

NEO S-Series LTO-9 New Media Initialization

January 2022

Overview

This brief describes the initialization of new LTO-9 media being used in a NEO S-Series library.

Description

The increased number of tracks used to write data on an LTO-9 tape requires greater precision. Media optimization creates a referenced calibration for each cartridge that enables the tape drive’s intelligent alignment to optimize data placement. LTO-9 media optimization enhances LTO tape long-term media durability.

- Media optimization is performed on first load of LTO-9 media during initialization.
- Media optimization is a one-time operation that can be completed on any drive in the environment, enabling the media to be used across all tape drives without further optimization.
- Media optimization averages 40 minutes per first load of a cartridge to a tape drive. Although most media optimizations will complete within 60 minutes, some media optimizations may take up to 2 hours.
- Interruption of the process is not recommended.

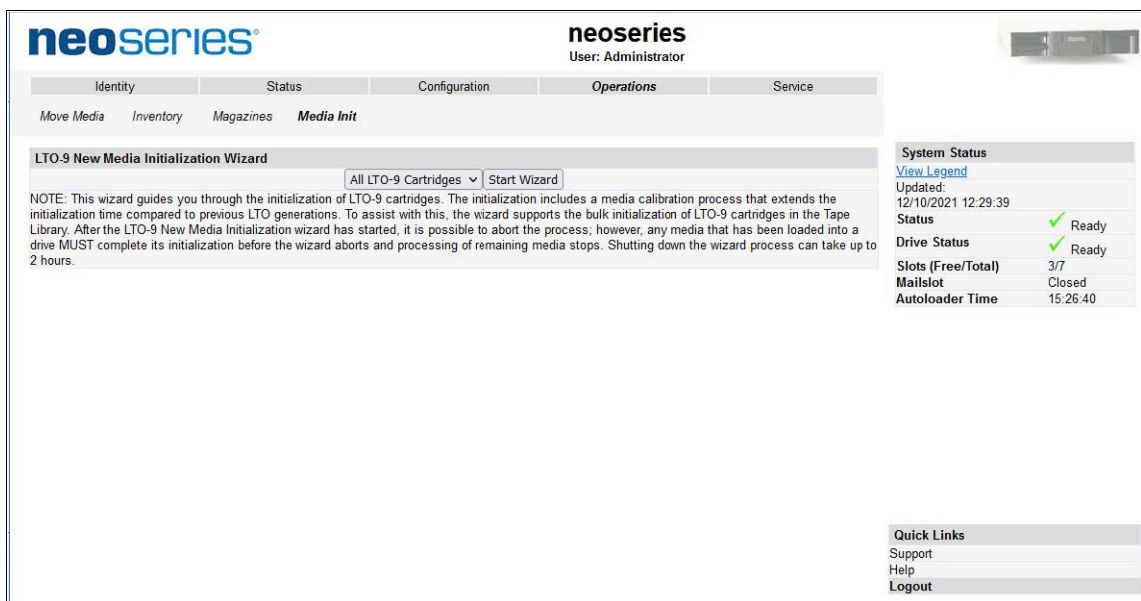
Initialization Process

1. Start the NEO S-Series Media Optimization Wizard:

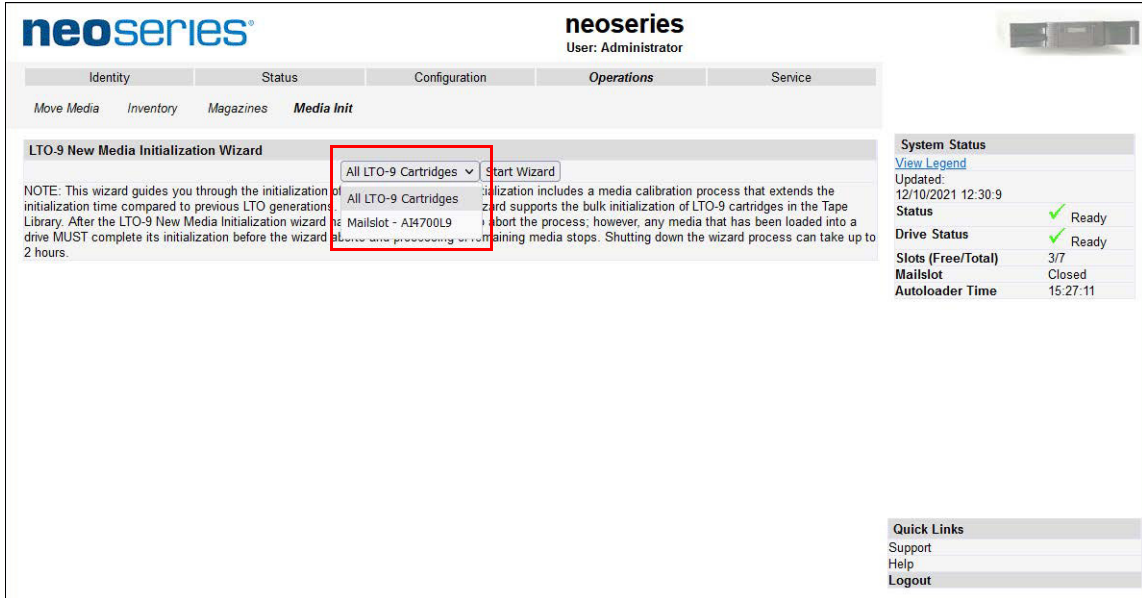
a. From the RMI, click **Operations**.

b. Click **Media Init**.

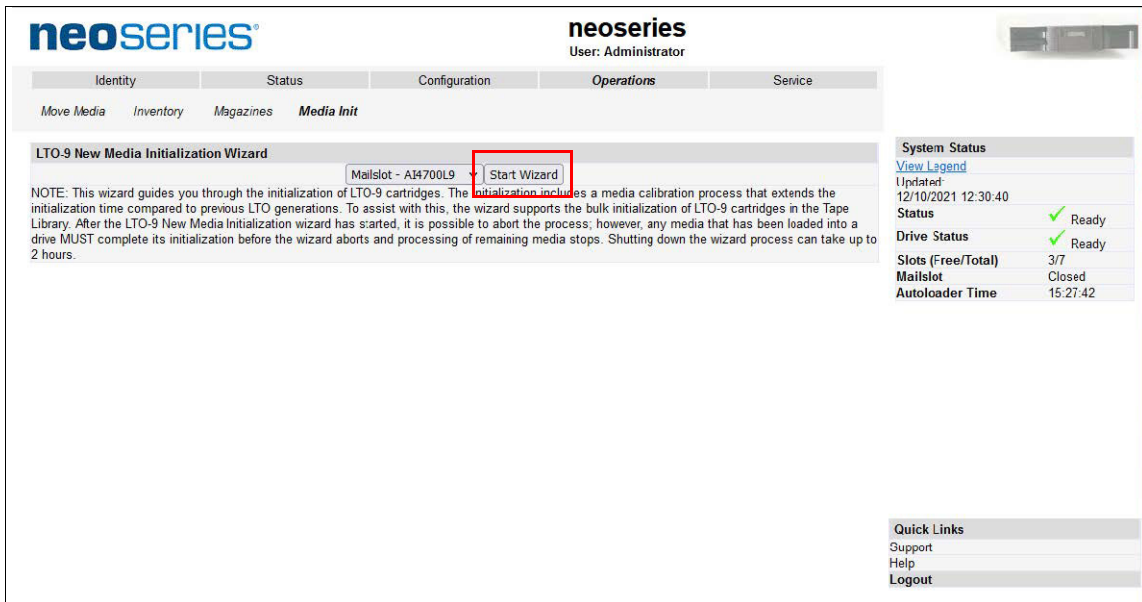
The wizard launches.



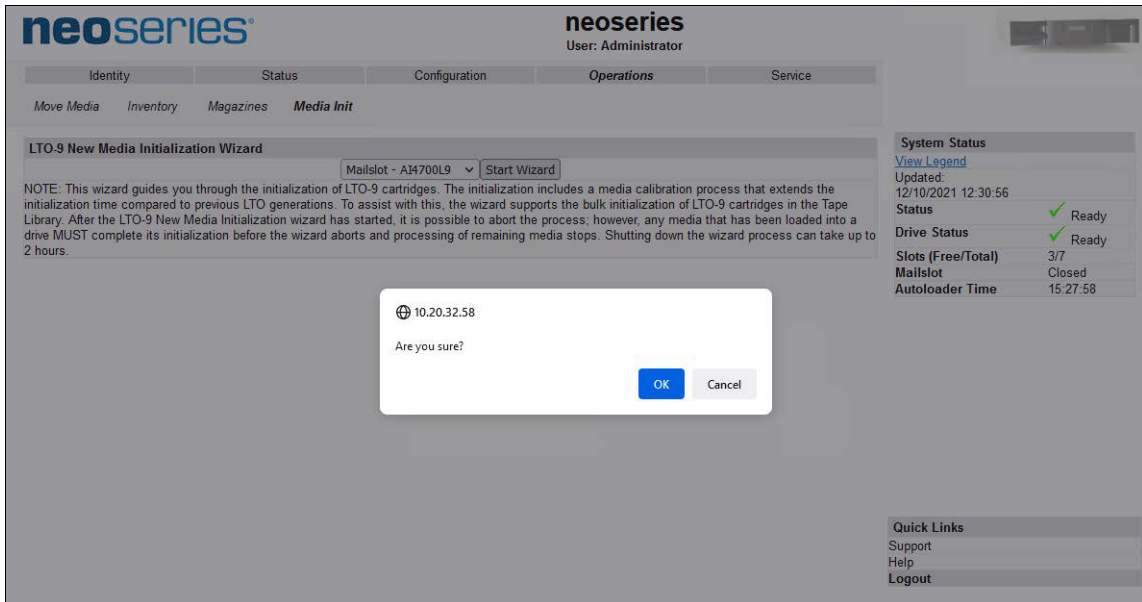
- Using the drop-down menu, choose either bulk initialization (**All LTO-9 Cartridges**) or one specific LTO9 cartridge.



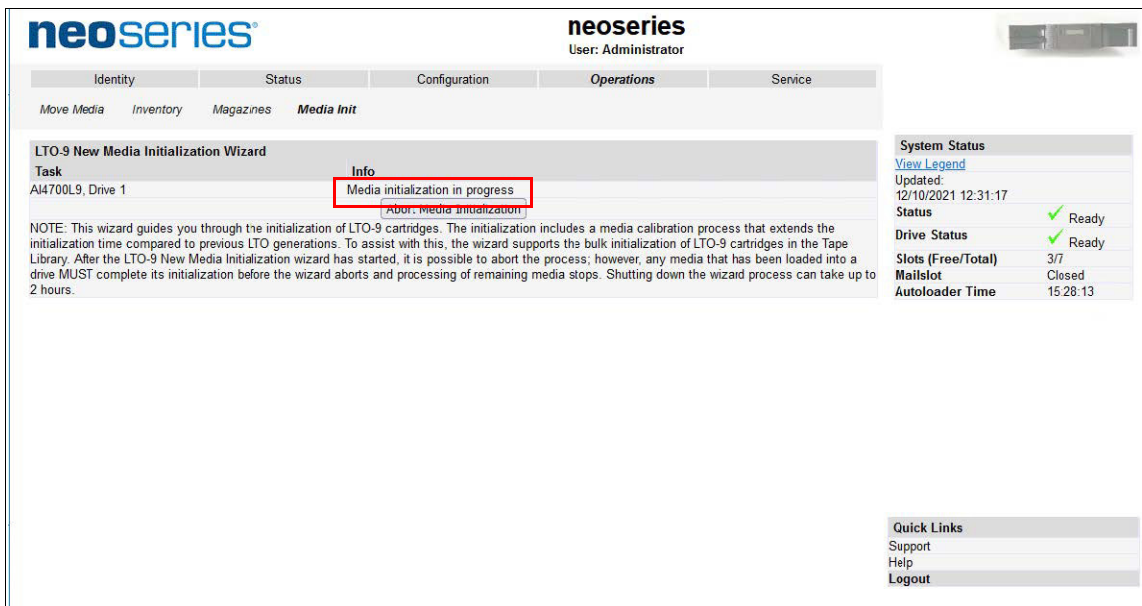
- Click **Start Wizard**.



4. At the confirmation message, click **OK**.



The media initialization starts.



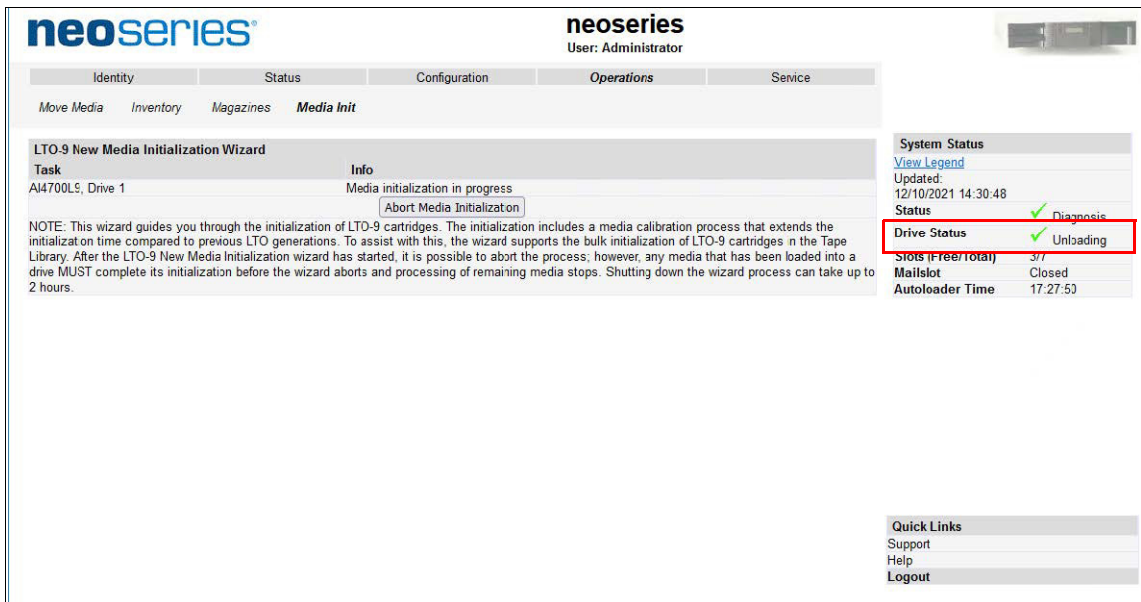
Library System Status changes to **Diagnosis** and the first cartridge is loaded.

The screenshot shows the neoseries web interface with the user logged in as Administrator. The main navigation tabs are Identity, Status, Configuration, Operations, and Service. Under the Operations tab, there are links for Move Media, Inventory, Magazines, and Media Init. The central content area displays the 'LTO-9 New Media Initialization Wizard' with a task 'AI4700L9, Drive 1' and the status 'Media initialization in progress'. A button for 'Abort Media Initialization' is visible. A note explains the wizard's purpose and duration. On the right, a 'System Status' panel shows 'Status' as 'Diagnosis' and 'Drive Status' as 'Loading', both with green checkmarks. Other metrics include 'Slots (Free/Total)' as 3/7, 'Mailslot' as Closed, and 'Autoloader Time' as 15:29:52. A 'Quick Links' section at the bottom right includes Support, Help, and Logout.

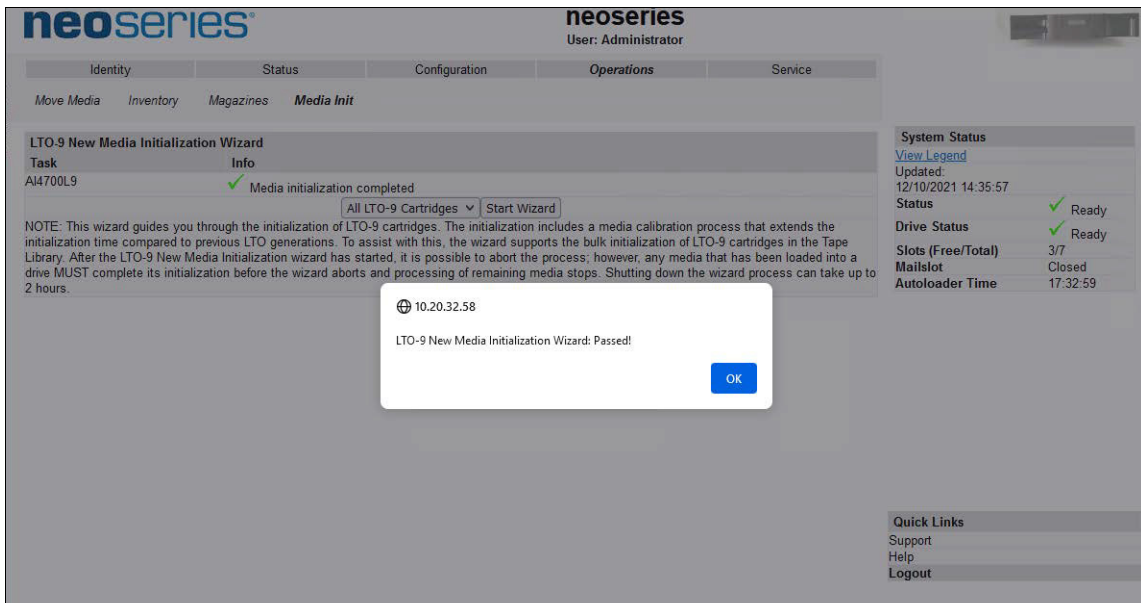
Library System Status changes to **Calibrating**.

This screenshot is similar to the previous one, showing the 'LTO-9 New Media Initialization Wizard' in progress. However, the 'System Status' panel on the right now shows 'Status' as 'Calibrating' and 'Drive Status' as 'Calibrating', both with green checkmarks. The 'Slots (Free/Total)' remains 3/7, 'Mailslot' is Closed, and 'Autoloader Time' is 15:30:22. The 'Quick Links' section at the bottom right is also present.

At the completion of media optimization, the cartridge is unloaded from the drive.



5. When all selected cartridges have completed initialization, a **Passed** message is displayed.



The Library and Drives are back online to host.