



February 13, 1987

To: X3T9.2 Committee (SCSI)
From: James Semenak (AT&T)
Subject: SCSI Inquiry Command

There is a possible conflict of definition in the INQUIRY command. In the SCSI-2 draft there is the addition of the Desired Data Format field added to the INQUIRY command descriptor block. With the addition of the Desired Data Format field this sentence was added to the Implementor's note in paragraph 2.

If the target does not support the requested format, it **SHOULD** return another supported format.

This statement is in conflict with the sentence in the fourth paragraph which states:

The INQUIRY command shall return a CHECK CONDITION status only when the target cannot return the requested INQUIRY data.

An interpretation of this suggests that the target return a CHECK CONDITION status if it does not support the requested format, for values 0h and 1h, in the Desired Data Format field. The sentence from the implementator's note should be moved into the main definition and the **SHOULD** in the sentence replaced with a **SHALL**. Thus reading:

If the target does not support the requested format, it **SHALL** return another supported format.

The implementation should not preclude the ability of values 0h or 1h from returning INQUIRY Data in the SCSI-2 format.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "James J. Semenak".

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