TRAC2 5.1.1.1.2

5.1.1.1.2 - The repository shall have procedures in place to monitor and receive notifications when hardware technology changes are needed.

Explanation

SP uses a variety of widely accepted, industry-standard techniques and tools to monitor the repository's hardware platform. Systems administrators at SP and the University of Toronto Libraries' Information Technology Services receive information about system behaviour and usage from a number of custom-built scripts, a Nagios monitoring program, and monitoring functionality built into the hardware. These tools warn administrators about abnormal activity such as excessive processor loads and slow response times. In addition, staff monitor critical processes, such as ingest and data management, for malfunctions and suboptimal performance.

Feedback from the Designated Community is an important source of information about system behaviour and hardware performance. As described in 5.1.1.1.1, SP receives ongoing and extensive feedback from its Designated Community.

As a rule, SP replaces hardware within a 5-year period (i.e. every 5 years or less) even if the hardware is functioning normally. Typically, SP buys a 5-year warranty for hardware when available.

Systems administrators receive notices and alerts about stability and security issues from vendors on a regular basis.

Responsibility

Digital Preservation Policy Librarian

Systems Administrator

Potential Risks

See 5.1.1.1

Future Plans

SP has procedures, commitments, and financial resources for regular hardware replacement and media refreshment. See 5.1.1.1.4 for details.

Relevant Documents

1. Hardware and Software Inventory (available on request)