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Tape status and strategy at CERN

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With currently around 55PB of data stored on over 49000 cartridges, and around 2PB of fresh data coming every month, CERN's large tape infrastructure is continuing its growth. In this contribution, we will detail out the progress achieved and the ongoing steps towards our strategy of turning tape storage from a HSM environment into a sustainable long-term archiving solution. In particular, we report on the experiences gained in the production deployment of our new high-performance tape format, the optimization and reduction of random end-user access to tape-resident data, the deployment of a new media migration (repack) facility, and the review of our monitoring subsystem. We will also explain the recent infrastructure upgrades at CERN in terms of new-generation tape drives and testing/integration of new tape library models. An outlook on future plans in view of better integration with the EOS disk pool management suite will also be given.

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