Restoring Multiple Tape Blocks with "restore" Command

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About this Document

This document addresses the problem of multiple backup images on an 8mm tape in which "restore -Tf/dev/rmt0.1" displays the **next** image instead of the current image.

Problem Description

When there are multiple backup images on an 8mm tape, "restore -Tf/dev/rmt0.1" displays the next image instead of the current image. This occurs because of the way the "restore" command works. First, it reads 512 bytes from the tape (the backup image header) to determine the block size of the image. Then it reverses the tape 512 bytes and reads the header and the ensuing data of the backup image. But, if "rmt0.1" (or "rmt0.5") is specified, the device driver does not allow the "restore" command to reverse the tape, so it goes on and finds the next header and reads that backup image.

(Note: If you were using a block size other than 512 bytes, you would have gotten a "restore: not in backup format" error instead.)

In InfoExplorer, see topic "restore Command", where it says in Note 4, "Do not use the no-rewind tape device for restoring unless the '-s' flag is specified."

How to Restore

The following example assumes the stacked tape was created with files in directories /data, /history, /usr, and /u and with the following commands:

```
cd /data
find . -print | backup -ivqf/dev/rmt#.1
cd /history
find . -print | backup -ivqf/dev/rmt#.1
cd /usr
find . -print | backup -ivqf/dev/rmt#.1
cd /u
find . -print | backup -ivqf/dev/rmt#.1
```

To restore from a stacked tape, use the "-s" option of the "restore" command. For example, to restore the files from the first three backup images on the tape, enter:

```
tctl -f/dev/rmt0 rewind         (Just to make sure it's rewound)
restore -s1 -xvf/dev/rmt#.1     (Restore files from 1st image)
restore -s1 -xvf/dev/rmt#.1     (Restore files from 2nd image)
restore -s1 -xvf/dev/rmt#.1     (Restore files from 3rd image)
```

To go directly to the third image and restore its files, use:

```
tctl -f/dev/rmt0 rewind         (Just to make sure it's rewound)
restore -s3 -xvf/dev/rmt#.1     (Restore 3rd image)
```

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