Date: September 30, 2003
To: T10 Committee (SCSI)
From: Jim Coomes (Seagate)
Subject: SBC Default data protection block

1 Revision

This proposal is changed to require the default data protection block defined here to be used for FORMAT with protection information enabled and WRITEs without the initiator providing the protection information. The option to specify the DATA BLOCK APPLICATION TAG in the initialize pattern descriptor is removed.

2 Overview

There is a need for a data protection block definition that indicates that the block is not checked.

When the DATA BLOCK REFERENCE TAG is not locked to the LBA, valid protection information can not be determined for formatting the medium. Writing the LBA in the protection information would result in an error when unwritten blocks are accessed.

When the DATA BLOCK REFERENCE TAG is not locked to the LBA, valid protection information can not be determined for a write by an initiator that does not provide the data protection block.

Additionally, a default data protection block allows disk drives format faster by not writing a unique value in the protection information.

The proposed default data protection block is all ones in all fields of the block.

Changes to document 03-176r5

Page 3, 4.0.2, delete the sentences marked by strikethrough below:

The DATA BLOCK GUARD field contains the CRC (see 4.0.3) of the contents of the DATA BLOCK field. The default value for the DATA BLOCK field shall be a properly generated CRC (see 4.0.3).

The DATA BLOCK APPLICATION TAG field is set by the application client. The contents of the data block application tag are not defined by this standard. The DATA BLOCK APPLICATION TAG field may be modified by a device server if the APP_TAG_OWN bit is set to zero (see 4.0.45). If the APP_TAG_OWN bit is set to zero the default value for the DATA BLOCK APPLICATION TAG field shall be 0000h.

The DATA BLOCK REFERENCE TAG field is set to the least significant four bytes of the logical block address to which the data block is associated. The first data block transmitted shall contain the least significant four bytes of the logical block address contained in the LOGICAL BLOCK ADDRESS field of the command associated with the data being transferred. Each subsequent data block's DATA BLOCK REFERENCE TAG field shall contain the data block reference tag of the previous data block plus one. The default value for the DATA BLOCK REFERENCE TAG field shall be the least significant four bytes of the LBA of the data block being written or formatted.

Page 3, 4.0.2, Add:

A data protected block equal to all ones (FFh, FFh, FFh, FFh, FFh, FFh, FFh, FFh) is used to indicate data blocks on the medium have not been written since the last format or were written by a command that did not provide the data protection block. When an application client or device server detects protection information of all ones, the checking of all fields in the protection information is disabled for the associated data block.

Page 7, 4.0.9.1