Migrating videos from the EPIC video server system

Note: Pre-EPIC systems (sold before about 2010) stored the disc images in an encrypted format and would required the ISO images to be mounted and decrypted to be used by other systems. Since there are probably none of these systems still in operation (more than a decade has passed) I'll say no more on this unless someone has one of them and needs help.

The EPIC video server system started probably around 2010 and it's data storage mechanism has remained unchanged. Here is what you need to know:

1) Movie/TV discs are stored as a set of three files. You will want all three. They all will have the same name, but different file extensions as follows:

AMV file: This is the movie metadata in an XML format. You can open it with any XML editor or inspector and look at the content. In it's language, a "medium" is the disc itself. Then there's information about what the disc contains. There will be one or more "programs" (which is the movie or TV episode) and a "series" (which is the series the movie or TV episode belongs to). Everything is reasonably labeled and shouldn't be too difficult to figure out with the exception of "artmd5". The "artmd5" is an MD5 hash of the cover art image corresponding to the medium/program/series. These are found in the second file.

ART file: This is a zip file of the various cover art images referenced by the AMS file. Each art file is stored with a name which is the "md5sum" with an extension (usually ".jpg"). You can just unzip the file and look at each of the cover art images.

Video file: The third file is a video file, but could be one of a number of extensions as described below:
ISO – An unencrypted ISO image of a DVD. This can be mounted with an ISO mounting tool and played with any software DVD player.
UDF - An unencrypted UDF image of a Bluray. This can be mounted with an ISO mounting tool and played with any software Bluray player.
MP4/MKV/other – An MP4 or other video format file that should be playable with the appropriate software player.

2) Video data stored on a NAS are simply stored on a public share (SMB). As the NAS administrator you should have full control of the NAS and be able to share that data to anyone you would like. If you purchased the NAS from fusion, we often made the administrator account password "fusion1". If there is a "fusion" account, the password is likely "fusion1".

3) Video data stored on a video server is stored in a public share (SMB). You should be able to open the machine (by IP address) on a Mac or Windows PC and see the shares and look through each. There may be more than one, but they may not all have video data. Simply copy the files off to another network location (maybe the NAS).

Notes about playback.

I recommend a free tool called Virtual Clone Drive (https://www.elby.ch/en/products/vcd.html) for mounting ISO images. If you want to, you can mount the ISO/UDF and then use another tool like Handbrake (https://handbrake.fr/downloads.php) to extract a main movie or individual TV episodes to MKV format for playback on most any device.

I'm sure someone could use PERL or some other tool to make converters to extract the XML from the AMV file and convert it to metadata for other playback systems. Since I don't know if any other systems though, I can't recommend anything.