

X3T9.2/89-5



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TO: X3T9.2 Committee
FROM: Kurt Chan, Hewlett-Packard
SUBJECT: Recommended response time after RST

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1/6/89

The following recommendation was voted in at the last plenary:

"It is recommended that following a 250 ms period of delay after a hard reset condition each SCSI target be able to respond with appropriate status and sense data to TEST UNIT READY, INQUIRY, and REQUEST SENSE commands."

Since some devices will treat hard reset as a cue to perform self-test on at least the SCSI portion of their circuitry (including a diagnostic of the SCSI VLSI chip) 250 ms seems a bit too short.

For example, if a parity error occurred and the detecting device issued RST, 250 ms may not give a device enough time to go into loopback mode, issue diagnostic data patterns, go out of loopback mode, and perform other diagnostics to determine if it was the source of the error.

In light of the fact that many devices will treat hard reset as a "power-on" condition, I'd like to see at least 3 seconds recommended instead of 250 ms.

For those implementing soft reset and unwilling to compromise, an alternative would be to make 3 seconds a recommendation for HARD reset devices only, but I would prefer a single recommendation of 3 seconds for both.

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