CA Vtape™ Virtual Tape System

Release Notes

Release 12.6.00, Third Edition

CA Technologies Product References

The CA Vtape™ Virtual Tape System guides refer to the following CA products and components:

- CA 1® Tape Management (CA 1)
- CA Allocate™ DASD Space and Placement (CA Allocate)
- CA Compress™ Data Compression (CA Compress Data Compression)
- CA Earl® (CA Earl)
- CA Graphical Management Interface (CA GMI)
- CA Chorus Software Manager™ (CA CSM)
- CA MIM™ Resource Sharing (CA MIM)
- CA Sort® (CA Sort)
- CA Tape Encryption
- CA TLMS® Tape Management (CA TLMS)
- CA Vantage™ Storage Resource Manager (CA Vantage)
- CA Vtape™ Virtual Tape System (CA Vtape)
- CA Vtape™ Virtual Tape System Peer-To-Peer Option (CA Vtape P2P)

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- Online and telephone contact information for technical assistance and customer services
- Information about user communities and forums
- Product and documentation downloads
- CA Support policies and guidelines
- Other helpful resources appropriate for your product

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Contents

Chapter 1: Features and Enhancements

This section provides new features and enhancements to existing features.

This section contains the following topics:

Enhanced Channel Path Assignment

A new parmlib attribute was created in the VTDRIVE parmlib member to provide a list of devices who's channel paths (CHPIDs) should be used by the Virtual Devices. Up to eight device addresses can be coded in the new ChpidDeviceList attribute. The first eight CHPIDs assigned to the devices in the list will be assigned to the Virtual Devices. The attribute can be coded for each Virtual Controller defined in the VTDRIVE member. This allows you to spread the CHPIDs assigned to subsets of the Virtual Devices between different CTC, OSA, and DASD devices.

The new attribute overrides the default behavior of using the CHPIDs assigned to the DASD volume on which the BSDS1 data set is allocated.

Redrive Externalization

If a Backstore Tape is lost or damaged and its Virtual Volumes are still in cache, the new FORCE option for the SVTSUTIL batch command VVE_WRITE=volser will allow you to Externalize the Virtual Volumes again. This eliminates the need to copy all of the affected data sets to new Virtual Volumes so that the new copies can be Externalized.

If a single Virtual Volume on a Backstore Tape is damaged and an alternate Backstore Copy is available, the new REQUEUE option for the SVT1 START RECALL=volser console command will allow you to recall it into cache and Externalize it again. This eliminates the need to Recycle (copy) an entire Backstore Tape to recreate a damaged file.

Support Tapeless Environments

A new value for the Primary= attribute in the Group Definitions is available. The new value of CACHONLY would be used at sites that do not Externalize their Virtual Volumes. CACHONLY stops the Virtual Volumes from being queued for Externalization which eliminates the overhead associated with maintaining a queue that will never be used. These Virtual Volumes will remain in cache until they expire.

Since the new value is coded at the group level, some groups can be CACHONLY while other groups continue to be Externalized. If requirements change, the value can be changed and dynamically reloaded with the SVT1 REFRESH=GROUPS console command. Any new Virtual Volumes assigned to the changed group will be processed according to the new value.

Deferred Transmission for PeerToPeer

If the available band-width for PeerToPeer transmissions is not sufficient to allow for immediate transmission of Virtual Volumes without impacting job run-times, the transmission can be deferred to a later time. This allows the job to run in its normal time without the overhead of the P2P transmission which will occur sometime after the job has completed.

This new functionality is activated by utilizing a new value of DEFER for the ExchangeMetadataOnly attribute in the Group Definitions of parmlib. Since this is coded at the group level, some groups can continue to use immediate transmission, while other can be deferred.

The deferred transmission will occur when the remoteCA Vtape Subsystem attempts to Externalize the Virtual Volume. Alternately, the new DEFERXMT JCL can be submitted periodically to transmit the deferred Virtual Volumes.

Increased Virtual Volume Capacity

CA Vtape has been enhanced to support up to 1,000,000 Virtual Volume per CA Vtape Complex. This change increases the number of Virtual Volumes supported from the current limit of 500,000 to the new limit of 1,000,000. Increasing support to 1,000,000 volumes provides greater flexibility, simplifies management, and reduces resource requirements.

Note: Volume Pooling is required when using control data sets that allow more than 510,800 Virtual Volumes to be defined.

System Startup Performance Improvement

The startup time for CA Vtape has been significantly reduced due to IO optimizations when scanning the control data sets. This startup improvement depends on a number of factors including the number of Virtual Volumes, the type of DASD used for the control data sets, and DASD contention encountered when starting multiple CA Vtape subsystems simultaneously that share the same control files.

New Backstore Report

The REPORT=BACKSTORE command can be used, when running the SVTSUTIL program, to generate a list of all Virtual Volumes in VOLSER order that have been externalized to physical media. This is the only report that includes the Triplex or UNIX System Services (USS) information.

Note: For more information, see the chapter "Reports" in the *Administration Guide*.

Updated EXPAND and RECGLVC Sample JCL Members

Updated versions of the EXPAND and RECGLVC sample JCL members are provided.

New USS Backstore Feature

The new USS Backstore feature can be used to create a Backstore copy of Virtual Volumes on Network File Systems. The USS Backstore feature supports integration of Network File System (NFS) servers through Unix System Services. Some NFS servers can also support both data duplication and data replication. These types of devices allow you to back up Virtual Volumes using less expensive disk and when combined with data replication allow you to send Virtual Volume data to a remote backup site without involving any other significant hardware or software resources. The USS Backstore copy enables up to 3 Backstore copies of a Virtual Volume.

Note: For more information, see the chapter "USS Backstore" in the *Administration Guide*.

New Recover Backstore Command

A new SVTSUTIL utility batch command, RECOVER=BACKSTORE, is provided. You can use it to recover z/OS catalog information for CA Vtape Backstore Volumes that have been deleted. This command generates IDCAMS control statements that are used as input to re-catalog deleted Backstore data sets. This utility command gives you the ability to recover Backstore Data Sets which may have been inadvertently deleted, without intensive manual intervention.