CNS /Update Newsletter Feature

NERDC Reels in Shark Disk System

CNS Document ID: u010303a
Last Updated: 3/1/01

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NERDC Reels in Shark Disk System

NERDC has landed a Shark in its machine room. This shark, while not a great white shark, will take a bite out of storage concerns. The Shark is actually the nickname for IBM’s Enterprise Storage Server (ESS) 2105.

The large black refrigerator-shaped server can currently store 1.26 terabytes (TB) of data. According to Assistant Director John Bevis, "We can add another 2.1 terabytes within the current frame. With an additional frame attached this subsystem can be expanded to approximately 11 terabytes." A terabyte is roughly equivalent to 1,024 Gigabytes or about 1012 bytes. At 11 TB, the Shark could store all the information in the Library of Congress.

The Shark will eventually replace our RAMAC III disk subsystem. The newer equipment uses less space and power while providing more storage capacity. "It should also provide a performance improvement for disk intensive systems and jobs," Bevis said.

Even though we will be moving over to the Shark, the transition will be transparent to users. The only difference users may notice is an increase in disk accessing speed.

NERDC's OS/390 group installed the Shark on January 2. Currently, the group is in the process of moving existing disk volumes over to the new system.

The Shark's increased capacity and ability to interact with a variety of operating systems (OS/390, UNIX, Intel-based PCs) will meet NERDC users' storage needs cost-effectively. Another cost savings is the Shark's three-year maintenance warranty, as we will not have to pay maintenance on the RAMACs that have been removed.

Your Comments are Welcome

We welcome your comments and suggestions on this and all UFIT documentation. Please send your comments to:

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