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NUIT Discontinues Local Magnetic Tape Service

The use of magnetic tape for data exchange has declined dramatically in favor of more modern transport mechanisms that take advantage of the network. Only 25 DCE accounts have tapes stored in our tape library, and there have been only two requests for tape service during the past six months.

Maintaining the hardware and software to support magnetic tape services has become very difficult and expensive, partly because hardware and software support are no longer provided by primary vendors for our tape server, and partly because staff expertise in support of tape services has declined greatly.

Given these factors, NUIT has decided to shut down our tape service and refer people with magnetic tapes to local media conversion services.

As of July 15, 2002, we will no longer accept tape library submissions, nor will we honor tape mount requests.

Tapes currently in storage at 2020 Ridge must be removed by December 15, 2002. After that date, all remaining tapes registered with our tape library will be discarded. NUIT will contact current tape owners directly to help facilitate the removal process.

Media conversion service bureaus can transfer the data on your tapes to more modern media. See http://charlotte.at.northwestern.edu/dce/bull/media.html for more information.