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## Amanda Network Backup

Open Source. Open Formats.  
Open APIs.

A blue rectangular button with rounded corners and a subtle gradient, containing the word 'Download' in white, sans-serif font.

## What is Amanda?

AMANDA, the Advanced Maryland Automatic Network Disk Archiver, is a backup solution that allows the IT administrator to set up a single master backup server to back up multiple hosts over network to tape drives/changers or disks or optical media. Amanda uses native utilities and formats (e.g. dump and/or GNU tar) and can back up a large number of servers and workstations running multiple versions of Linux or Unix. Amanda uses a [native Windows client](#) to back up Microsoft Windows desktops and servers.

The most recent **stable release** is version 3.3.0, released on June 2, 2011.

The latest **release** in the 3.2.x series is 3.2.3, released on May 9, 2011. It is a bug fix release for version 3.2.2.

The latest **release** in the 3.1.x series is 3.1.3, released on October 5, 2010. It is a security release for version 3.1.2.

Amanda-3.1.2 has a **known security vulnerability**, and all users should

upgrade to Amanda-3.1.3 as soon as possible. See [the security alert](#).

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### Release Notes for 3.3.0:

- The default auth is changed to "bsdtcp", if you are using the default bsd then you must add it to your configuration:
  - in amanda.conf
  - in amanda-client.conf
  - in dumptype/disklist
  - in xinetd (if no '-auth' argument to amandad)
- amdump trap ctrl-c, it still send the report and do cleanup if you do one ctrl-c, do it more than once to abort the run
- S3 device
  - use multiple threads to speedup the transfer
  - can connect to eucalytus and google storage
  - new NB\_THREADS\_BACKUP property
  - new NB\_THREADS\_RECOVERY property
  - new S3\_HOST property
  - new S3\_SERVICE\_PATH property
  - new S3\_SUBDOMAIN property
- chg-aggregate: new changer that use other changer sequentially
- meta-volume
- Add meta label in tapelist file
- chg-disk:

- new NUM-SLOT property
- new AUTO-CREATE-SLOT property
- new REMOVABLE property
- new MOUNT property
- new UMOUNT property
- new UMOUNT-LOCKFILE property
- new UMOUNT-IDLE property
- Change in amanda.conf
  - new meta-autolabel option
  - autolabel can include org, config, barcode, meta in the label
  - new client-name option in application and script.
- application and script in amanda-client.conf can be used to set default properties for application or script
- amlabel
  - The label argument is no longer required, an autolabel can be generated
  - new --meta option
  - new --barcode option
  - new --assign option
- amgtar, amstar: The path must be specified, it will not work with a device
- amrecover: decompression and decryption are now done on the client if compression/encryption was done on the client
- amtape: inventory print the current slot
- amanda.conf:
  - autoflush have value "no|yes|all"
  - script have single-execution

#### setting

- Add pre-amcheck, post-amcheck, pre-estimate, post-estimate, pre-backup and post-backup to execute-on of script
- Add taperscan and interactivity section
- add 'server' value in recovery-limit
- add dump-limit in a dumptype
- amanda-client.conf
  - add amdump-server setting.
- script are searched in \$APPLICATION\_DIR, \$CONFIG\_DIR/application and \$CONFIG\_DIR/application
- amservice
  - add -s argument
  - is also installed on client
- new amdumprd server service, if enable, it allow client to start a backup of itself
- new amdump\_client program, it is use on client to start a backup of itself
- implement restore command in amzfs-sendrecv, it can be use with amrecover

#### Release Notes for 3.2.3:

- fix split arguments and LEOM handling
- amsuntar: Add SUNTAR-PATH property
- amstar: Add ACL property
- amzfs-sendrecv: Implement restore
- vfs-device (vtapes): LEOM property default to TRUE

- fix amplot
- amrecover take correct group when forcing amandad with local auth
- many others small fix

### **Release Notes for 3.2.2:**

- Do not restore the NUL padding bytes, some program fail with them
- Fix driver doing nothing if taper crash early
- Fix taperalog \*FIT no going to second volume
- Fix amrestore '-p' not going to next file
- flush even if flush threshold are not met if it save tape space
- fix crash in amtrmidx due to memory leak
- amsamba use 'Use smbclient -TF' for restore

### **Release Notes for 3.2.1:**

- barcode are added to the tapelist file
- Faster 'amadmin find', improve speed on many programs
- device-output-buffer-size default to a minimum of 4\*block\_size
- ssh auth use the client-port
- Bug fixed:
  - "Can't opendata output stream: Connection refused"
  - Better handling of dump to tape
  - Corrupted 'amdump' log file, amstatus not showing correct state
  - Execute subprocess with the config overwrite
  - tape-device allow to set

## LEOM

- Crash in robot changer
- Script output property are not sent to application

### Release Notes for 3.2.0:

- Support for multiple simultaneous writes to storage devices
  - Can write to all available drives in parallel.
  - Works only with the new changer API.
  - Useful if two or more volumes are used in a single run.
  - dump direct to tape can be scheduled any time during the run, previously they were done sequentially after all dump to holding disk.
  - enabled with the new 'taper-parallel-write' configuration option.
- Support for LEOM in storage devices
  - allows splitting without partial parts, saving space.
  - much more efficient, since parts need not be cached on disk in most cases.
- new, simpler splitting commands in the tapetype section
  - part-size, part-cache-type, part-cache-dir, part-cache-max-size
  - see amanda.conf(5) for details
- Amanda server configuration file changes (amanda.conf)
  - new configuration keyword:
    - taper-parallel-write --

How many drive  
amanda can write to in  
parallel.

- deprecated configuration keywords:
  - amrecover\_do\_fsf
  - amrecover\_check\_label
- The CONFIG parameter to amidxtaped is now required; this means that versions of amrecover older than 2.4.3 will be unable to recover from servers running Amanda-3.2 and later.
- The new dumptype and global parameters 'recovery-limit' can be used to limit which hosts may recover from a particular DLE. See amanda.conf(5) and amanda-auth(7) for more information.
- Several old changers have been removed - these changers will work with Amanda for the foreseeable future, but are no longer included in the distribution.
  - chg-chio
  - chg-chs
  - chg-iomega
  - chg-juke
  - chg-mcutil
  - chg-mtx
  - chg-null (use the new "chg-null:")
  - chg-rair (use the new "chg-rair:{dev1,dev2}")
  - chg-rth
  - chg-scsi-chio
  - chg-scsi
- Amvault is much improved, but still experimental:
  - supports assembling split parts on the source volume

and re-splitting them on the destination

- supports filtering dumps with the same syntax as `amfetchdump`
- a `--fulls-only` option skips all incremental dumps on the source
- an `--export` option tries to move tertiary volumes to import/export slots when completed
- command-line syntax has changed incompatibly; see manpage or '`amvault --help`'
- Rewritten and improved:
  - `amoverview`
  - `amcheckdump`

### **Release Notes for the 3.1.x release series:**

- `config`
  - The '`rawtapedev`' keyword was removed, and the '`label_new_tapes`' keyword was deprecated.
  - New warnings for dangerous splitting configurations
- `changer`
  - We have many changers implementing the new changer API. The new changers are faster, more reliable, and have many new features. One new features is that the changer keeps track of which label is in which slot, allowing it to locate a tape faster. But with some changers (new `chg-multi` or `chg-robot` without a barcode), it doesn't get automatically



notified if you change the volume in a slot. In this case, you must notify the changer of it with the 'amtape update' command:

- amtape DailySet1  
update 3-8
- amtape DailySet1  
update 3-8=
- amtape DailySet1  
update 3=DailySet003
- See amanda-changers(7) for more information.
- ndmp, dvdwr
  - New Amanda devices - see amanda-devices(7) for more information.
- amsamba
  - The default amandapass file for the amsamba application is \$CONFIG\_DIR/amandapass, but it is /etc/amandapass for program GNUTAR. Don't forget to move the file if you switch to the amsamba application.
- ampgsql, amsuntar, amraw
  - New applications to back up PostgreSQL databases, Solaris systems, and raw device files, respectively.
- amtape
  - Amtape's behavior has changed; see NEWS
- amrmntape
  - Rewritten with new command-line interface; see NEWS
- amdevcheck
  - New --label and --properties options give more information

about device

- amreport
  - New, more natural command-line interface (try 'amreport \$config')

### **Release Notes for 2.6.1p2:**

- amtapetype: new -p option
- Bug Fixes
  - S3 device driver
  - amcheckdump
  - file not removed from holding disk
  - sendbackup compatibility with a 2.4.2 server
  - handle EROFS error from tape device
  - zfs snapshot name us the diskname
  - fix fd allocation in amandad
  - crash in amflush

### **Release Notes for 2.6.1p1:**

- amplot: better output.
- Don't include genversion.h in distribution tarballs.
- Bug Fixes
  - S3 device driver
  - rait device driver
  - amstatus
  - configure
  - application-api
  - compilation on some platform
  - others small bug

### **Release Notes for 2.6.1:**

- Application API: Allow to easily

write wrappers around any backup program, See the 'amanda-applications' man page.

- amgtar: Use GNU tar, it is a lot more configurable than the GNUTAR program. See 'amgtar' man page.
- amstar: Use star to do a backup, it work only on a partition. See 'amstar' man page.
- amsamba: Use smbclient to backup a cifs share, see amsamba man page.
- amzfs-sendrecv: Do a backup of a ZFS filesystem with 'zfs send'.
- Script API: Allow to run script before and after amanda process, see the 'amanda-scripts' man page.
  - amzfs-snapshot: Do a snapshot of a ZFS filesystem, then 'amgtar' application will backup the snapshot. See 'amzfs-snapshot' man page.
  - script-email: Simple script to send email. see 'script-email' man page.
- Changer API v2.0: perl-based changer interface supporting concurrent use of multiple devices and changers.
  - currently operating in "compatibility mode," calling old changer shell scripts.
  - under active development.
- Xfer API: generic library to move and filter data with maximal efficiency.
  - can read from and write to arbitrary devices, files, etc.

- only used in some applications.
- Amanda archive format: A simple archive format that an application can use to create backup image.
- 'amarchiver' program to manipulate file in amanda archive format.
- Many improvements to report better error message to user.
- amtape subcommands 'slot prev' and 'slot last' are removed.
- Dozens more perl libraries, with more stable interfaces.
- Bug fixes and improvements.
- amgetconf '--client' option to retrieve config from amanda-client.conf on a client.
- Amanda configuration file changes
  - new application-tool section
  - new script-tool section
  - new device section
  - new changer section

## Amanda Web Pages

- [Amanda wiki](#)
- **Backup & Recovery** (O'Reilly 2007) has a [chapter dedicated to Amanda](#).

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19:00:26 \$*