

IBM releases encryption for data tapes

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IBM Friday announced the release of new encryption software designed to secure data tapes shared by major organizations.

IBM said its Encryption Facility of z/OS version 1.1 allows companies using Public Key Infrastructure to encrypt and then de-encrypt tapes that they share using IBM's z/OS mainframes. The goal is to make it easier to send tapes to remote sites or to partner companies while reducing the risks of hackers and misplaced tapes.

"Encryption is playing an increasing role in protecting a company's confidential data, adhering to a myriad of laws and serving as a bulwark for its reputation," said IBM's Erich Clementi. "The privacy of data is now a front-burner issue for healthcare, retail and e-commerce organizations."

The system also allows for the encryption and compression of large volumes of data stored in archives.

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