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Technical challenges of tape instance consolidation at RAL

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At RAL, we intend to consolidate the two CASTOR instances into a single CTA instance with multiple EOS disk buffers, similar to the CERN architecture. The 'WLCGTape' Castor instance has been fully migrated to CTA at RAL, and has been running in production for LHC run 3 data taking.

In preparation for the migration of the 'Facilities' CASTOR instance at RAL onto our CTA instance, there have been various technical hurdles to overcome. The analysis of namespace (archive file ID) clashes between CTA and the remaining CASTOR instance, and the process of resolving clashes in a repeatable and safe manner were of particular note. This talk describes the details of the analysis, and the tooling developed to enable the consolidation of our two tape instances.

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