up at Al Jones.

MELANIE

(continuing, to AI)

How you doing, Al?!

SNAP ZOOM to a tighter shot of Al.

ΑL

(waves)

Just great, Melanie. Thanks.

ON MELANIE

MELANIE

(to camera)

Al is the VP of Information Technology with Non-Stop Health. And tonight, we're going to throw a real heart-stopper at him. We're going to give Al a new disk array storage system and challenge him to integrate it into his company's data protection environment!

CLOSEUP ON AL as he considers the challenge.

CUT TO A HIGH ANGLE over Al's shoulder, looking down at Melanie standing next to the tank. We also see the CAMERAMAN and SOUNDMAN who've been covering Melanie.

MELANIE

(smiling up at Al)

Tell the folks at home where you are, Al Jones!



LOW ANGLE, MELANIE'S POV, ON AL

ΑL

It looks like I'm hanging over a tank of water, Melanie. Is it cold?

ON MELANIE

MELANIE

(to camera)

Oh, It's not only cold, Al. It's full of deadly piranha! Take it away, Captain Jack.

Melanie steps aside and waves her hand to introduce Captain Jack.

HAND-HELD CAMERA MOVES FORWARD TOWARDS CAPTAIN JACK

Captain Jack takes one last fish-antagonizing stab at the water and then rests his pole on the edge of the tank. He eyeballs Melanie's wetsuit for a second and steps to camera.

CAPTAIN JACK

(grimly amused, to camera and crew)

That's right, Lass. My tank here's filled with flesh-eating piranha snatched from the heart of the Amazon. They've got teeth sharp as razor blades. Why, they've been known to rip an animal's flesh clean from the bone in seconds.

CAPTAIN JACK (to Melanie)

Care for a demonstration?

THE CAMERA SWINGS TO MELANIE, who eagerly nods "yes" to camera, then it SWINGS BACK TO CAPTAIN JACK, now holding up a fresh ham leg. Jack walks to the edge of the tank. He looks up at Al, flashes him a "you're so screwed" grin and then tosses the ham leg into the center of the tank.

TIGHT ON THE HAM LEG as it splashes into the tank. There's a pause as it disappears beneath the water's surface. Then suddenly, the water explodes into a boiling frenzy of churning bubbles and color.

SEQUENCE OF REACTION SHOTS:

WIDE SHOT of the crew watching the boiling water.

CLOSE-UPS of each crewmember reacting in character – horrified, amused, impressed.

TIGHT ON THE WATER where the boiling slows to a stop as the now completely clean ham bone floats to the surface. Somewhere in the distance we hear a faint BELCH.



WIDE SHOT of the crew. It's suddenly VERY QUIET in the warehouse as they turn to look up at Al. Captain Jack finds this all very amusing.

LOW ANGLE, MELANIE'S POV on Al who gulps.

BACK TO MELANIE

MFI ANIF

(to camera, unflappable)

Wow, that was fast! Al, to survive this challenge, and win our fabulous grand prize, you will need to...

Melanie steps aside and gestures into the air over the tank. The CAMERA WHIPS OVER to make room for GRAPHICS that appear on-screen with Melanie's cues. We see Al's wiggling toes dangling into the shot from above.

MELANIE

(continuing, and gesturing to the area of the screen where the graphics will appear)
... configure your disk array by setting up several libraries and drives. Backup the data on the disk array, including moving that data to tape. And then, perform a single file restore on the VLS.

GRAPHICS FLOW ACROSS THE SCREEN CHASED BY ANIMATED SWIMMING PIRANHA:

- 1. Configure the array: set-up libraries and drives
- 2. Backup the data to tape
- 3. Perform a single file restore

HIGH ANGLE, AL'S POV on Melanie

MELANIE

(to AI)

Sounds easy enough, doesn't it Al?

LOW ANGLE, MELANIE'S POV on AI

ΑL

(having second thoughts) Well, Melanie, that's a lot to do. I don't know if...



BACK TO MELANIE

MELANIE

(to camera)

Sure folks, Al could get this done if he had all the time in the world, but we've added an extra element! Al, when you've finished the challenge, you'll need to yell, "Done!" so that...

CUT TO A MEDIUM INSERT SHOT OF A RED BUTTON mounted on an electrical box on the side of the tank near Melanie.

MELANIE

(voiceover)

... I can hit this button...

CUT TO A RAPID TRACKING SHOT over some flexible tubing and up to a BUNSEN BURNER staged beneath the tied-off end of the rope that holds Al over the tank. Behind the burner, we see Willis and Captain Jack. Willis is a slack-jawed blank. Captain Jack is amused; he'd like nothing better than to see Al in the tank. Willis and Jack eye the rope ascending out of frame and up towards Al.

MELANIE

(voiceover)

... which will turn off the gas to this torch. Otherwise, Al,...

HIGH ANGLE, AL'S POV as he eyeballs the burner below him, the rope, and the pulley over his head that supports him.

MELANIE

(voiceover)

the torch will burn through the rope and, well,...

ON MELANIE

MELANIE

(to camera, wryly)

... you'll be swimming with the fishes.

REACTION SHOT OF AL thinking "this was a bad idea after all."



CUT TO a two-shot of the Soundman and Cameraman, amused at the proceedings. Their focus is up on Al while the Soundman fills out a log on a small clipboard.

SOUNDMAN

(to the Cameraman, softly)

What's this guy's name again?

CAMERAMAN

Bait.

ON MELANIE, as we hear Al from above frame.

ΑL

(voiceover, meekly)

Excuse me, umm, Melanie?

MELANIE

Yes, AI?

LOW ANGLE, MELANIE'S POV on Al

AL

I really don't know if this is such a great idea. I'm going to have to do a lot of set up...setting up LUN's, managing the file movement.

BACK ON MELANIE

MELANIE

(laugh)

Oh, you ARE a silly one! Willis, show Al the disk array he'll be using tonight.

ON WILLIS near the tank, watching obliviously. We OVERHEAR LOUD MUSIC, coming through Willis' earbuds.

BACK ON MELANIE

MELANIE

(annoyed)

Willis!!!



BACK ON WILLIS who finally tunes in. He turns to a nearby table and, with a Willis-flourish, whisks a tarp off a piece of equipment on the table. A spotlight immediately strikes the equipment: it is a humming HP StorageWorks VLS 6200.

ON AL as he leans forward and adjusts his glasses to get a better view of the VLS. He breaks into a smile.

ON MELANIE

MELANIE

(to camera)

There's the array, Folks. It's a...

LOW ANGLE, MELANIE'S POV ON AL

ΑL

(cuts her off, excited)

Melanie, that's an HP Virtual Library System! A 6200. Man, what a break!

ON MELANIE

MELANIE

(confused)

Umm, why's that?

LOW ANGLE, MELANIE'S POV ON AL

ΑL

The HP VLS is incredibly easy to integrate and manage. You couldn't have given me anything simpler to work with!

ON CAPTAIN JACK who visibly expresses his utter disappointment.

BACK TO AL who eagerly flips open his laptop and limbers up his fingers.

AL

Can we get started?

ON MELANIE

MELANIE

Unh, sure, Al.



Melanie turns to Willis and Jack standing at the business end of the Bunsen burner.

MELANIE (continuing)

Fire it up, Guys!

ON CAPTAIN JACK AND THE BUNSEN BURNER

Jack gleefully ignites the burner with a propane torch. The burner ROARS to life and immediately starts to smoke the taught rope suspending Al.

ON AL, mousing around on his laptop.

AL

First, using the web-based GUI for the VLS 6200, I'll set-up the VLS libraries and drives. This is incredibly easy and I can do it from anywhere. Even wirelessly, off this cute little swingset you guys built for me.

ON THE CAMERAMAN AND SOUNDMAN.

SOUNDMAN

(to the Cameraman, impressed)

I kinda like this guy.

The Cameraman shoots him a look.

BACK ON AL

ΑL

Then, when I'm done, Data Protector lets me control the VLS like a standard tape library. That's one of the reasons it's so simple to integrate into an existing backup environment.

CU ON THE BURNER UNDER THE ROPE

Captain Jack and Willis are in the background. Suddenly, the Bunsen's flame burns through one of the strands of the rope. We hear a loud THUNK as the strand snaps.

CUT TO AL, his swing now bouncing around because of the snapped strand.

ΑL

Whoa, there. That's... That's a little disconcerting.



BACK TO THE BURNER UNDER THE ROPE

The flame is working away on another strand. Captain Jack is all smiles. Willis smiles because Captain Jack is happy, but then a bulb begins to burn dimly within Willis – "hmm, this could be trouble."

ON AL, FRAMED FOR A GRAPHIC

AL

There, finished!

GRAPHICS FLOW ACROSS THE SCREEN CHASED BY ANIMATED SWIMMING PIRANHA and concluded by a CHECK MARK

1. Configure the array: set-up libraries and drives

ΑL

(continuing)

Now, I'll back up the data to the VLS. I'll also use the Automigration capability of the VLS to route a copy of the data to the HP Enterprise Storage Library back at our data center where it will get written off to Ultrium LTO-4 tape.

CUT TO INT. DATA CENTER - ON AN HP ENTERPRISE STORAGE LIBRARY

The camera DOLLIES from a wide shot to a close-up of an ADMINISTRATOR in front of an ESL 712e. He's casually holding an Ultrium LTO-4 cartridge. The Administrator gives the camera a smile and thumbs up as the dolly closes in on him.

ΑL

(voiceover)

That's another great feature of the VLS: it integrates so smoothly with all the popular HP tape libraries. And one of the most popular, of course, is the HP ESL 712e.

BACK TO AL mousing on his laptop. He clicks "Enter" with finality.

ΑL

There, the data is copying to the LTO-4 tape on the ESL.

ON THE BUNSEN BURNER UNDER THE ROPE

Bad news: the flame severs another strand. THUNK!

ON AL and his swing, which bounces harder than before.

ΑL

Hey. Hey!



ON MELANIE, her hand hovering over the red button.

MELANIE

(concerned)

Al, are you all right up there? You're almost out of rope. Should we give up?

PREGNANT PAUSE ON AL who stares at his laptop screen watching the backup progress. We hear only the AMBIENT SOUND of the room.

ON THE CAMERAMAN AND SOUNDMAN in anticipation.

ON CAPTAIN JACK AND WILLIS, their eyes on the burning rope and Al.

BACK TO AL

ΑL

No. No, Melanie. The backup is... finished!

GRAPHICS FLOW ACROSS THE SCREEN CHASED BY ANIMATED SWIMMING PIRANHA and concluded by a CHECK MARK

2. Backup the data on the VLS to tape

AL

(continuing, mousing)

All I've got left now is the single file restore. This will be quick.

CUT TO A CU of Al's fingers mousing and typing on his laptop

ON MELANIE, worried. She takes a quick glance at the red button, then over to the Bunsen burner.

MELANIE

AI?

ON THE BUNSEN BURNER AND THE BURNING ROPE

Captain Jack watches the flame appreciatively. Willis thinks of something and walks away – Captain Jack slyly watches him leave. We're nearly burned through the LAST STRAND.

ΑL

(voiceover)

Fortunately, since the file is on the VLS, the restore speed is extremely fast.



CUT TO A WIDE SHOT OF WILLIS AT THE TANK

He's pushing a thin pole with a tiny net out over the tank, trying to line it up below Al just in case. For reasons only Willis can fathom, he thinks this could work. We see the VLS humming away behind Willis.

ΑI

(voiceover, continuing)

Simple and efficient file restores are another hallmark of the VLS.

ON AL looking at his laptop.

ΑL

(pleased)

Here comes the data now. All in all, Melanie, you couldn't have given me a better disk storage system for the challenge.

BACK TO THE BUNSEN BURNER BURNING THE LAST STRAND OF ROPE

That Bunsen burner's not fast enough for Captain Jack: He's adding more heat, gleefully working the rope with his propane torch dialed up to "11."

CU OF THE FLAMES BURNING THE LAST STRAND

ON MELANIE looking up at Al, concerned.

ON AL looking at his laptop

GRAPHICS FLOW ACROSS THE SCREEN CHASED BY ANIMATED SWIMMING PIRANHA and concluded by a CHECK MARK

3. Perform a single file restore

AL

(throws his arms up in victory)

There. Done!

ON MELANIE as she smiles and turns quickly to hit the red button and kill the gas.

BACK TO THE BUNSEN BURNER BURNING THE LAST STRAND OF ROPE Too late: the last strand of rope gives way.

CAPTAIN JACK

Oops.

ON AL yelling, as he plummets out of the shot down towards the tank.



ON THE PULLEY as the rope rolls madly over it as Al falls.

ON MELANIE, thinking "Noooo!!!!!!!"

ON THE CAMERMAN AND SOUNDMAN following the action.

BACK TO THE PULLEY, rope still flying by.

HIGH ANGLE ON AL as we watch his rig dropping down to the tank.

ON CAPTAIN JACK having a great time.

ON WILLIS with his net bracing himself. INTERCUT: WILLIS jams the end of the pole holding the net into the VLS. It explodes in sparks.

MEDIUM SHOT OF THE PULLEY. The rope is still flying by, but we now see that the attached "Impossible I.T." banner is running up towards the pulley.

BACK TO CAPTAIN JACK who, studying the rising banner, realizes he might be foiled. However, the banner is precariously close to the VLS 6200

CU OF THE RISING "IMPOSSIBLE I.T." BANNER as it rolls into the pulley and seizes the rope.

INTERCUT: WILLIS jams the end of the pole holding the net into the VLS. It explodes in sparks.

CU OF AL'S FEET as they plummet into frame and come to a crashing halt millimeters above the piranha infested water.

CUT TO A MEDIUM SHOT OF AL shocked at the hard landing and his uncomfortable nearness to the piranha. The water is already boiling a bit beneath his feet: He jerks his feet up as high as he can.

ΑL

Holy...!



CUT TO A CU OF CAPTAIN JACK

(thwarted)

... Shoot!

MEDIUM ENERGETIC HANDHELD SHOT ON MELANIE
We see Al in the background. He's fighting to keep his feet out of the water.

MELANIE (panicked) Oh, wow! Quick, let's get him out of there!

The CAMERA JERKS from the shot of Melanie to a SNAP ZOOM on Al and then RUSHES FORWARD AT CRAZY ANGLES in HANDHELD panic.

WIDE SHOT of the Crew as they rush to rescue Al.

WILLIS pries the pole of his net out of the smoking VLS. He's embarrassed, smoking? Throws tarp over it? Hopes the others won't notice? Jack is amused, overjoyed?

The *IMPOSSIBLE I.T.* GRAPHIC stamps on with a SOUND EFFECT and then shatters to reveal the next scene.

Time has passed. WIDE SHOT of the gang after they've gotten Al off of the rig. The Cameraman and Soundman film Melanie and Al. Frustrated Captain Jack gives them the evil eye. Willis walks by, carrying a long ladder up the platform next to the tank. Willis is still wearing his earbuds.

MELANIE
(straightening Al's wardrobe)
Al, that was really close. I'm so sorry. But, you did it!

MEDIUM ON MELANIE AND AL

ΑI

(adjusting his glasses)

No problem at all, Melanie. The HP Virtual Library System is incredibly simple to configure, integrate and manage. It's the best disk array for a data protection challenge like this.



WILLIS pries the pole of his net out of the smoking VLS. He's embarrassed, smoking? Jack is amused, overjoyed?

CU of wrecked VLS.

Melanie: Looks like your VLS is toast. Thank goodness your data was backed up to LTO4 tape. Al: Thanks to you, Melanie.

CU ON MELANIE, smiling, thinking "this guy's kind of cute."

ΑL

(to Melanie)

Hey, what do say we celebrate? Grab a bite to eat.

MELANIE

That sounds great!

ΑL

Good, I'm game for anything... except fish.

CU OF CAPTAIN JACK, groaning in disgust.

WIDE SHOT OF CREW as they leave the scene. Captain Jack turns and sees Willis up on the platform next to the tank. He's rolling up the "Impossible IT" Banner.

CU OF WILLIS'S HANDS ROLLING UP THE BANNER. We OVERHEAR LOUD MUSIC playing through Willis's earbuds.

MEDIUM SHOT as Captain Jack climbs the stairs of the platform. Willis picks up the banner and the ladder. He's holds the ladder horizontally over the platform. There's a zipped-up gym at the other end of the platform.

CAPTAIN JACK (to Willis)

Hey, where's my money?

WILLIS

(thinks he hears him)

Yeah, that was funny.

CAPTAIN JACK

No, you Moron, where's my money?!



Willis is slack-jawed but he figures out what Captain Jack said. Willis nods to the gym bag on the platform and Captain passes in front of Willis to get it. Wills turns to watch Captain Jack kneel down to the gym bag. Of course, this swings the rear end of the ladder away from the platform, away from the tank.

CUT TO LOW ANGLE ON CAPTAIN JACK

With the gym bag in the foreground as Willis finishes his turn to watch Captain Jack. The Captain works on the zipper of the gym bag with his one good arm.

CAPTAIN JACK

Amateurs.

BACK ON WILLIS

He watches Captain Jack for beat, shrugs and turns to go.



ON CAPTAIN JACK[t4]

He's got a stack of cash in his hand. He's obsessed with his loot. He begins to stand up in celebration. We see Willis' ladder swinging back towards the platform, and towards Captain Jack.

MEDIUM SHOT ON THE PLATFORM

Willis turning. Captain Jack almost upright.

CU ON CAPTAIN JACK. He sees the ladder, but it's too late.

MEDIUM SHOT ON THE PLATFORM

Captain Jack flies off the platform as Willis finishes his turn. Jack hits the water with a tremendous splash.

MEDIUM SHOT OF PLATFORM - SIDEVIEW

Willis comes down the stairs. With his earbuds blaring, he's oblivious to Captain Jack's fate. In the background, we see paper money floating in the air and the tank water splashing away.

CUT TO WILLIS leaving the scene. We see the "Captain Jack's Deadly Fish" sign hanging on the wall in the background.

CU OF CAPTAIN JACK'S CAP AND THE PAPER MONEY swirling around on top of the tank water. The water's boiling away.

AL

(voiceover)

HP StorageWorks Solutions. Simplified storage and data protection for better business outcomes.

GRAPHIC

HP StorageWorks Solutions

- Virtual Library Systems
- Enterprise Storage Libraries
- Ultrium LTO-4 Tape Drives and Media

DIP TO BLACK

GRAPHICS fade in and out over MUSIC.

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