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Monitoring tape drives and medias at CC-IN2P3

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Due to the continuous load and intensive usage on our robotics, we regularly face some hardware issues with tapes and tape drives. A recurrent issue concerns possible data loss which leads to go through a long recovery process.

In order to improve our reliability, we have studied commercial solutions to avoid permanent write/read errors, or at least foresee occurring errors. We've tested two products (one month period each) and purchased the one that met our requirements best.

In this talk I'll expose the criteria to select the product, our daily usage after 4 months of use and finally what we expect to do with/around it in the near future.

Primary author: AZEVEDO, Frédéric (CC-IN2P3)

Presenter: AZEVEDO, Frédéric (CC-IN2P3)

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