

To: Membership of X3T10

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Subject: Security Initialization Proposal for SBC

In keeping with the discussion of governmental requirements for secured disk initialization discussed at the March SCSI Working Group meeting, we make the following proposal for changes to SBC. All changes to the SBC rev 2 document.

"Add 'SI' to bit 5 of byte 0 of Table 9.

Delete Note 5 under Table 9.

Add the following text after Table 10:

A Security Initialize (SI) bit of one indicates that the device server shall attempt to write the initialization pattern to all areas of the media including those that may have been reassigned. The initialization pattern shall be written using a security erasure write technique. The exact requirements placed on the security erasure write technique are technology and vendor specific. The intent of the security erasure write is to render any previous user data unrecoverable by any analog or digital technique. It may be necessary to perform this command multiple times to fully erase the previous data; such procedures are outside the scope of this standard.

When the SI bit is one, the device server need not rewrite (format) header and other non user accessible information on the media. If any area of the medium that may have previously contained user data cannot be written, the device server shall terminate the command with CHECK CONDITION status. The sense key shall be set to MEDIUM ERROR.

A Security Initialize bit of zero indicates that the device server shall initialize the application client accessible area of the media. In this case, the device server is not required to initialize other areas of the media. However, the device server shall format the medium as prescribed in the definition of the FORMAT UNIT command.