

To: Membership of X3T10

From: Edward Lappin  
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Date: November 9, 1995

Subject: SSC/SMC Working Group Minutes

## 1. Opening Remarks

Ted Lappin, the SSC Technical Editor, called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m., Thursday, November 9, 1995. He thanked Jeff Stai of Western Digital for arranging and hosting the meeting.

As is customary, the people attending introduced themselves and a copy of the attendance list was circulated.

The draft agenda was approved.

## 2. Attendance and Membership

Attendance at working group meetings does not count toward minimum attendance requirements for X3T10 membership. Working group meetings are open to any person or organization directly and materially affected by X3T10's scope of work.

The following people attended the meeting:

| <u>Name</u>       | <u>S</u> | <u>Organization</u>     | <u>Email Address</u>     |
|-------------------|----------|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| Mr. Edward Lappin | P        | Exabyte Corp.           | tedl@exabyte.com         |
| Mr. Bill Dallas   | A        | Digital Equipment Corp. | dallas@zk3.dec.com       |
| Mr. Pat LaVarre   |          | Iomega                  | p.lavarre@ieee.org       |
| Mr. Wesley Hale   |          | Unisys Corp.            | wes.hale@mv.unisys.com   |
| Mr. Ken Hallam    | P        | Unisys Corp.            | ken.hallam@mv.unisys.com |
| Mr. Ralph Weber   | A        | ENDL                    | roweber@acm.org          |

6 People Present

Status Key: P - Principal  
A - Alternate

## 3. SSC Topics

### 3.1 Soft Write Protect

We talked about why the soft write protect bit is where it is. We moved it according to Arlan Stone's document last time but there was activity on the reflector about why it should be moved back. Bill Dallas asked about whether or not that this bit is savable as a Mode parameter. Other devices, but not all, could use this bit. In particular, CD ROM may want to use it.

Arguments for device configuration page:

1. More appropriate for the page. It is a configuration.
2. May not want to save this field. If don't save, should be on page that is also not saved.
3. Read/write recovery page is only superficially the same for different devices.

Arguments for read/write recovery page:

1. More consistent with disk and CD-ROM drives.

Other arguments:

1. May be useful to write protect and save for the cartridge. However, still have to write to it to save the mode parameter.
2. If really want to save parameter on media, should be command since Mode parameters are not necessarily saved on the drive.
3. Writing to media for a non-write command upsets some users. This also is a problem with savable Mode parameters.
4. Argument about when UA for mode parameters occurs. Question about how many UAs are OK. For example, doing both power-on and media changed, many cheap drivers cannot take multiple check conditions (they don't check for the reason).

Conclusion is that we cannot guarantee commonality and we should not worry about it at this time. Therefore, due to better location, we should have it in the device configuration page (no change). This page fits the functionality better.

### **3.2 Clarification on Report Density**

Ken wants clarification on defaults. In particular, for the media default density (not drive default), what will be written if we are writing. The media bit indicates the capabilities of the drive in combination with the currently loaded media. The command is for reporting capabilities, not written data.

Also noted, this may apply to other command sets. However, it is up to other command sets to adopt this mechanism.

### **3.3 Write Buffer**

Ken does not like the current Write Buffer proposal. Clarity is required. Ken wants to know why we did Write Buffer mode 7 the way it is done. Loading may require looking at file (Bill) to make sure file is already correct.

### **3.4 Samonize the document**

To do this, need to make sure:

1. Data in/out phase converts to "Data-In buffer" or "Data-Out buffer". This is in section 4.1 (The request -response model) in SPC.

2. Initiator converts to application client or initiator. Application client does most of the commands. If initiator and not the thing sending the command or getting status back, then it is probably the initiator. If sending or receiving, probably the application client.
3. Target converts to device server or logical unit or target. Logical unit is for thing that contains information for the LUN. The device server is the typical target. For SPC, Mode pages went to the logical unit or target, depending on the scope of the data.

### **3.5 Locate**

I pointed out that the valid bit is not set on a Locate failure. This is because there is not a residual on a Locate since there is no concept of residual because blocks are not numbered in a particular way.

### **3.6 Block numbering**

Bill would like to specifically specify that blocks are numbered sequentially. He needs to bring a proposal to change this aspect of the model since, while not violated by current drives that we know of, it is a major change.

## **4. SMC Topics**

There were no SMC topics. The editor of SMC, Erich Oetting, was not present.

## **5. Adjourned at 11:00 AM.**