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The End of an Era: Termination of the Meyrin Data Centre Console Service

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For nearly five decades, Data Centre Operators have provided critical support to the CERN Meyrin Data Centre, from its infancy, until spring 2024. However, advancements in Data Centre technology and resilience built into IT services have rendered the Console Service obsolete.

In the early days of the Meyrin Data Centre, day to day operations relied heavily on the expertise and manual operations of Console Operators. A crucial function of the Console operator was the manual management of the massive tape libraries used for data storage. More recently, operators have been ensuring the uptime of Data Centre equipment, responding to local power incidents, and coordinating response to incidents in the data centre.

In this talk we'll cover the principles that underpin the decision for terminating the service, a view into the gradual wind down of the service and the transfer of critical functions to operations teams at CERN.

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