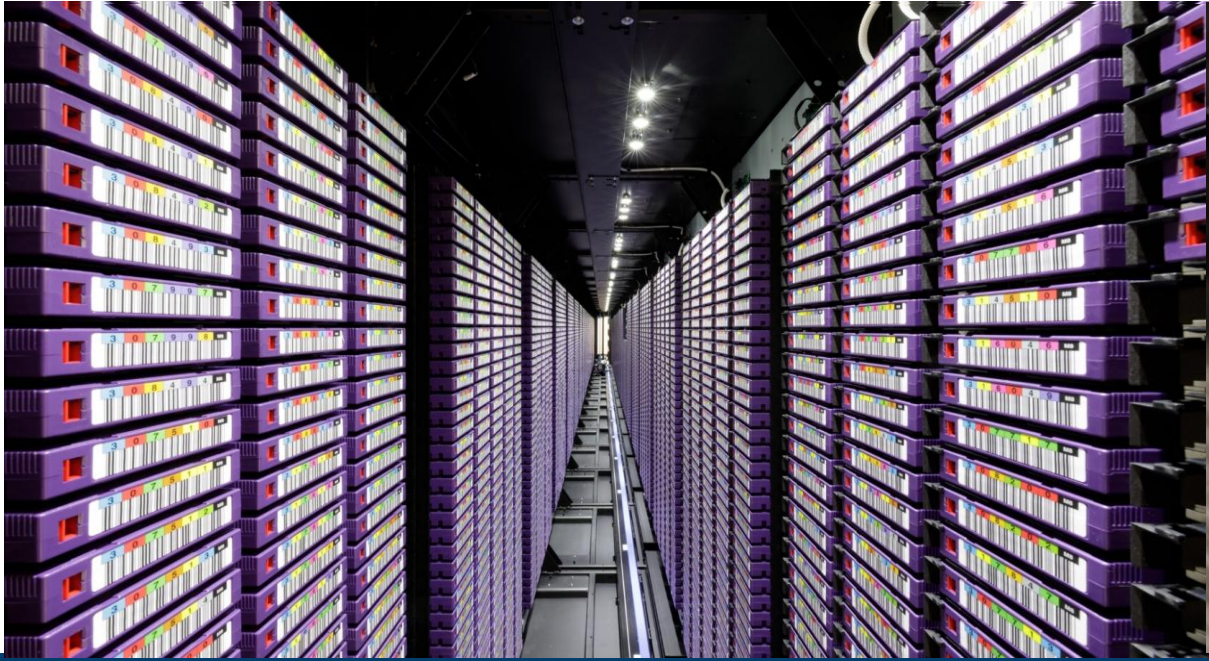




BACKUP & ARCHIVE OF HPC DATA

The Backup Infrastructure of the Jülich Supercomputing Centre

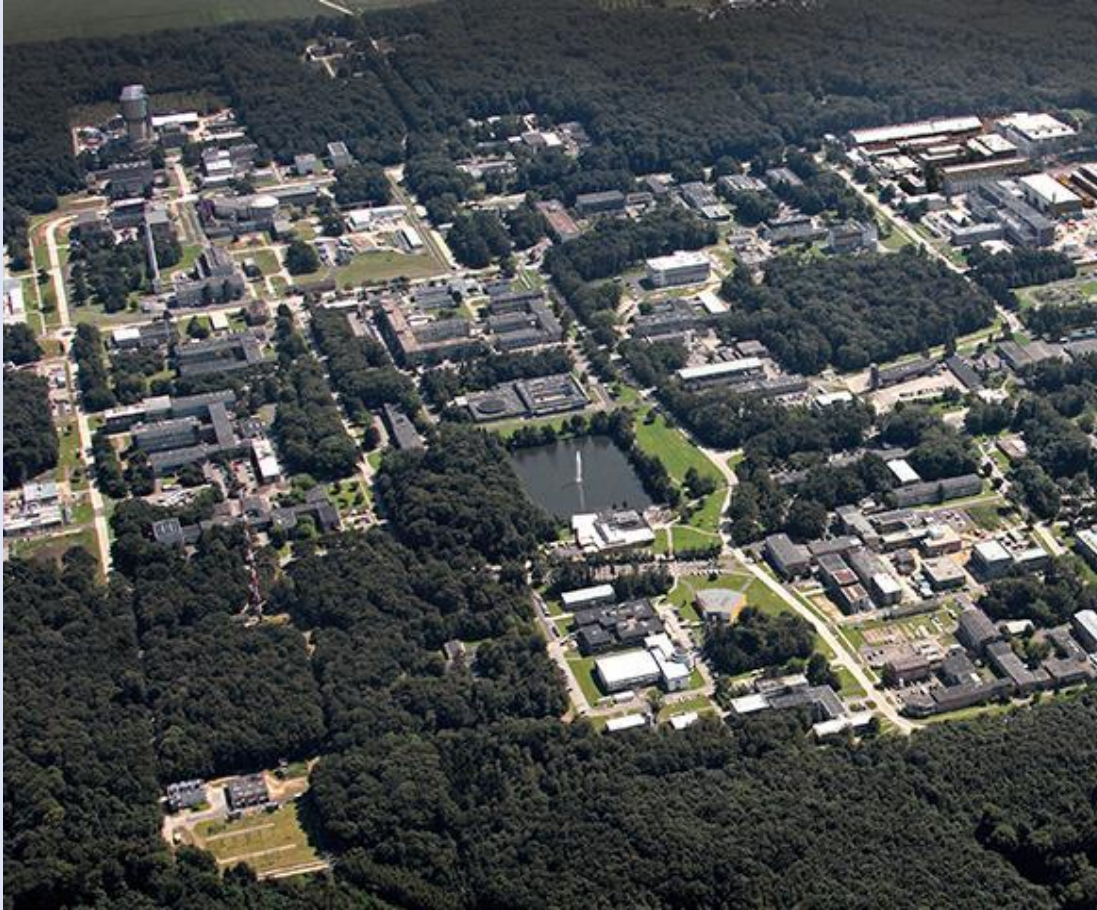
18.03.2025 | SALEM EL SAYED, **STEPHAN GRAF**, MARTIN LISCHWESKI & OLEG TSIGENOV

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- ▶ **Who we are**
- ▶ **Use case: HPC user data**
- ▶ **Our backup infrastructure**
- ▶ **Deep dive: Managing IBM LTO drives in Linux and Storage Protect**
- ▶ **Deep dive: Using TS4500 REST API for monitoring**

RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

on 2.2 Square Kilometres



AT FIRST GLANCE

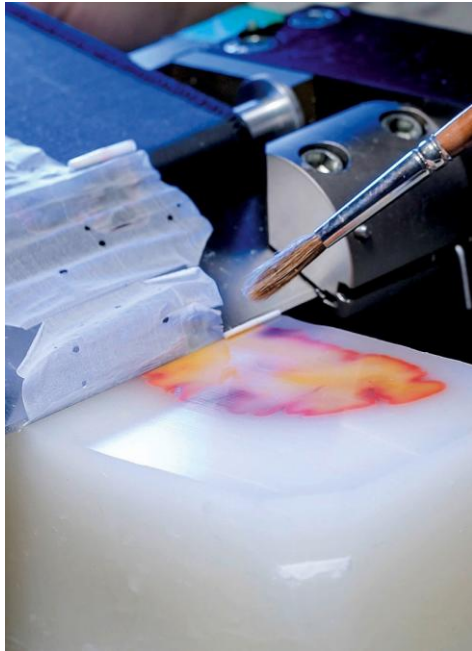
Founded in 1956



Revenue:
€ 987 million in
2023



Research priorities:
information, energy, bioeconomy



Research campus
with 14 institutes and
18 branch offices in
Germany and abroad



Shareholders:
Federal Republic of
Germany (90%),
federal state of
North Rhine-
Westphalia (10%)

Member of the
Helmholtz
Association

JÜLICH SUPERCOMPUTING CENTRE

- **Supercomputer operation for**

- Centre – FZJ
- Region – RWTH Aachen University
- Germany – Gauss Centre for Supercomputing (GCS)
John von Neumann Institute for Computing (NIC)
- Europe – EuroHPC, PRACE, EU projects

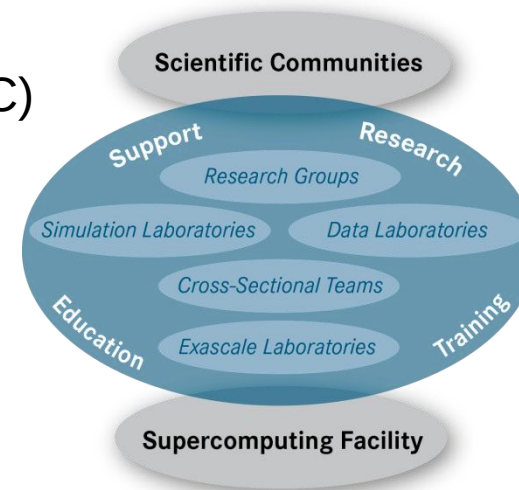
- **Application support**

- Unique support & research environment at JSC
- Peer review support and coordination

- **R&D work**

- Methods and algorithms, computational science, performance analysis and tools
- Scientific Machine Learning and AI with HPC
- Computer architectures, Co-Design, Exascale Labs together with IBM, Intel, NVIDIA

- **Education and training**



**First Exascale
supercomputer
in Europe**

DEEP





~300 Employees
(~280 FTE)



210 Scientists



22 PhD Students (+ externals)
27 Students (Bachelor/Master)



fz-juelich.de/jsc

JÜLICH SUPERCOMPUTING CENTRE

also some JSC

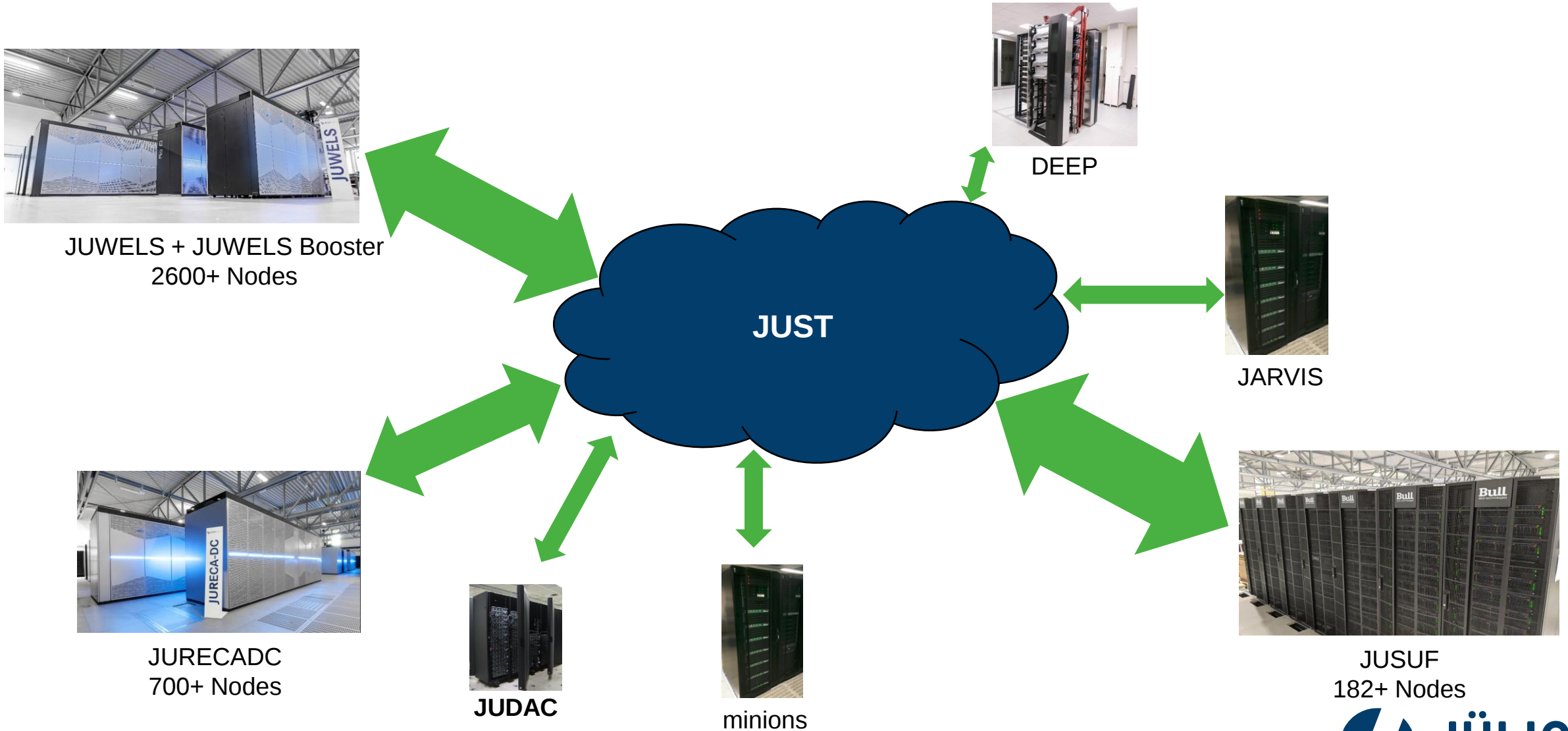
JSC

also some JSC

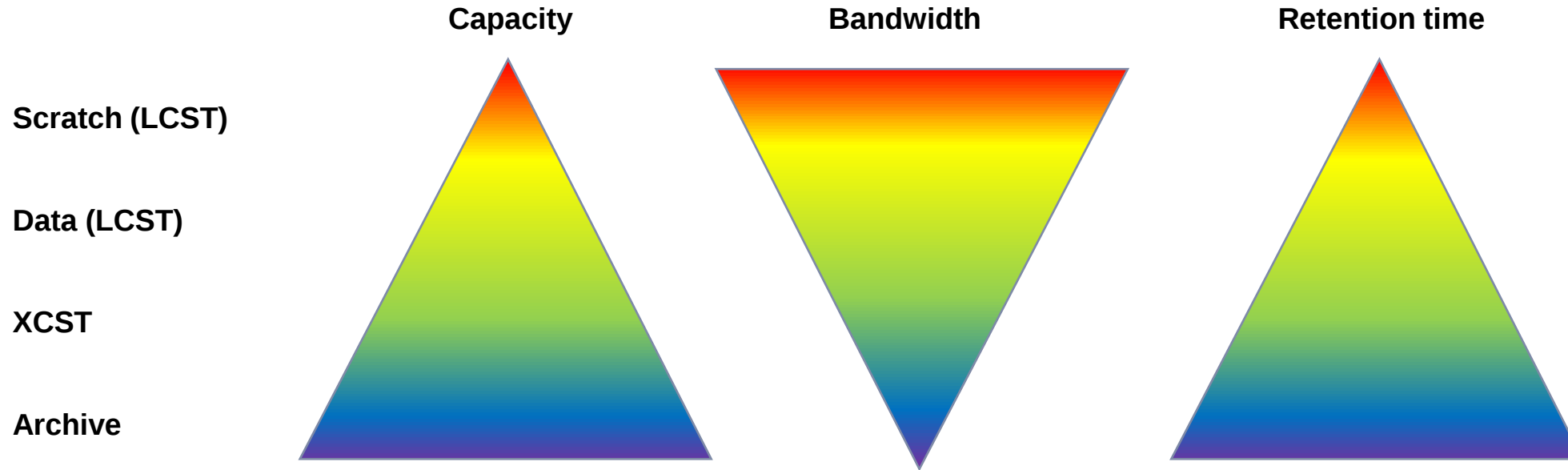


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HPC, Cloud and Data Systems and Services Division at JSC

JUELICH STORAGE (JUST)



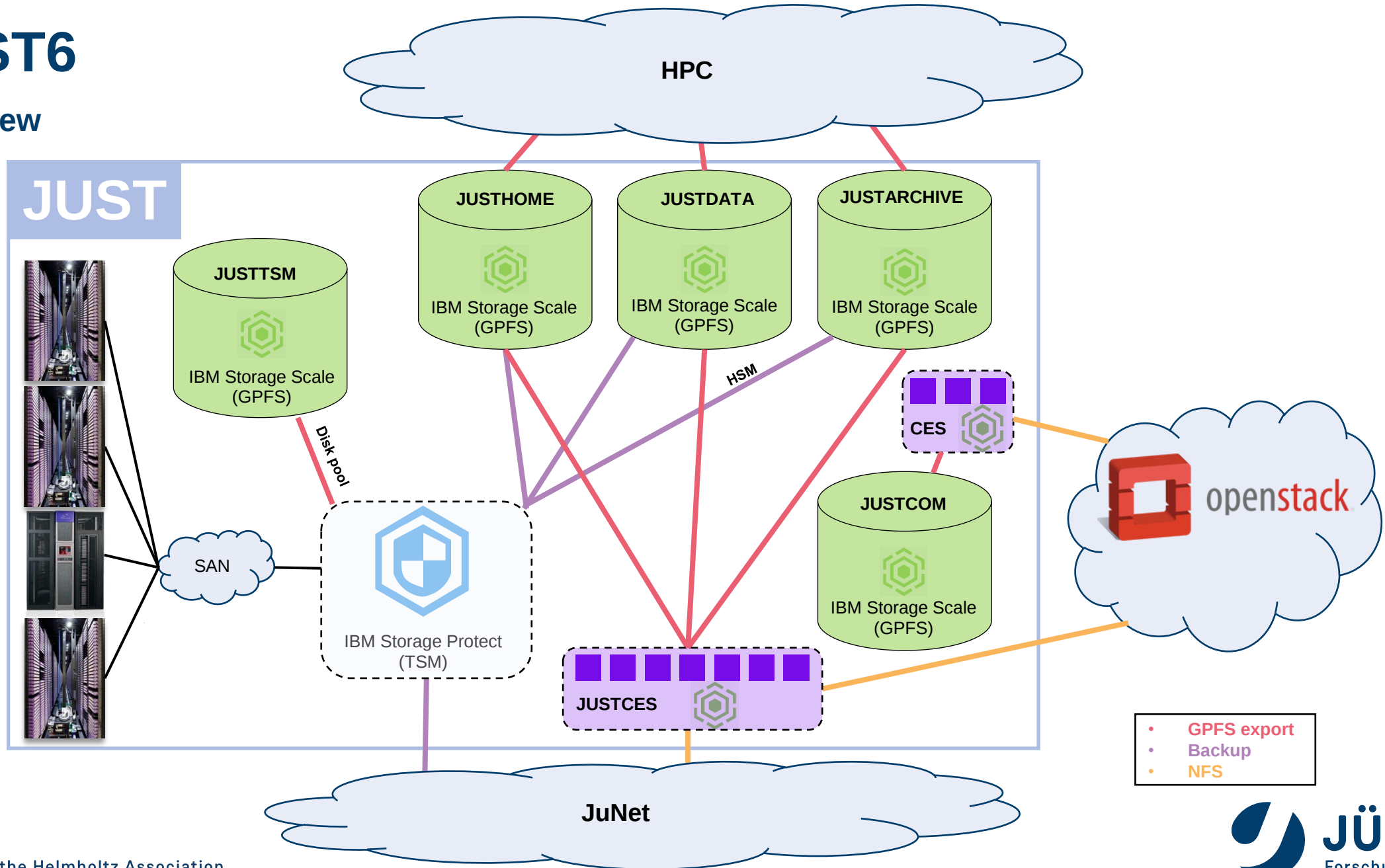
TIERED STORAGE OFFERING



- Large Capacity Storage Tier: IBM ESS/SSS Cluster (GNR, 6th Gen. of JUST, bandwidth optimized) → LCST
- Extended Capacity Storage Tier (XCST): GPFS Building Blocks (target: capacity) → XCST
- Archive: Tape storage (Backup + GPFS&TSM-HSM)

JUST6

Overview



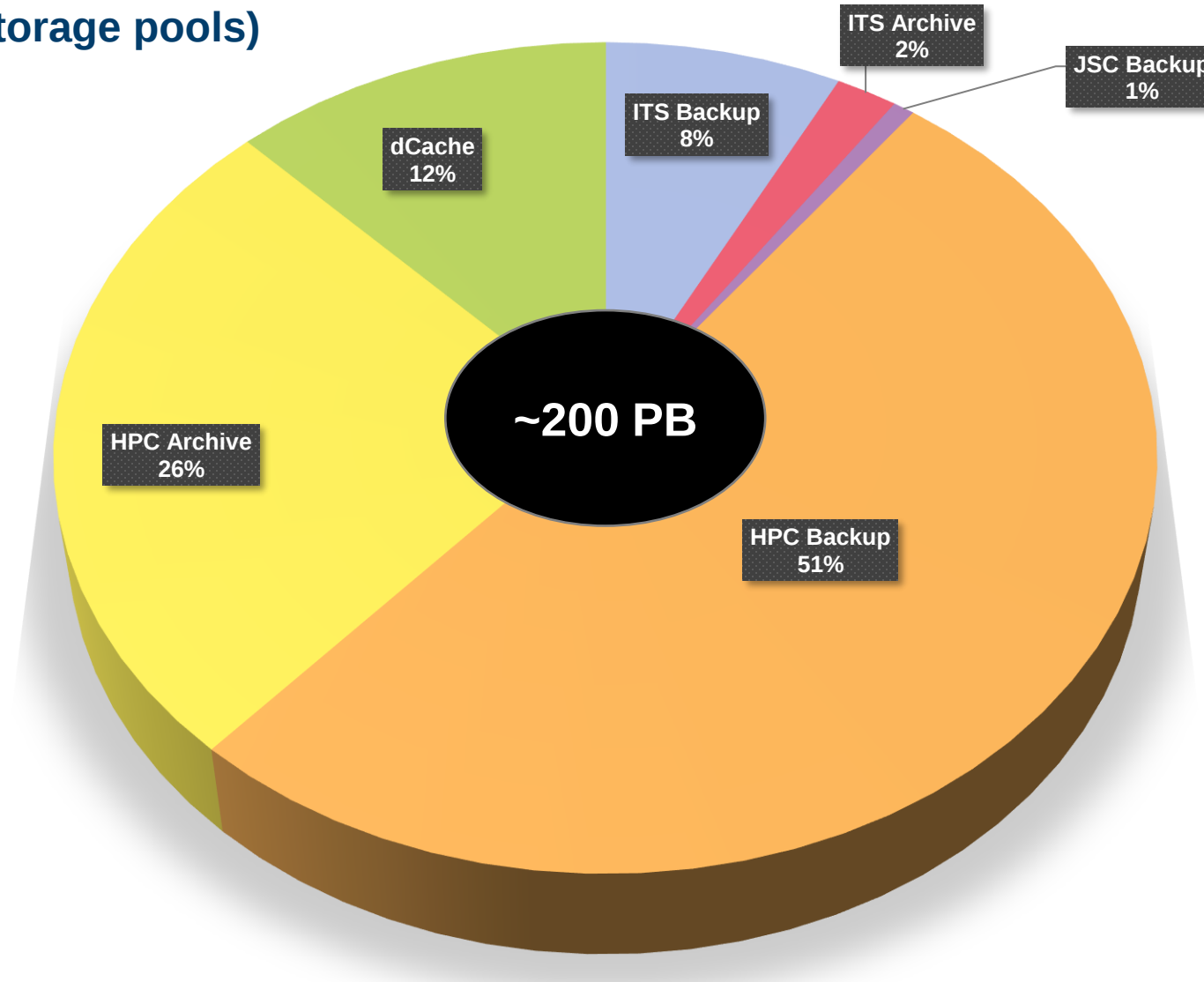
HPC USER DATA (USAGE)

File System	Shell Variable	Description	INODES	Capacity	HSM	(mm)Backup
home	\$HOME	Users HOME File Systems	76.212.261	20 TB		
project1	\$PROJECT	Compute Project File System	782.196.564	4.1 PB		
scratch	\$SCRATCH	Compute Project Scratch File System	239.926.611	11 PB		
data1	\$DATA	High Bandwidth and large Capacity File System	272.208.632	32 PB		
largedata2	\$LARGEDATA	Large Capacity (Disk based, deprecated)	45.302.753	7.3 PB		
arch1 arch2	\$ARCHIVE	Archive File System (Tape)	29.346.284	~47 PB		
Total:			1.445.193.105	~100 PB		

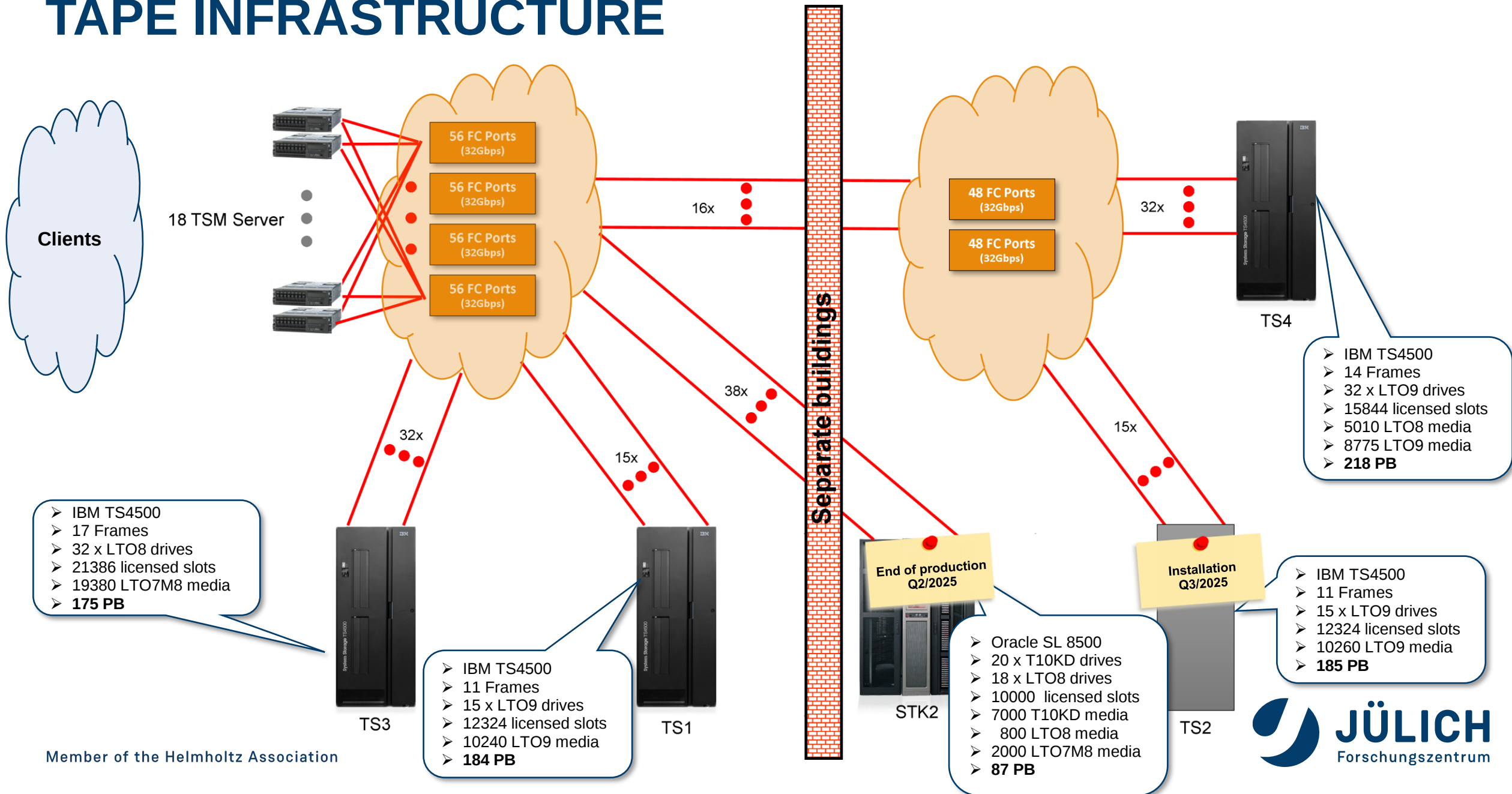
Goal is to have a daily backup!

OVERALL BACKUP & ARCHIVE USAGE

(used capacity of TSM storage pools)



TAPE INFRASTRUCTURE



TAPE@JÜLICH: SOME FACTS/FINDINGS

- No partitioning: TSM is the one and only client
- No media verification. Tape drives are always the bottleneck.
- We moved away from Oracle Enterprise to LTO
 - IBM Enterprise cartridges and LTO cartridges have different form factor
- Tape behavior in TSM for HPC data: no compression on tape

Cartridge Type	Capacity (filling state)	Capacity (100% full)	Specification
LTO9	40.9 T	~ 18 T	18TB
LTO8	27.3 T	~ 11.7 T	12 TB
LTO7M8	20.5 T	~ 8.83 T	9 TB
T10KD	15.3 T	~ 8.15 T	8.5 TB

MANAGING IBM LTO DRIVES IN LINUX AND STORAGE PROTECT

USING TAPE LIBRARY IN LINUX

Tape Access

- Install `lin_tape` + `lin_taped` packages for the IBM TS4500

- **Udev** Rules to create persistent device name links

Oracle T10KD drives:

```
SUBSYSTEM=="scsi_generic", MODE="0666"  
SUBSYSTEM=="scsi_generic", SUBSYSTEMS=="scsi", ATTRS{vendor}=="STK*", ATTRS{model}=="T10*", PROGRAM="/lib/udev/scsi_id --page=0x80 --  
whitelisted -d $tempnode", RESULT=="*579001234567*", SYMLINK+="L2D01"
```

- IBM LTO drives:

```
KERNEL=="TSMtape", MODE="0666"  
KERNEL=="IBMchanger*", MODE="0666", ATTRS{serial_num}=="*78BB123*", ATTR{primary_path}=="Primary", SYMLINK+="TS3control"  
KERNEL=="IBMTape*[0-9]", MODE="0666", ATTRS{serial_num}=="*10WT012345*", SYMLINK+="L3D01"
```

- Create module parameter file `/etc/modprobe.d/lin_tape.conf`

```
options lin_tape alternate_pathing=1  
options lin_tape tape_reserve_type=persistent
```

- Module is loaded on boot by creating `/etc/modules-load.d/lin_tape.conf`

```
lin-tape
```

- Prepare systemctl service to start Oracle ACSLS service

`/opt/Tivoli/tsm/devices/bin/rc.acs_ssi`

USING TAPE LIBRARY IN LINUX

TSM setup & Systemd dependencies

- Define library

```
define library TS1 libtype=scsi shared=yes RESETDrives=yes AUTOLabel=yes
```

- Define control path

```
DEFINE PATH tsmstk TS1 SRCTYPE=SERVER DESTTYPE=LIBRARY DEVICE=/dev/TS1control
```

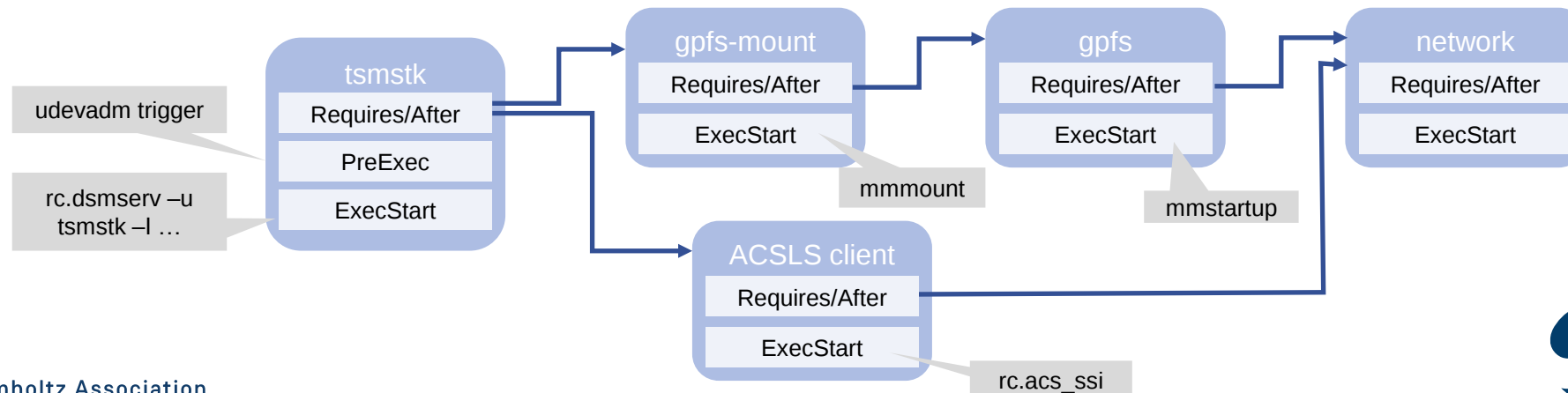
- Define drives

```
define drive TS1 L1DD01 serial=autodetect online=yes element=autodetect cleanfrequency=none
```

- Define path for all drives to all instances on the TSM shared tape library instance (tsmstk)

```
define path tsmarch L1D01 srctype=server desttype=drive online=yes device=/dev/L1D01 autodetect=yes library=TS1
```

- Use systemd to start, stop and solve dependencies



USING TS4500 REST API FOR MONITORING

ENABLE REST API

Security

Remote Authentication

Password and Session Policy

Secure Communications

Encryption Key Servers

Encryption Internal Label

Secure Communications

Manage encryption settings for GUI and CLI communications with the library.

Secure Communications: ☒ On ☐ Off

Supported Protocols: TLS 1.2

User defined certificate has expired.

Certificate: System defined

Expires: 2034-03-19T03:53:57+0100

Update Certificate

Library

Date and Time

Licensed Functions

Advanced

Advanced

Move expired cleaning cartridges to I/O station: ☒ Automatically

Elastic Capacity: Use for maximum capacity

Active accessor: Dual active

Accessor preferred zones:

REST over SCSI: ☐ Enabled

Apply

TS1 > Access > Users

IBM TS4500 Tape Library

2025-03-04T09:49

admin

Create User Actions Filter

Name	State	Role
admin	Connected	Administrator
localGUI	Disconnected	Monitor
monitor	Connected	Monitor
Service	Disconnected	Local Service

Properties for User monitor

Name: monitor

State: **Connected**

Role: Monitor

Email: None

Last Connection: 2025-03-04T09:44:22+0100

Close

TS4500 REST OVER ETHERNET

Custom python script

```
#!/usr/bin/env python3
"""
TS4500 REST over Ethernet
"""

import argparse
import datetime
import json
import requests
import urllib3

urllib3.disable_warnings(urllib3.exceptions.InsecureRequestWarning)

VERBOSE = False

PASSWORD_FILE = "/root/.ts4500.credentials"

def get_password() -> str:
    """return password from file"""
    with open(file=PASSWORD_FILE, mode="r", encoding="UTF-8") as file:
        return file.read().strip().split(':')
```

```
class ts4500rest:
    """
    REST over Ethernet interface to the tape library
    - will return json object: self.json_data
    """

    json_data = []

    def __init__(self, ip_number) -> None:
        """get JSESSIONID aka COOKIES"""
        (username, password) = get_password()
        self.ip_number = ip_number
        url = "https://" + ip_number + "/web/api/v1/login"
        payload = {"user": username, "password": password}
        session = requests.Session()
        session.post(url=url, json=payload, verify=False)
        self.cookies = session.cookies.get_dict()
        if self.cookies is None:
            raise RuntimeError("Cookies not found")

    def get_data(self, target="library"):
        """return json_data for target"""
        url: str = "https://" + self.ip_number + "/web/api/v1/" + target
        request_output = requests.get(url=url, cookies=self.cookies, verify=False, timeout=60)
        self.json_data: list[dict[str, str]] = json.loads(request_output.content.decode())
        return self.json_data

    def get_events(self, days: int = 0):
        """
        Fetch and filter event list of target library
        - return: list of event dictionary
        """
        target: str = "events"
        if days > 0:
            start_time = datetime.datetime.now() - datetime.timedelta(days=days)
            target += "?after=" + start_time.astimezone().replace(microsecond=0).isoformat()
        return self.get_data(target=target)
```

TS4500 REST OVER ETHERNET

Custom python script output example

```
[root@just-master just_admin_scripts]# python3 ts4500rest.py
```

	type	SN
Library	TS1	78XXXXX

Drive	Location	Type	SN
F4C1R1	3588-F9C	78	
F4C1R2	3588-F9C	78	
F4C1R3	3588-F9C	78	
F4C1R4	3588-F9C	78	
F4C2R1	3588-F9C	78	
F4C2R2	3588-F9C	78	
F4C2R3	3588-F9C	78	
F4C2R4	3588-F9C	78	
F4C3R1	3588-F9C	78	
F4C3R2	3588-F9C	78	
F4C3R3	3588-F9C	78	
F4C3R4	3588-F9C	78	
F4C4R1	3588-F9C	78	
F4C4R2	3588-F9C	78	
F4C4R3	3588-F9C	78	
F4C4R4	3588-F9C	78	
F8C1R1	3588-F9C	78	
F8C1R2	3588-F9C	78	
F8C2R1	3588-F9C	78	
F8C2R2	3588-F9C	78	
F8C2R3	3588-F9C	78	
F8C2R4	3588-F9C	78	
F8C3R1	3588-F9C	78	
F8C3R2	3588-F9C	78	
F8C3R3	3588-F9C	78	
F8C3R4	3588-F9C	78	
F8C4R1	3588-F9C	78	
F8C4R2	3588-F9C	78	
F8C4R3	3588-F9C	78	
F8C4R4	3588-F9C	78	

Frame	Type	SN	Slots	Drives	IO Stations
F1	3584-S55	78	1054	0	0
F2	3584-S55	78	1320	0	0
F3	3584-S55	78	1320	0	0
F4	3584-L55	78	882	16	2
F5	3584-S55	78	1320	0	0
F6	3584-S55	78	1320	0	0
F7	3584-S55	78	1320	0	0
F8	3584-D55	78	882	14	2
F9	3584-S55	78	1320	0	0
F10	3584-S55	78	1320	0	0
F11	3584-S55	78	1320	0	0

Last 10 events:

```
{'ID': 6533, 'severity': 'information', 'time': '2025-03-04T11:10:27+0100', 'location': None, 'user': 'monitor', 'description': 'A user logged in with REST from 10.201.9.82', 'state': None, 'errorCode': '0834'}
{'ID': 6532, 'severity': 'information', 'time': '2025-03-04T10:55:26+0100', 'location': None, 'user': 'monitor', 'description': 'A user logged out with REST from 10.201.9.82', 'state': None, 'errorCode': '0838'}
{'ID': 6531, 'severity': 'information', 'time': '2025-03-04T10:44:23+0100', 'location': None, 'user': 'monitor', 'description': 'A user logged in with REST from 10.201.9.82', 'state': None, 'errorCode': '0834'}
{'ID': 6530, 'severity': 'information', 'time': '2025-03-04T10:25:17+0100', 'location': None, 'user': 'monitor', 'description': 'A user logged out with REST from 10.201.9.82', 'state': None, 'errorCode': '0838'}
{'ID': 6529, 'severity': 'information', 'time': '2025-03-04T10:14:26+0100', 'location': None, 'user': 'monitor', 'description': 'A user logged in with REST from 10.201.9.82', 'state': None, 'errorCode': '0834'}
```

```
# calls in MAIN
lib_session = ts4500rest(ip_number=ip_number)
lib_json_data = lib_session.get_data(target="library")
lib_json_data = lib_session.get_data(target="drives")
lib_json_data = lib_session.get_data(target="frames")
events_json_data = lib_session.get_events(days=31)
```

```
{'ID': 6528, 'severity': 'information', 'time': '2025-03-04T10:13:16+0100', 'location': None, 'user': 'monitor', 'description': 'A user logged out with REST from 10.201.9.82', 'state': None, 'errorCode': '0838'}
{'ID': 6527, 'severity': 'information', 'time': '2025-03-04T10:02:52+0100', 'location': None, 'user': 'monitor', 'description': 'A user logged in with REST from 10.201.9.82', 'state': None, 'errorCode': '0834'}
{'ID': 6526, 'severity': 'information', 'time': '2025-03-04T10:02:09+0100', 'location': None, 'user': 'admin', 'description': 'A logical library setting was changed', 'state': None, 'errorCode': '0803'}
{'ID': 6525, 'severity': 'information', 'time': '2025-03-04T10:02:06+0100', 'location': None, 'user': 'admin', 'description': 'A logical library setting was changed', 'state': None, 'errorCode': '0803'}
{'ID': 6524, 'severity': 'information', 'time': '2025-03-04T09:55:08+0100', 'location': None, 'user': 'monitor', 'description': 'A user logged out with REST from 10.201.9.82', 'state': None, 'errorCode': '0838'}
```

```
# for monitoring: check events of severity 'error'
```

```
def get_active_errors(json_data):
    """return list of active errors"""
    errors = []
    for event in json_data:
        if event["severity"] == "error":
            errors.append(event)
    return errors
```

OUTLOOK

- Finalize data migration from Oracle SL8500 until Ende of Q2/2025
- Dismantel Oracle SL8500 afterwards
- Install new TS4500 at the same location and bring it in production



**Installation of Exascale
supercomputer JUPITER will be
finished soon**

**New Storage for JUELICH
ExaByte FOR ExaFLOP**

Talk tomorrow at 1pm

- A new large HPC System with new data for backup and archive



GREETINGS FROM THE STORAGE TEAM

IBM Tape User Day 2025

18. März 2025

09:00	Eintreffen	
10:00	Begrüßung	Stefan Neff, IBM
10:05	Storage und Tape Technologie - Whats New	Sepp Weingand, IBM
10:45	S3-To-Tape: IBM Scale & Archive und IBM Deep Archive	Nils Haustein, IBM
11:30	Backup & Archive of HPC Data @FZ Jülich	Stephan Graf, FZ-Jülich
12:00	Mittagspause	
13:00	AirGap Tape & Safeguarded Tape - Status und Outlook	Sepp Weingand, IBM
13:30	Safeguarded Tape - Kundenbeispiel	Uwe Schreiber, SVA System Vertrieb Alexander GmbH
14:00	eXstor Safeguard Tape & News about eXstor Library and Media Manager	Bruno Friess, eXstor GmbH
14:30	Kaffeepause	
15:00	BACKUP EAGLE® IBM TS4500 Reporting und Überwachung	Stefan Schröder Geschäftsführer . CTO - Schmitz RZ Consult GmbH
15:30	News aus dem Support	Erwin Zwemmer, IBM
16:00	Archive REST API	Nils Haustein, IBM
16:30	Sneak-Preview	Stefan Neff, IBM
16:55	Abschluss Diskussion & Verabschiedung	Stefan Neff & Sepp Weingand, IBM