ABS Tech Note: AWS12 Retrospect on AWS 95 Q&A (9/93)

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TOPIC --

This technical note answers some common questions on the Retrospect program
that runs on the Apple Workgroup Server (AWS) 95.

DISCUSSION ---

Q) Why are my DAT tapes write-locked?
A) The AWS 95 DAT drive requires MRS (Media Recognition System) format DAT
   tapes. Standard audio-quality DAT tapes are not MRS format, so the
   tape drive shows them as read-only, which allows an AWS 95 to read
   previously written tapes but not to modify them.

Q) Should a StorageSet be placed on a Macintosh Filesystem or a UNIX
   Filesystem?
A) It is recommended that the Macintosh File StorageSet be located on a
   Macintosh partition rather than on a UNIX partition. This is because
   when Retrospect updates a StorageSet, it appends the backup data to
   the file's data fork, then goes back and writes the catalog data to the
   file's resource fork. Retrospect displays the message "Updating
   Catalog" in the status window while this latter stage is happening.

   Because Macintosh File StorageSets are created in AppleSingle format,
   the UNIX file system wants to write the resource fork contiguously.
   Which requires it to move all the backup data in the data fork. This
   causes delays, sometimes long enough to make people think Retrospect is
   hung.

Q) Retrospect isn't backing up my AppleShare.PDS file. Why?
A) Certain files are excluded from backups with Retrospect 2.0. These
   include AppleShare.PDS, Desktop files and the VM Storage file. None of
   them can usefully be restored because they're part of the active system
   and a restored copy of the file is useless, and they will usually cause
   compare errors in the log during the verify cycle. Because of this, and
   because it makes no sense to waste backup media on them, it was decided
   to exclude them.

Keywords: <None>

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