

Proposal to Change Download Microcode Subcommand 3h

October 18, 2005

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1 Introduction

A new form of Download Microcode has been added to ATA8-ACS. This new form is used by issuing DOWNLOAD MICROCODE with sub command = 03h. This proposal provides a mechanism for the device to inform the host about limits regarding the maximum and minimum amounts of data the device shall receive for each command. This proposal also offers a feedback mechanism so the drive can inform the host that more data is expected.

2 IDENTIFY DEVICE changes

Word	O/M	F/V	Description
TBD1	O	F	Minimum number of 512 byte units per DOWNLOAD MICROCODE command
TBD2	O	F	Maximum number of 512 byte units per DOWNLOAD MICROCODE command

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TBD1 is the minimum number of 512 byte data packets the drive can receive per DOWNLOAD MICROCODE command. A value of zero or FFFFh indicates that there is no limit

TBD2 is the maximum number of 512 byte data packets the drive can receive per DOWNLOAD MICROCODE command. A value of zero or FFFFh indicates there is no limit.

3 DOWNLOAD MICROCODE changes

If TBD1 or TBD2 have a value other than 0000h or FFFFh then under normal outputs, the count field has the following definition:

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Deleted: bit 0 of the count field indicates that more data is expected by the device

00h- No indication of download microcode completion status

01h – Indicates the the device is expecting more download microcode commands to follow.

02h – Indiciates that the drive has applied the new microcode.