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Experience operating multi-PB disk storage systems (CASTOR and EOS)

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After the strategic decision in 2011 to separate Tier0 activity from analysis, CERN-IT is now operating two large-volume physics file store: CASTOR and EOS.

CASTOR is our historical storage system in production since many years, which now mainly handle the Tier0 activities as well as all tape-backed data.

EOS is in production since 2011 for ATLAS and CMS, it supports the fast-growing need for high performance and low latency data access mainly for user analysis.
In 2012 two new EOS instances were created (ALICE and LHCb) and a big migration of diskonly pools took place. In Summer 2013 we plan to set up a shared "non-LHC" instance for the others experiments.

The presentation will be focused on CASTOR and EOS diskpools operations with a particular emphasis on efficiency, inefficiency, costs and future improvements.

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