NAME

mt-dds − tool to control a dds device.

SYNOPSIS

mt-dds comp-on|comp-off|comp-query|comp-log
mt-dds < **tell|label** > [**-b** **#**]

DESCRIPTION

mt-dds controls the compression mode of dds tape devices (DAT).

mt-dds may also report the current tape position in absolute records (relative to begin of tape) in a format that may be used later by **dds2tar(1)** to access tar archives that are not the first file on tape.

The default device is */dev/rmt0*, which may be overridden with the environment variable **TAPE**, which in turn may be overridden with the **-f** *device* option. The device must be a character special file.

OPTIONS

DDS tape device control options

comp-on
Enable the hardware compression mode if supported by the device.

comp-off
Disable the compression mode, switch to normal mode.

comp-query
Print to stderr if compression mode currently is disabled or enabled. A **0** means compression is disabled, a **1** means compression in enabled.

comp-log
Print to stdout four lines of information about transferred kilobytes before and after hardware compression from and to the device since initialization.

dds2tar service functions

tell Print three lines with the **current tape position**, a **block size** value (20 by default, may be overridden with **-b** option) and a **block length** value (blocksize*512) to *stdout*. If this output is redirected to a location file *locfile*, this file may be used by **dds2tar(1)** to access archives on tape.

label If the current tape position is the beginning of an archive and the archive is labeled, **mt-dds** writes the label to stdout and moves the tape back to the current position (or back over the filemark).

ts If the current tape position is the beginning of an archive and the archive is labeled, **mt-dds** writes the timestamp in octal format to stdout and moves the tape back to the current position (or back over the filemark). If you are using only one computer, the timestamp can be used as a unique archive identifier.

-b # Specify the block size # value that is used as a default for the written value with the **mt-dds tell** command (see above). Also the internal buffer size is specified with this option which is used to read one block in order to get the block size of the current tape block. So specify the block size of the archive or a larger number.

other options

-f *device*
Device of the tape archive (default is /dev/rmt0). Must be a character special file connected to a dds tape device.

-V,**--version**
Print the version number of **mt-dds** to stderr and exit immediately.

--help print some screens of online help with examples through a pager and exit immediately.

EXAMPLES

Example 1: checking the compression mode of the default tape device
mt-dds comp-query

Example 2: Write the location information as **dds2tar** command line options to stdout.
mt-dds

ENVIRONMENT

The environment variable **TAPE** overrides the default tape device /dev/rmt0.

PAGER
The environment variable **PAGER** overrides the builtin pager command ("/bin/more") to display the output of the **--help** option.

SEE ALSO

dds2tar(1), dds2index(1), mt(1), tar(1)

HISTORY

This program was created in conjunction with dds2tar.

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