## **IBM Linear Tape File System (LTFS)**



LTFS is a new way of interacting with tape based systems. It allows a tape drive to act like a disk based file system, so you can drag and drop files to and from tape but benefit from the longevity, capacity and cost benefits associated with tape. It is an easy to deploy enterprise-class archiving solution that can be kept simple or equally can be scaled to create strategic archiving and vaulting architecture for any size organisation.

LTFS is the first file system that works in conjunction with LTO generation 6 tape technology, which together will set a new standard for ease of use and portability for open systems tape storage. With this system, accessing data stored on an IBM tape cartridge is as easy and intuitive as using a USB flash drive. With the operating system's graphical file manager, reading data on a tape cartridge is as easy and simplistic as dragging and dropping. Users can run any application designed for disk files against tape data without any concerns.

The Linear Tape File System offers two different editions. The single drive edition adds support for IBM tape automation in addition to the single drive use. The Library Edition allows access to all of the data in a tape library, as if it were on disk. Both editions use the file systems format and resources of the operating system on which it is running to graphically display the contents of a tape library in the operating systems graphical user interface format, typically a folder/tree structure.

A graphical user interface is supported by the ability to write metadata on tape.

The metadata of each cartridge, once mounted, is cached in server memory. Metadata operations, such as browse directory and filename search, do not require tape movement.

The Linear Tape File System provides a software solution—IBM Linear Tape File System Storage Manager—to manage and monitor archive and restore files. This software solution provides storage life-cycle management of multimedia files to reduce the cost of digital content archive software licensing while also reducing video tape cartridge costs.



Tape browsing on Linux

## **Product Features**

- Provides a basic read/write interface to the tape library for applications without any additional operating systems
- Reduces restore times and enables optimal utilization of tape and library resources
- Features 1:1 mapping of tape cartridges to file folders and tape libraries

## **Hardware Summary**

• The IBM Linear Tape File System™ provides direct, intuitive and graphical access to data stored in IBM tape drives and libraries using LTO generation 6 tape cartridges, as well as 3592 cartridges when read by an IBM System Storage TS3500 Tape Library. The IBM Linear Tape File System eliminates the need for additional tape management and software to access data.

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