CHARACTERISTICS OF DISSTRIBUTED FILE SYSTEM

Files in Distributed file system is characterized by data, attributes, operations, directories, pathnames and metadata all these being major building blocks of Distributed file system to enable the system operations to ne performed on data in those files..

* Data

Data consists of a sequence of bytes, which can be accessed by operations to read and/ or write any portion of the sequence.

* Attributes

These are a single record containing various information such as file type, length of a file, timestamp, and access control lists, file system. Example attributes are name1 and name2 in the operation status=link(name1, name2) which basically adds a new name2 to a file name1 renaming the previous file to the latter name.

* Directories

A special type of a file that helps store and manage large number of files giving the capability to create, name and delete files. Directories accomplish this by mapping text names to internal file identifiers. Directories may also include names of other directories leading to the most familiar hierarchic file naming scheme

* Pathnames
* Metadata

This means all the extra or additional information that is stored by the system and is needed in the management process of the file. Metadata specifies or includes directories, file attributes, and all information that persists or that is constantly used in the distributed file system.