# lto\_manager

LTO manager script for writing, reading and erasing magnetic tapes.

## Docker

## **Build Image from Dockerfile**

**IMPORTANT:** Internet access and root privileges required!

- \$ cd /mnt/share/Benutzer/David/4n6-tools/lto\_manager/
- \$ docker build --network host -t lto\_manager .

Figure 1: Docker build image

#### Run script in container

\$ docker run --rm -it --name lto\_manager --privileged -v /dev:/dev -v /mnt:/mnt lto\_manager

## Install short script

\$ cp /mnt/share/Benutzer/David/4n6-tools/lto\_manager/lto\_manager /usr/local/bin/\$1

```
root@pop-os:~# cp /mnt/share/Benutzer/David/4n6-tools/lto_manager/
docker-compose.yml .git/ ITDT/ lto_manager README.md
Dockerfile .gitignore itdt_install_linux.zip lto_manager.sh
root@pop-os:~# cp /mnt/share/Benutzer/David/4n6-tools/lto_manager/lto_manager /usr/local/bin/$1
root@pop-os:~# []
```

Figure 2: Install short script

#### How to use

## Run lto\_manager

From any location simply run

\$ lto\_manager

In the following menu use up and down keys to switch between menu options:

```
Please make a choice:

1. Backup Directory --> TarArchive --> MBUFFER --> LTO
2. LTO --> MBUFFER --> TarArchive --> Backup Directory
3. Show Tar Label
4. Destroy LTFS-Partitions on LTO / Erase LTO
5. Quit
```

Figure 3: menu

Select option 1. Backup Directory. Then for source put in the folder you want to backup. You can use any location, e.g. directly from network share:

```
1. Backup Directory --> TarArchive --> MBUFFER --> LTO

Give me a source path:
Enter a correct path (/media/HDD) to Directory: /mnt/ufed/2023/05/XD 2023 05 03 KK11 Arenz
```

Figure 4: enter source path

Next enter a label for the tape without spaces! You can use any label, e.g. viva or XD number:

```
Give me a Label for a Tape:
Enter a correct Label ( BesiNR, VNR ) : XD-2023-05-03
Label is XD-2023-05-03 ...
```

Figure 5: enter label

In the next step it lists all available tape drives, here only one LTO-6 drive. For selection enter 6 into the field as the target drive:

As the final step verify the information and type y for validation to start writing to the tape:

**NOTICE:** The memory warnings are just for information and can be ignored.

The script will auto unload the tape from the drive when finished writing so you can safely withdraw the tape.

## Verify tape content

You can list the content of any TAR like on a tape with the same methods.

```
$ tar -tf /dev/st0 --record-size=500k
```

**NOTICE:** The record size is set by our lto\_manager script to 500k and has to set to this value again every time reading the tar. Otherwise you get a allocation error as the following:

```
List of Tapes
[6:0:0:0] tape QUANTUM ULTRIUM-HH6 G351 /dev/st0
Give me a LTO Device:
Enter correct LTO(n) for your Tape-Device 6,7: 6
LTO Device /dev/st0 can be used...
```

Figure 6: drive

```
Start Backup /mnt/ufed/2023/05/XD 2023 05 03 KK11 Arenz >>>> TarArchive (XD-2023-05-03) >>>>> MBUFFER >>> LTO /dev/st0 [y]es][n]o :y Start Backup... Fri May 19 88:52:16 UTC 2023 tar: Removing leading '/' from member names mbuffer: warning: high value of number of blocks(52444): increase block size for better performance mbuffer: warning: high value of number of blocks(52444): mbuffer: warning: allocating more than half of available memory
```

Figure 7: validation

Figure 8: tar listing

```
root@besi-tape-02:~# tar -tf /dev/st0
tar: /dev/st0: Cannot read: Cannot allocate memory
tar: At beginning of tape, quitting now
tar: Error is not recoverable: exiting now
root@besi-tape-02:~# [
```

Figure 9: error

## Unload tape manually

To unload simply type

\$ mt -f /dev/st0 offline

You could also use the following

\$ mt -f /dev/st0 rewoffl

The difference is that rewoffl first rewinds the tape to its beginning and the unloads the tape from the drive. However, since we use the device  $/dev/st\theta$  the tape is automatically rewind to the start after every command. Hence, rewinding before unloading is not necessary.