To: INCITS Technical Committee T10

From: Kevin Butt

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Document: T10/07-035r1 — SMC-3: RES - Incomplete descriptors



1. Revisions

1. 07-035r0 Initial revision

2. 07-035r1 Changes made during the March T10 meeting.

2. Introduction

SMC-3r02, 6.10.1 READ ELEMENT STATUS introduction, 2nd paragraph on page 321, reads:

The NUMBER OF ELEMENTS field specifies the maximum number of element descriptors to be created by the device server for this command. The value specified by this field is not the range of element addresses to be considered for reporting but rather the number of defined elements to report. If the ALLOCATION LENGTH field is not sufficient to transfer all the element descriptors, the device server shall transfer all those descriptors whose complete contents fit within the allocation field and this shall not be considered an error.

There has been confusion by at least one vendor about the meaning of

If the ALLOCATION LENGTH field is not sufficient to transfer all the element descriptors, the device server shall transfer all those descriptors whose complete contents fit within the allocation field and this shall not be considered an error.

It seems obvious that the intent is that only complete descriptors shall be returned. If the data is truncated due to an incomplete descriptor this shall not be considered an error.

3. Proposal

I propose that this text be modified to:

The NUMBER OF ELEMENTS field specifies the maximum number of element descriptors to be created by the device server for this command. The value specified by this field is not the range of element addresses to be considered for reporting but rather the number of defined elements to report.

The device server shall not return truncated descriptors (i.e., due to an insufficient allocation length specified in the ALLOCATION LENGTH field). An insufficient allocation length shall not be considered an error.

If the ALLOCATION LENGTH field is not sufficient to transfer all the element descriptors, the device server shall transfer all those descriptors whose complete contents fit within the allocation field and this shall not be considered an error.