



# GFS/AFM Advanced File Manager

The most advanced tape library manager for z/OS system

GFS/AFM – Advanced File Manager is the solution to manage the operations of protecting and releasing volumes in a robust, efficient manner in tape libraries of any size, controlling the transit of volumes, security vaults and external tape libraries. GFS/AFM is the most advanced tape library manager for IBM z/OS and the leading software product in the Brazilian market.

## TAPE LIBRARY MANAGER: A critical component in mainframe installations

### Mainframe installations can process thousands of tapes every day

Over the past few decades, the mainframe platform has been the choice for the most demanding organizations, requiring a technology able to provide not only better performance but also total security, reliability and high availability.

Companies are required to store increasing amounts of information for longer periods of time, resulting in an explosive growth in storage needs. In this context, tape libraries have assumed an important role in ensuring the safekeeping of information.

Among mainframe infrastructure elements, the tape library manager is certainly one of the most critical and important tools. It must manage and protect information that is written on tape media within the organization, regardless of its nature (e.g. operational backups, archiving, etc).

## The tape library manager must ensure the proper execution of two essential operations:

### Information protection

The tape library manager must guarantee the availability of information, complying with file retention specifications, preventing these files from being unduly erased or overwritten, intentionally or accidentally.

### Resources releasing

Tape libraries have thousands of tapes which represent a rather high investment in the z/OS infrastructure.

Maximizing such investment implies reusing tapes as soon as their data becomes unnecessary for the organization. The tape library manager optimizes the reuse of tapes (tape reclaim / lifecycle management), releasing the volumes at the exact time, neither before – which would be disastrous – or after, which would be a waste. It must ensure that the number of volumes retained is as small as possible for each tape library.

## Choose the Best, choose GFS/AFM

Organizations choose technology infrastructure based on criteria such as quality, integrity, and availability. These same criteria should guide the choice of a tape library manager.

GFS/AFM is the best solution for companies looking to combine cost effectiveness, technological upgrades, security, and excellence in support services.

Efficiency  
Security  
Reliability



## The Most Modern and Advanced

Under continued evolution, GFS/AFM- Advanced File Manager is the only tape library manager that consistently keeps up with the advancements made in tape storage technology.

Notable for its versatility, GFS/AFM works integrated with other external data managers (TSM, DFSMSHsm, etc), supports the main robots and virtualization systems available in the market (IBM, Sun Storage Tek, etc) and is easy to use.

Pre-existing tape management systems can be easily migrated to GFS/AFM.

## Higher Availability

GFS/AFM- Advanced File Manager can be dynamically installed and configured, avoiding unnecessary system shutdowns and allowing daily operations to be executed using simple commands.

GFS/AFM uses only ICF Catalogs belonging to z/OS to manage the tape library. Using the operating system's native structure, GFS/AFM ensures unity and integrity of tracking information, eliminating the possibility of inconsistencies and eliminating human intervention.

Other products require frequent shutdowns for maintenance, even for simple and frequent tasks, such as creating new ranges of volumes. It is also very frequent operator intervention is needed to identify and solve inconsistencies between the product database and the z/OS catalogs.

## More Efficient

With GFS/AFM each volume is released individually, immediately after its content expires, managing the use of multi-file and multi-volume chains with full transparency and reliability.

Other products can only protect or release the entire volume or chain of volumes, causing the retention of a large number of tapes for periods greater than necessary, resulting in resource waste and higher costs.

## More Secure

GFS/AFM protects each file individually, assigning multiple retention dates for each volume, eliminating the risk of undue release of volumes.



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**GFS/AFM provides high availability and reduces costs dramatically, eliminating the practice of frequent shutdowns for maintenance.**

## EXCELLENCE IN SUPPORT

The GFS technical team counts on dedicated, qualified and experienced professionals who are not only experts on the solutions, but on the environment and customer needs.

With a complete mainframe infrastructure dedicated exclusively to development and support, GFS Software offers exceptional 24 x 7 customer service.

## About GFS Software

GFS Software is a software house specialized in developing solutions for the IBM Mainframe z/OS environment.

Established in 1988, GFS Software is the Brazilian market leader in tape library management, offering a complete suite of solutions to streamline the management of customers' infrastructure.

GFS Software helps drive the business of the largest and most important z/OS installations, including customers from financial services, telecommunications and governmental organizations.

In the international market since 2002, GFS Software has established offices in Europe and the United States.



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**GFS/AFM - Advanced File Manager**  
**A reliable choice for tape library management**