

T10/04-371 revision 0

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To: T10 Committee (SCSI)

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Subject: SPC-4: Enable Background Operations Error Reporting Bit

1 Overview

SPC-3 currently defines a background operation but does not define any good way to report a failure. There is also a new proposal (04-198) which adds in more background operations. Neither method provides any way to report errors that occur during the scan. To find out if there have been any errors the application client must poll using the REQUEST SENSE command then on indication that the background operation is complete issue a LOG SENSE command to determine if there were any errors or poll just using the LOG SENSE command to find if there have been any errors.

The problem is that polling is not something applications want to have to do. It's a very inefficient way to operate.

This proposal removes the need to poll and replaces the polling with an indication that an error has occurred with a Unit Attention.

2 Informational Exceptions Control mode page [\(SPC-4 changes marked\)](#)

The Informational Exceptions Control mode page (see table 1) defines the methods used by the target to control the reporting and the operations of specific informational exception conditions. This page shall only apply to informational exceptions that report an additional sense code of FAILURE PREDICTION THRESHOLD EXCEEDED or WARNING to the application client. The mode page policy (see 6.7) for this mode page shall be shared, per initiator port, or per I_T nexus.

Informational exception conditions occur as the result of vendor specific events within a target. An informational exception condition may occur asynchronous to any commands issued by an application client.

NOTE 1 - Storage devices that support SMART (Self-Monitoring Analysis and Reporting Technology) for predictive failure software should use informational exception conditions.

Table 1 — Informational Exceptions Control mode page

Bit Byte	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0
0	PS	SPF (0b)	PAGE CODE (1Ch)					
1	PAGE LENGTH (0Ah)							
2	PERF	Reserved	EBF	EWASC	DEXCPT	TEST	EBACKERR	LOGERR
3	Reserved				MRIE			
4	(MSB)	INTERVAL TIMER						(LSB)
7								
8	(MSB)	REPORT COUNT						(LSB)
11								

The PS bit, SPF bit, PAGE CODE field, and PAGE LENGTH field are described in 7.4.5.

The log errors (LOGERR) bit set to zero indicates that the logging of informational exception conditions by a device server is vendor specific. A LOGERR bit set to one indicates the device server shall log informational exception conditions.

A TEST bit set to one shall create a test device failure at the next interval time, as specified by the INTERVAL TIMER field, if the DEXCPT bit is set to zero. When the TEST bit is set to one, the MRIE and REPORT COUNT fields shall apply as if the TEST bit were zero. The test device failure shall be reported with an additional sense code of FAILURE PREDICTION THRESHOLD EXCEEDED (FALSE). If both the TEST and the DEXCPT bits are one, the device server shall terminate the MODE SELECT command with CHECK CONDITION status. The sense key shall be set to ILLEGAL REQUEST with the additional sense code set to INVALID FIELD IN PARAMETER LIST. A TEST bit set to zero shall instruct the device server not to generate any test device failure notifications.

~~A disable exception control (DEXCPT) bit set to zero indicates the failure prediction threshold exceeded reporting shall be enabled. The method for reporting the failure prediction threshold exceeded when the DEXCPT bit is set to zero is determined from the MRIE field. A DEXCPT bit set to one indicates the target shall disable reporting of the failure prediction threshold exceeded. The MRIE field is ignored when DEXCPT is set to one and EWASC is set to zero.~~

~~An enable warning (EWASC) bit set to zero indicates the target shall disable reporting of the warning. The MRIE field is ignored when DEXCPT is set to one and EWASC is set to zero. An EWASC bit set to one indicates warning reporting shall be enabled. The method for reporting the warning when the EWASC bit is set to one is determined from the MRIE field.~~

The individual bit definitions for the enable warning (EWASC) bit, THE disable exception control (DEXCPT) bit, and the [enable background error EBACKERR bit](#) are contained in table 2

Table 2 — Error reporting bit definitions

EWASC	DEXCPT	EBACKERR	Description
0	0	0	Indicates the target shall: a) disable reporting of the warning; b) enable reporting of the failure prediction threshold exceeded; and c) disable reporting of the background error . The method for reporting the failure prediction threshold exceeded is determined from the MRIE field.
0	1	0	Indicates the target shall: a) disable reporting of the warning; b) disable reporting of the failure prediction threshold exceeded; and c) disable reporting of the background error . The MRIE field shall be ignored.
1	0	0	Indicates the target shall: a) enable reporting of the warning; b) enable reporting of the failure prediction threshold exceeded; and c) disable reporting of the background error . The method for reporting the warning and the failure prediction threshold exceeded is determined from the MRIE field.
1	1	0	Indicates the target shall: a) disable reporting of the warning; b) enable reporting of the failure prediction threshold exceeded; and c) disable reporting of the background error . The method for reporting the warning is determined from the MRIE field.
0	0	1	Indicates the target shall: a) disable reporting of the warning; b) enable reporting of the failure prediction threshold exceeded; and c) enable reporting of the background error . The method for reporting the failure prediction threshold exceeded and background error is determined from the MRIE field.
0	1	1	Indicates the target shall: a) disable reporting of the warning; b) disable reporting of the failure prediction threshold exceeded; and c) enable reporting of the background error . The method for reporting the background error is determined from the MRIE field.
1	0	1	Indicates the target shall: a) enable reporting of the warning; b) enable reporting of the failure prediction threshold exceeded; and c) enable reporting of the background error . The method for reporting the warning, the failure prediction threshold exceeded, and background error is determined from the MRIE field.
1	1	0	Indicates the target shall: a) disable reporting of the warning; b) enable reporting of the failure prediction threshold exceeded; and c) enable reporting of the background error . The method for reporting the warning and background error is determined from the MRIE field.

3 New ASCQs

0Bh xxh DTLPWROMAEBKVF WARNING - BACKGROUND SELF-TEST FAILED

0Bh xxh DTLPWROMAEBKVF WARNING - PRE-SCAN FAILED

0Bh xxh DTLPWROMAEBKVF WARNING - SCAN FAILED

4 Features common to foreground and background self-test modes ([SPC-4 changes marked](#))

The PROGRESS INDICATION field returned in response to a REQUEST SENSE command (see 6.26) may be used by the application client at any time during a self-test operation to poll the logical unit's progress. While a self-test operation is in progress unless an error has occurred, a device server shall respond to a REQUEST SENSE command by returning a sense key of NOT READY and an additional sense code of LOGICAL UNIT NOT READY, SELF-TEST IN PROGRESS with the sense key specific bytes set for progress indication.

The application client may obtain information about the twenty most recently completed self-tests by reading the Self-Test Results log page (see 7.2.10). This is the only method for an application client to obtain information about self-tests performed in the background mode.

Table 3 summarizes when a logical unit returns status after receipt of a self-test command, how an application client may abort a self-test, how a logical unit handles new commands that are received while a self-test is in progress, and how a logical unit reports a self-test failure.

Table 3 — Self-test mode summary

Mode	When Status is Returned	How to abort the self-test	Processing of subsequent commands while self-test is executing	Self-test failure reporting
Fore-ground	After the self-test is complete	ABORT TASK task management function	If the command is INQUIRY, REPORT LUNS or REQUEST SENSE, process normally. Otherwise, terminate with CHECK CONDITION status, NOT READY sense key, and LOGICAL UNIT NOT READY, SELF-TEST IN PROGRESS additional sense code.	Terminate with CHECK CONDITION status, HARDWARE ERROR sense key, and LOGICAL UNIT FAILED SELF-TEST or LOGICAL UNIT UNABLE TO UPDATE SELF-TEST LOG additional sense code.
Back-ground	After the CDB is validated	SEND DIAGNOSTIC command with SELF-TEST CODE field set to 100b	Process the command, except as described in 5.5.3.2.	Application client: a) checks Self-Test Results log page (see 7.2.10) after the PROGRESS INDICATION field returned from REQUEST SENSE indicates the self-test is complete; <u>or</u> b) <u>uses the EBACKERR bit and the MRIE field (see x.x.x) to select a method of indicating a failure occurred. If a failure occurs an additional sense code of WARNING - BACKGROUND SELF-TEST FAILED shall be returned using the method defined in the MRIE field (see x.x.x).</u>

5 Additions to proposal 04-198 (section 4.x.5 Interpreting the logged results)

T10/04-371 revision 0

An application client may:

- a) poll the Background Scan Results log page (see 6.2.x) to get information about pre-scan and background medium scan activity; or
- b) use the EBACKERR bit and the MRIE field (see x.x.x) to select a method of indicating a failure occurred. If the EBACKERR bit is set to one and a failure occurs the following additional sense codes shall be returned using the method defined in the MRIE field (see x.x.x):
 - A) if the failure occurs during a pre-scan an additional sense code of WARNING - PRE-SCAN FAILED shall be returned; or
 - B) if the failure occurs during a scan an additional sense code of WARNING - SCAN FAILED shall be returned.