

To: INCITS T10 Committee
From: Paul Entzel, Quantum
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Subject: Changes to Tape Alert flags in SSC-2

1. General

Several Letter Ballot comments were register against SSC-2 with regards to Tape Alert. This proposal does not answer them all, but does answer at least one. These changes were agreed to by the ADI working group and this proposal acts to document the requested changes.

2. Proposal

This proposal request several changes to the Table A.1 in Annex 1 of SSC-2. The changes requested include the removal of several obsolete flags, wording changes in several flags, and three additional flag be added.

2.1 *Remove the following obsolete flags*

Remove flags 28h through 2Eh.

2.2 *Add the following new flags*

Add the following new flags to the table:

Code	Flag	Type	Flag type	Recommended application client message	Probable cause
38h	Unrecoverable Unload Failure	O	C	The operation has failed because the medium cannot be unloaded: 1. Do not attempt to extract the tape cartridge. 2. Call the tape drive supplier help line.	The drive is unable to unload the medium.
39h	Automation Interface Failure	O	C	The tape drive has a problem with the automation interface: 1. Check the power to the automation system. 2. Check the cables and cable connections. 3. Call the supplier help-line if problem persists.	The drive has identified an interface fault.
3Ah	Firmware Failure	O	W	The tape drive has reset itself due to a detected firmware fault. If problem persists, call the supplier help-line.	Firmware bug.

2.3 Modify the following existing flags

The following flags should be modified to facilitate their adoption in other technologies:

Code	Flag	Type	Flag type	Recommended application client message	Probable cause
24h	Drive temperature	O	W	Environmental conditions inside the tape drive are outside the specified temperature range.	Cooling problem
0Dh	Recoverable mechanical cartridge failure	O	C	The operation has failed because the tape in the drive has experienced a mechanical failure: 1. Discard the tape. 2. Restart the operation with a different tape.	Tape snapped/cut or other cartridge mechanical failure in the drive where medium can be ejected.
0Eh	Unrecoverable mechanical cartridge failure	O	C	The operation has failed because the tape in the drive has experienced a mechanical failure: 1. Do not attempt to extract the tape cartridge. 2. Call the tape drive supplier help line.	Tape snapped/cut or other cartridge mechanical failure in the drive where medium cannot be ejected