

Life With TiBS

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Backups are Important



Three Stages of AFS Backups

- Look at our shiny new cell! It mirrors itself!
- Hey, we're getting a lot of data in our cell. Perhaps we should do something about backups?
- (optional) OMG our backups are totally out of control! We need help!

Our requirements

- Mandatory
 - Must back up AFS to tape
 - Must be available NOW
- Desirable
 - Should back up all the rest of our data
 - Should be free (or at least not frighteningly expensive for what it does)

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The Initial Setup

- TiBS Lite Edition
- 5 Process license
- 180 slot 4 drive Fibre Attached LTO2 Tape Library
- Support for AFS, Linux, Solaris, Windows and Mac-OS backups

Current Setup

- TIBS Lite Edition
- 10 process license
- 512 slot 6 drive fibre attached LTO4 tape library

Using TiBS

- Totally command line driven
- Managed via collection of scripts, commands and configuration files
 - Very customisable
 - Very powerful
 - Very scary

Using TiBS

- AFS
 - Just works
 - New servers, volumes added to backup automatically
- Linux, Windows, Mac-OS
 - requires more management than AFS
 - but still works well
- Roaming clients
 - a big win for users
 - but potentially confusing

Using TiBS

- Synthetic backups are invaluable

What could be better?

- Documentation lacking in depth and detail
- Not helpful when things do go wrong
- but support is excellent
- Should be easier to extract individual files/directories from AFS backups

Conclusion

- TiBS is a good match for our requirements
- It has proved itself to be reliable in service
- We would recommend it to others.