

To: X3T10 Committee (SCSI)

From: George Penokie (IBM)/Giles Frazier (IBM)

Subject: The case for mandatory Read (6)

At the last SCSI meeting there was a vote to make the READ(6) command optional. It appears that this vote was ill-advised as there are several instants where READ(6) is required. IBM would like the SCSI committee to readdress this issue because of the following new information that was not available to the committee members at the time of the vote.

- USES OF READ(6)
 - Existing Systems contain boot code which uses Read(6) if target LBA is low enough
 - + - These systems will need SCSI-3 DASD upgrades
 - + - Costs of boot code change is enormous
 - P1275 requires Read(6) if target LBA is below 512 MBy
 - + - Please see P1275, Section E.6.5, scsidisk.fth.
 - Some claim a performance gain over Read(10)

- PROBLEMS WITH OPTIONAL READ(6)
 - File vendors save nothing since they will support it anyway or loose sales
 - Customers have no GUARANTEE of upgrade to SCSI-3