

# IBM Tape Manager for z/VM V1.3

Efficiently manage tapes and tape devices while enhancing data availability and productivity.



## Highlights

- Manages tapes and tape devices within one z/VM system or across multiple z/VM systems for optimal efficiency and increased availability.
- Facilitates tape operations by allowing dynamic creation and deletion of private tape pools to create a collection of tapes related to a specific job or function, such as system backups.
- Optionally controls access to tapes using RACF for z/VM (or other External Security Manager)
- Protects tape resources by verifying internal tape labels and monitoring resources.
- Automates daily tape operations.
- Provides an interface to the DFSMSrmm tape catalog (RMM Mode) on z/OS as an alternative to the Standard Mode of operation where the tape catalog resides on z/VM.

## Overview

If you cannot locate a tape or tape device when you need it, downtime increases and productivity decreases.

Tape Manager for z/VM helps you manage, monitor, and protect your tape resources while maximizing data availability and minimizing downtime. It helps you obtain maximum value from your tape resources.

### ***Manages tape resources for optimum efficiency***

Tape Manager addresses your tape management concerns by enabling you to:

- Define tapes and their attributes in a catalog, including: free or used, internal or external, ATL or manual mount.
- Share the tape catalog across multiple z/VM systems
- Group tapes together into pools to simplify ownership, access control, and media type.
- Include free and used tapes in a pool with an optional link to another tape pool for free tapes.
- Add tapes to and delete tapes from tape pools.
- Perform operations on a list of tapes by specifying a file that contains a list of volumes.
- Allow tape sharing among authorized users.
- Provide flexible retention control using an expiration date or a maximum retention period.

- Restrict or authorize who can create private pools or access the system tape pool.
- Optionally use DFSMSrmm on z/OS as the catalog for z/VM tapes.
- Use standard label tapes, non-labeled tapes (NL) and bypass label processing (BLP), including the ability to restrict the use of NL and BLP to authorized users
- Notify operations of label inconsistencies that are detected during tape mount processing, including:
  - mislabeled volumes
  - non-labeled volumes mounted for scratch requests
  - labeled volumes mounted for non-labeled requests
  - non-labeled volumes mounted for standard label requests.
- Obtain important information on all tapes in the system.
- Execute RMM commands from z/VM when running in RMM Mode.

### ***Manages tape devices***

Tape Manager's device management features enable you to:

- Specify devices as dedicated or, for assignable devices, as dynamically allocated.
- Group devices by any desired criteria:
  - Read-only or read-write capability for particular media
  - Location, such as within an ATL (automated tape library) or in different tape storage areas
- Add or remove tape drives from the list of available devices by specifying a list or range of addresses.
- Benefit from automatic volume recognition for managed devices.

### ***Automates daily tape operations***

With automation, you can easily:

- Manage mount requests
- Control tape access
- Perform label verification
- Expire tapes
- Perform a data security erase of scratch tapes before they are reused

### ***Eases backup and restore operations***

Tape Manager eases backup and restore operations by:

- Providing commands to dynamically create new private pools that can use scratch tapes from either another private pool or the system pool.
- Supporting dynamic definition of pools using LIKE and LIKEU options/ LIKE creates a new pool with the same attributes of an existing pool. LIKEU is similar, but also replicates the user permissions of the existing pool.
- Allowing you to easily return tapes from a failed backup to "scratch" status. Once a pool has been dynamically defined to contain the tapes related to a specific job, the tapes can be returned to "scratch" status by simply deleting the pool.

### ***Protects valuable tape resources***

Tape Manager protects tape resources by:

- Verifying the appropriate access authority for tape requests, including support for RACF for z/VM (or other External Security Manager)
- Providing authorizations to pool resources, attributes, and defaults.
- Notifying you when catalog disks are approaching capacity.
- Utilizing z/OS RACF security facilities when the RMM interface is used.
- Providing a HOLD status to prevent an unknown or corrupted tape from being used until an administrator can examine the contents.

### ***A flexible, easy-to-use tool***

Tape Manager offers maximum flexibility and ease of use by providing:

- The ability to customize the product using system configuration options, defaults, and private pool settings.
- A broad range of authorization options to manage access to tape resources.

### ***An affordable solution to address your tape management concerns***

IBM Tape Manager for z/VM provides an affordable mission-critical choice that enables you to manage your z/VM tape media and address your tape management concerns intelligently and effectively.

**For more information visit our Web site at:**

<http://www.ibm.com/software/stormg/mt/zvm/tape/>