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08-057r0 Allocation length advisories in Inquiry command (SPC4r11)

To: T10 Technical Committee

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Subject: 08-057r0 Allocation length advisories in Inquiry command (SPC4r11)

### **Revision history**

Revision 0 (10 October 2008) First revision

### **Related Documents**

spc4r11 – SCSI Primary Commands 4 – revision 11

### **Overview**

The Inquiry command introduction (6.4.1) contains the following paragraph:

“The ALLOCATION LENGTH field is defined in 4.3.4.6. If EVPD is set to zero, the allocation length should be at least five, so that the ADDITIONAL LENGTH field in the parameter data (see 6.4.2) is returned. If EVPD is set to one, the allocation length should be should be at least four, so that the PAGE LENGTH field in the parameter data (see 7.6) is returned.”

This paragraph includes recommendations (“shoulds”) for two specific use cases. These use cases happen to involve both cases of a bit setting. Other use cases are not mentioned.

The combination of the complete binary choice along with the “should” language is technically correct, but misleading as other use cases are not recommended. One transport based on T10 (USB) has another use case in its compliance test.

The basic intent seems to be to recommend that the value in the allocation length should be great enough to request the transfer of all of the bytes of INQUIRY data required. This seems self-evident.

Rather than add additional use cases, or re-word the provided use cases, this proposal suggests removing the “weak” recommendations.

### **Proposed Change to spc4r11 6.4.1**

“The ALLOCATION LENGTH field is defined in 4.3.4.6. ~~If EVPD is set to zero, the allocation length should be at least five, so that the ADDITIONAL LENGTH field in the parameter data (see 6.4.2) is returned. If EVPD is set to one, the allocation length should be should be at least four, so that the PAGE LENGTH field in the parameter data (see 7.6) is returned.~~”