

Vendor-specific mode page codes for tapes X3T10/95-221R1

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To: SCSI Reflector

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Subject: Vendor-specific mode page codes for tapes

At the May X3T10 working group meeting, a conflicting usage of mode page code values was discovered. In most instances, SCSI-2 defines the usage of mode page codes 20h through 3Eh as vendor-specific. For stream devices, however, mode page codes 15h through 3Eh are defined as vendor-specific. The May working group meeting conclude that the SCSI-2 stream device assignment of mode page codes 15h through 1Fh (inclusive) is incorrect. In all cases (including stream devices), mode page codes 15h through 1Fh should be reserved for future standardization.

The problem and solution were broadcast on the SCSI Reflector in mid-May. Revision 0 of this document (announcing the problem and solution) was included in the June X3T10 committee mailing. No one has reported any difficulties with the solution.

Therefore, X3T10 should act immediately to define mode page codes 15h through 1Fh (inclusive) as reserved for future standardization in all device models. The SCSI-3 Stream Commands technical editor should be instructed to so note these mode page codes in the SSC. An errata or other suitable document should be published against the SCSI-2 standard.