“Yes, Virginia, there is USB connectivity for an LTO Tape Drive!”

Mauricio R. del Prado Jr.
IBM
USB Connectivity for Tape Storage
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Tape
LTFS
Product
Use Cases
Demo
USB Connectivity for Tape Storage

First IBM Tape system, the 726, created in 1952

Took punch card “IOPS” from 133 characters per second to 7500 cps

10.5 inch diameter reel of tape could hold the equivalent of more than 35,000 punched cards
Today’s LTO-6 tape cartridge can hold 2.5 TB of uncompressed data and can compress at a 2.5:1 ratio.

Operates at a I/O rate of 160 MBps (uncompressed).

Shelf life of 15 to 30 years.
USB Connectivity for Tape Storage
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The SAS interface...

Great for mid- and high-end systems...

Not so much for laptops and desktops
USB Connectivity for Tape Storage
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2.5 TB of external HDD = $150

Purchase price of USB Tape Drive = $2000
2.5 TB LTO-6 Cartridge = $40

Break-even point: 45 TB
 $2720 for Tape Solution
 $2700 for HDD Solution
Thereafter: 3x cost of HDD over LTO Tape
USB Connectivity for Tape Storage

Live Demo
USB Connectivity for Tape Storage

ANY questions?
USB Connectivity for Tape Storage

IBM TS2250/2260 Tape Drive with USB option

- Lowers barriers to tape use
- Convenience
- TCO
- Ease of use