

Request for interpretation -- "multiple byte field"

T10/97-186r1

May 6, 1997

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To: Members of T10.

Subj: T10/97-186R1 -- Request for interpretation -- "multiple byte field"

In recent discussions with a vendor, two possible interpretations of "multiple-byte field" have emerged. SCSI-2 (ANSI X3.131-1994) section 8.2.14.1 para. 5 states:

"The field pointer field indicates which byte of the command descriptor block or of the parameter data was in error. Bytes are numbered starting from zero, as shown in the tables describing the commands and parameters. When a multiple-byte field is in error, the pointer shall point to the most-significant (left-most) byte of the field."

Questions:

What constitutes a "multiple-byte field"? Is it:

a) Any series of two or more contiguous bytes in a CDB or parameter list, each of which which has one or more bits in error?

Example: Control Mode Page (0Ah), bytes 3 and 4.

or b) A defined field in a CDB or parameter list whose length exceeds one byte?

Example: Mode Page 1h, byte 10 and byte 11, "Recovery Time Limit".

If the latter, do a series of contiguous reserved bytes constitute a single field?