CNS /Update Newsletter Feature

Open Up! What's New With Backup and Storage?

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At NERDC, the Open Systems Group manages a backup service called Network Storage and Archive Management (NSAM). We recently completed a series of upgrades and enhancements to the NSAM server that runs the software Tivoli Storage Manager (TSM).

We have upgraded the backup service to a new and faster node on the NERSP computer complex. This will allow us to increase our processing capacity to meet growing user demands. Our various customers send us more than 160 GigaBytes (GB) of data every night. We store that information in our automated tape library which has a current capacity of 18 TerraBytes (TB).

We've recently made several additions to our backup and storage service. We installed enhanced disk adapters and replaced SCSI tape connections with substantially faster Fibre Channel. We also acquired two new tape drives to augment our original pair.

Keeping good backups is an important part of systems management, whether the system in question is an individual workstation or a multi-user computer used by hundreds of people each day. Periodic backups are an integral part of planning for major disasters, but they can also protect against more prosaic problems, such as the simple typos and mis-clicks any of us might encounter. Good backups can even help you detect hacking attempts. If you suspect intrusion, you can compare your backed-up files to your production files and check for differences.

Our NSAM service provides backup services to many computers on and off our campus. We also supply off-site backup facilities to Florida International University and serve several of the Document Imaging projects across our campus. We can accommodate customers of many different sizes, from small units to larger departments and colleges.

In the next few weeks we will be adding an additional 10 TB of storage capacity to the NSAM tape library. This will keep us ahead of the growing storage demands of our current customers and make room for others who want to take advantage of this valuable service.

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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