X3T10/94-188R7
To: Membership of X3T10
From: Ralph O. Weber
Digital Equipment Corporation
Date: November 13, 1994
Subject: Proposed INQUIRY command enhancements

This document proposes a mechanism by which an application client can determine what SCSI commands are supported by a device server and what capabilities within those commands can be used. Access to the data is patterned after the vital product data pages in the INQUIRY command. The proposal takes the form of additions to the INQUIRY command.

This document is the product of two working group discussions and nearly a dozen electronic mail exchanges. This particular revision includes changes discussed and approved at the November X3T10 general working group meeting. The author believes that this revision is ready or nearly ready for a plenary vote. In the printed copy, all differences from SPC revision 3 are marked with change bars.

If approved, these additions would appear in the SCSI-3 Primary Commands standard.

This proposal is a response to the decision to eliminate the requirement that device servers test all reserved fields for zeros. Said requirement is present in the SCSI-1 and SCSI-2 standards, but has been dropped from the SCSI-3 standard, via a X3T10 approved change to the SCSI-3 Architecture Model.

This proposal has the following advantages:

+ No need to validate received reserved fields on main-line device server code paths,
+ No mode page bits to manage device server checking/non-checking of reserved fields, and
+ No complex version-to-feature conversion tables (which eliminates a significant source of errors in both the application client and the device server)

Generally speaking, this proposal is modelled on the changeable parameters mode pages.

The following text is proposed for inclusion in the SPC. Where clause and table numbers are used, they are taken from SPC revision 3 (distributed in the September/October X3T10 mailing).

Modify clause 7.5 to read:

7.5 INQUIRY command

The INQUIRY command (see table 18) requests that information regarding parameters of the target and its attached peripheral device(s) be sent to the application client. Options allow the application client to request additional information about the target or logical unit (see 7.5.3) and information about SCSI commands supported by the device
server (see 7.5.4).

Table 18 - INQUIRY command

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bit</th>
<th>7</th>
<th>6</th>
<th>5</th>
<th>4</th>
<th>3</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>1</th>
<th>0</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Byte</td>
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0   | Operation code (12h)

1   | Reserved           | CmdDt | EVPD

2   | Page or Operation code

3   | Reserved

4   | Allocation length

5   | Control

An enable vital product data (EVPD) bit of one specifies that the device server shall return the optional vital product data specified by the page code field. If the target does not support vital product data and this bit is set to one, the device server shall return CHECK CONDITION status with the sense key set to ILLEGAL REQUEST and an additional sense code of INVALID FIELD IN CDB.

A command support data (CmdDt) bit of one specifies that the device server shall return the optional command support data specified by the operation code field. If the device server does not support returning command data and this bit is set to one, the device server shall return CHECK CONDITION status with the sense key set to ILLEGAL REQUEST and an additional sense code of INVALID FIELD IN CDB. Details of the command support data can be found in clause 7.5.4.

NOTE n1 A SCSI-2 device should treat the CmdDt bit as a reserved field. Therefore, a SCSI-2 device that receives an INQUIRY command with the CmdDt bit set to one should return
a CHECK CONDITION status with the sense key set to ILLEGAL REQUEST.

If both the EVPD and CmdDt bits are zero, the device server shall return the standard INQUIRY data (see clause 7.5.1). If the page or operation code field is not zero when both EVPD and CmdDt are zero, the device server shall return CHECK CONDITION status with the sense key set to ILLEGAL REQUEST and an additional sense code of INVALID FIELD IN CDB.

If both the EVPD and CmdDt bits are one, the device server shall return CHECK CONDITION status with the sense key set to ILLEGAL REQUEST and an additional sense code of INVALID FIELD IN CDB.

When the EVPD bit is one, the page or operation code field specifies which page of vital product data information the device server shall return (see 8.4). When the CmdDt bit is one, the page or operation code field specifies the SCSI operation code for which device server shall return command support data (see 7.5.4).

The remainder of clause 7.5 needs no changes.

Add the following as clause 7.5.4.

7.5.4 Command support data

Implementation of command support data is optional. The application client requests the command support data information by setting the CmdDt bit to one and specifying the SCSI operation code of the desired CDB.

If the device server implements the requested SCSI operation code, it shall return the data shown in table t1. If the device server does not implement the requested SCSI operation code it shall return the peripheral qualifier and type byte followed by a byte containing 01h.

<table>
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<tr>
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Table t1 - command support data format

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<th>4</th>
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</tbody>
</table>

0 | Peripheral qualifier | Peripheral device type

1 | Reserved | VSop | StdOp | Valid

2 | ISO version | ECMA version | ANSI-approved version
The peripheral qualifier field and the peripheral device type field are defined in 7.5.1.

If the Valid bit is one, the remaining data is as defined in this standard. If the Valid bit is zero, the remaining data is not present or undetermined. One possible reason for the Valid bit being zero is the device server's inability to retrieve information stored on the media.

If the operation code being tested is supported as defined in a SCSI standard, the StdOp bit shall be one, the VSop bit shall be zero, and the ISO, ECMA and ANSI-approved version fields shall contain standard INQUIRY data naming the standard that defines the SCSI command. (Information about standard INQUIRY data can be found in clause 7.5.1.) If the operation code being tested is supported in a vendor-specific way, the StdOp bit shall be zero, the VSop bit shall be one, and interpretation of the ISO, ECMA and ANSI-approved version fields by the application client shall be vendor-specific. If the operation code being tested is not supported, both the StdOp and VSop bits shall be zero.

The CDB size field shall contain the number of bytes in the CDB for the operation code being tested, and the size of the CDB usage data in the return data. The group code field in each operation code defines the CDB length. Except for group 6 and group 7 operation codes, CDB lengths are defined in the SAM. Where specified, the CDB size field shall contain the value defined in the SAM for the operation code group being processed.

NOTE n2 The CDB size field is provided primarily for the convenience of the application client. In most cases, the size is known from the operation code group before the INQUIRY command with CmdDt set to one is sent.

The CDB usage data shall contain information about the CDB for the operation code being tested. The first byte of the CDB usage data shall contain the operation code for the operation being tested. All
bytes except the first byte of the CDB usage data shall contain a usage map for bits in the CDB for the operation code being tested.

The bits in the usage map shall have a one-for-one correspondence to an actual CDB for the operation code being tested. If the device server evaluates a bit as all or part of a field in the CDB for the operation code being tested, the usage map shall contain a one in the corresponding bit position. If the device server ignores a bit in the CDB for the operation code being tested, the usage map shall contain a zero in the corresponding bit position.

Thus, the CDB usage bit map for the INQUIRY command for a device server that implements command support data but not vital product data would be: 12h, 02h, FFh, 00h, FFh, 07h. This example assumes that the SAM defines uses for only the low-order three bits of the Control byte. Note that the first byte contains the operation code and the remaining bytes contain the usage map.