

Accredited Standards Committee*
X3, Information Processing Systems

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Reply to: Mr. John Lohmeyer



NCR Corp.

1635 Aeroplaza

Colo Spgs, CO 80916

(719) 573-3362

To: X3T9.2 Membership

Subject: SDP Message Clarification

This is a follow up on a message that I sent to Larry Lamers with a cc to the SCSI Reflector in early February. I had a phone conversation with a vendor of SCSI test equipment who was disappointed to learn that he could not depend on getting a SAVE DATA POINTER message (SDP) after the last data phase (to update the tester's final value of the data pointer).

This is an old topic that has been hashed and rehashed over the years with the conclusion that the initiator cannot depend on the final value of the data pointer. While SCSI-2 says this, perhaps we could say it more clearly in SIP.

I suggest that the SIP document include a note following the statement (from SCSI-2):

"Targets which break data transfers into multiple connections shall end each successful connection (except possibly the last) with a SAVE DATA POINTER - DISCONNECT message sequence."

Proposed new note:

NOTE: The SAVE DATA POINTER message is not necessary on the last data transfer connection. Initiators should not depend on the final value of the data pointer reflecting the total data transfer length.