# THE ALLOCATION CONTROL CENTER (ACC) CHANGING TAPE TO DISK WITHOUT CHANGING JCL

**It wasn't that long ago when the choice between using TAPE or DISK for data storage was a simple economic decision. DISK was expensive, and was used when immediate access had a real payback. TAPE was cheap, and therefore should be used for everything else.**

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In today's data center, DASD has become much less expensive, while people costs have increased. Since accessing data on TAPE media typically requires storage management personnel finding and mounting a tape, and accessing data on DISK requires no additional personnel costs, TAPE can actually be more expensive for "smaller" data sets than using DISK. Most tape management systems have good utilities for identifying those data sets that are good candidates for storage on disk. However, identification is easy compared to finding and changing all the JCL using those data sets to begin using disk.

ACC can be used to reroute the data set to a disk volume and then add disk related parameters such as the SPACE parameter without changing any of your JCL. Using a straightforward IF-THEN-ELSE RULES language, you identify those allocations that need rerouting to disk. You have pattern matching and an exhaustive list of keywords you can use to make the identification as general or as specific as is needed. You could change all allocations that have TEST as the third qualifier, or just a data set of a specific name.

When adding space, it is recommended that you pick a default space parameter to use on a group of allocation requests. A good recommendation if you also have the Space Recovery System (SRS) is a request in tracks using the RELEASE parameter of MVS. This will release any space you don't need at end of step to prevent problems from over allocation. With SRS, all space related abends can be recovered, so there is no fear of under allocation causing problems. The SPACE parameter can be automatically added to the original tape request through ACC.

ACC also offers an easy to use, comprehensive messaging facility which can be used to create user defined messages to the job log or SMF files, or messages to a log file. You can inform your customers of needed JCL changes if permanent changes are desired, and keep them aware of changes made dynamically by ACC.

Using ACC and SRS to move from one media to another is just one of the many uses our customers have found for these products. If more information is needed, please contact your DTS Software Sales Representative.

ACC