

Obsolete Reserve/Release in SPC-3

(T10/02-108r0)

Dave Peterson, Cisco Systems, Inc.

The decision to obsolete what we normally call “normal” reservations (i.e., the Reserve/Release management method) basically boils down to the issue that normal reservations are not well suited for robust operation in today’s networked, multi-initiator environments. As such, normal reservations provide obsolete functionality.

Examples:

A. Other than explicitly issuing a release command, a resetting event is the typical method used to release a reservation (e.g., bus reset, target reset).

B. Third party reservations do not work well across bridge/gateway devices. This in turn affects operations such as EXTENDED COPY.

The use of “normal” reservations in today’s multi-initiator environments is highly discouraged and we should not continue to allow for its use in future implementations. There have been discussions on how to make normal reservations work in multi-initiator environments, but this is not time well spent.

The persistent reservation management method should be used, a subset at minimum, as a replacement for the reserve/release management method. (This is the approach being taken in the SCSI tape realm where a push for making persistent reservations mandatory is occurring).

Proposal: obsolete the Reserve/Release management functionality in SPC-3. This includes the Reserve(6), Release(6), Reserve(10), and Release(10) commands.

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