

7 Things You Need to Know About LTFS

LTFS has impacted tape's modern role in data storage. But, what is LTFS? And more importantly, why does it matter?



LTFS MAKES TAPE SIMPLE.

LTFS, short for Linear Tape File System, is a way of organizing data on tape that simplifies rapid file access while protecting tape data from vendor "lock-in". With LTFS, data stored on tape media appears as a filesystem to end users and applications, making it much easier to organize and access specific files from tape, without attaching metadata or modifying your files.



LTFS IS VENDOR-NEUTRAL AND SELF-DESCRIBING.

Gone are the days of vendor lock-in on tape data. LTFS is non-proprietary so that you stay in control of your data and share it with whomever you need. With LTFS, all files and metadata are self-contained on a cartridge. It's similar to a USB flash drive; any LTFS tape can be read by any LTFS drive, regardless of vendor or brand.



LTFS ENABLES DATA PARTITIONING FOR FASTER DATA ACCESS.

LTFS allows tape to be partitioned into two segments for file-system organization and rapid data access. Partition 0 holds an index of the data; Partition 1 holds the actual data. This way, applications can find specific files quickly instead of reading the entire length of the tape. LTFS brings a hierarchical file-system organization to tape data.



LTO-8, 7, 6, 5 TAPE USE THE LTFS STANDARD FOR HIGH RELIABILITY.

Linear Tape Open (LTO) is a tape data storage technology that employs open-standards. The latest version, LTO-8, offers a compressed storage capacity of 30TB (12TB native) and a compressed transfer rate of 750 MB/s. (360MB/sec. native). Designed for a 30-year shelf life, LTO-8 brings unmatched long-term reliability with a bit error rate (BER) of 1×10^{-19} – that means only one error detected every 1.25 exabytes, or 100,000 LTO-8 cartridges. LTO tape offers encryption and WORM for long-term data protection.



LTFS IS EASY TO GET AND USE.

LTFS integrates with existing file-based applications to provide more effective tape management. The LTFS software for LTO is available via download from major tape vendors.



START STORING AT \$12/TB.

By using LTFS-based storage, organizations can reduce storage costs by 80% compared to disk. With expanding capacities, LTO and IBM TS 1160 tape drive technologies allow more data to be stored in smaller physical space while reducing the spinning, cooling, and operational costs associated with disk storage.



STRONGLINK LTFS EMPOWERS YOU TO LEVERAGE LTFS FOR BOTH FILE AND OBJECT STORAGE.

StrongLink LTFS is a powerful next generation feature to provide seamless automated support for tape libraries from any vendor. This optional add-on to StrongLink is designed to make tape transparent to users and administrators, and acts as a seamless extension to tape for existing flash/disk storage platforms, opening it into a multi-protocol policy-based Global Namespace. It's the simplest answer for long-term data preservation.