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To: T10 Technical Committee

From: Bill McFerrin, MMC WG

Subject: Proposal to remove the PREVENT ALLOW MEDIUM REMOVAL (PAMR) command from SPC-4

The number of devices that actually use the PAMR command has been shrinking in recent years. Consequently, being listed among “commands for all device types” is less applicable.

Devices that do use the PAMR command often have optional, attached medium changers/loaders that are not independent of the device. Thus, device specific implementations of PAMR are likely.

In the case of MMC (device type 5) devices, the PAMR command has unique, defined behavior that is connected to the MMC specific event reporting system. The MMC WG is concerned that by documenting the use of the PAMR command “Persistent” bit in SPC-4 is likely to cause problems:

1. The MMC standard will lose its “closure” on MMC unique characteristics.
2. SPC-4 would contain a lot of material that is unique to MMC and only MMC.