Downloading and Installing TapeGen

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About This Document

This document describes the TapeGen tool and provides instructions on how to download and install it.

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TapeGen Introduction

TapeGen is a service tool from IBM that enables you to create a stacked tape containing SMIT installable fixes. You create a stack file that lists all the images you want stacked onto a tape and TapeGen does the rest.

Prerequisites

The PTF images must be installable through SMIT. This means the fixes must be in installp format.

The tape device must have the block size set to 512.

The stack file must contain a list of PTF images that are to be written to tape.

Downloading And Installing TapeGen

To obtain TapeGen or read the user guide, you may download it via anonymous FTP from any of the servers listed below. Many of these sites are also web servers (example URL: http://service.software.ibm.com) and FixDist servers.

Anonymous FTP Sites

Canada	rwww.aix.can.ibm.com	204.138.188.126
Germany	www.ibm.de	192.109.81.2
Japan	fixdist.yamato.ibm.co.jp	202.32.4.20
Nordic	ftp.nordic.ibm.com	193.12.214.80
United Kingdom	ftp.europe.ibm.com	193.129.186.2
United States	service.software.ibm.com	198.17.57.66

The TapeGen client along with the user guide is located in the anonymous FTP directory /aix/tools/tapegen. The following steps provide instructions on how to download and install the tool and the Postscript user guide.

Note: The following procedure must be performed as root.

1. Change to your /tmp directory.

   ```
   cd /tmp
   ```

2. Download the tool and documentation. The tool comes with the plain text user guide in /usr/lpp/tapegen/tapegen.text.

   ```
   ftp service.software.ibm.com
   >login:       anonymous
   >password:  "email"  (example: johndoe@)
   >
   >bin
   >cd /aix/tools/tapegen
   >get tapegen.tar.Z  (TapeGen tool in compressed tar format)
   >get tapegen.ps.Z (User guide in compressed Postscript)
   >quit
   ```

3. Install the tool into the /usr file system. You must install it from the / (root) directory in order to access the online help and preserve your .netrc file.

   ```
   cd /    (change directory to the root)
   zcat /tmp/tapegen.tar.Z | tar -xpvf -     (uncompress and untar)
   ```

Using TapeGen

TapeGen may be executed by typing the following:

```
tapegen -l stack_file -s fix_dir
[-d device] [-w work_dir]
```

Note: The flags encased in brackets [ ] are optional flags. Descriptions of the applicable flags are listed below:

-l Name of the stack file. One PTF image per line.

-s Location of the PTF images.

-d Tape device name. The default is /dev/rmt0.

-w Location where temporary files will be created. The default is /tmp.

Once the command is executed you will be asked to verify the parameters, see example below:

```
                AIX TapeGen Utility Version 1.06
The following parameters will be used to create a stacked tape:

      STACK FILE                  stack.list
      PTF IMAGES DIRECTORY        /images/32
      TAPE DEVICE                 /dev/rmt0
      TAPE TYPE                   8MM
      WORK DIRECTORY              /tmp


Do you want to proceed with the above parameters (y/n)?
```

When the parameters are correct and TapeGen is executed then the following informational message will be displayed on the screen.

```
Verifying if the tape device block size is set to 512...done
Insert a writeable tape cartridge into /dev/rmt0 and press enter
```

Press enter to start the process. TapeGen will continue to display several informational messages verifing the processes as they are written to the tape.

Reader's Comments

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