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**Information technology — Data  
interchange on 12,7 mm 128-track  
magnetic tape cartridges — DLT 3-XT  
format**

*Technologies de l'information — Échange de données sur cartouches  
de bande magnétique de 12,7 mm, 128 pistes — Format DLT 3-XT*

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## Contents

<b>Section 1 - General</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>1 Scope</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>2 Conformance</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>2.1 Magnetic tape cartridges</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>2.2 Generating systems</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>2.3 Receiving systems</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>3 Normative references</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>4 Definitions</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>4.1 Average Signal Amplitude</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>4.2 azimuth</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>4.3 back surface</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>4.4 Beginning-Of-Tape markers (BOT 1 and BOT 2)</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>4.5 byte</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>4.6 cartridge</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>4.7 Cyclic Redundancy Check (CRC) character</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>4.8 Early Warning (EW)</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>4.9 Error-Detecting Code (EDC)</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>4.10 End-Of-Tape marker (EOT)</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>4.11 Entity</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>4.12 Error-Correcting Code (ECC)</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>4.13 flux transition position</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>4.14 flux transition spacing</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>4.15 Logical Block</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>4.16 logical track</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>4.17 magnetic tape</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>4.18 Master Standard Reference Tape</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>4.19 object</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>4.20 page</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>4.21 physical block</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>4.22 physical recording density</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>4.23 physical track</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>4.24 Record</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>4.25 Reference Edge</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>4.26 Reference Field</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>4.27 Secondary Standard Reference Tape</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>4.28 Standard Reference Amplitude (SRA)</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>4.29 Standard Reference Current</b>	<b>3</b>

<b>4.30</b> Test Recording Current	3
<b>4.31</b> Typical Field	3
<b>5</b> Conventions and notations	3
<b>5.1</b> Representation of numbers	3
<b>5.2</b> Dimensions	3
<b>5.3</b> Names	3
<b>5.4</b> Acronyms	3
<b>6</b> Environment and safety	3
<b>6.1</b> Cartridge and tape testing environment	4
<b>6.2</b> Cartridge operating environment	4
<b>6.3</b> Cartridge storage environment	4
<b>6.4</b> Safety	4
<b>6.4.1</b> Safeness	4
<b>6.4.2</b> Flammability	4
<b>6.5</b> Transportation	4
<b>Section 2 - Requirements for the unrecorded tape</b>	5
<b>7</b> Mechanical and electrical requirements	5
<b>7.1</b> Material	5
<b>7.2</b> Tape length	5
<b>7.3</b> Width	5
<b>7.4</b> Total thickness	5
<b>7.5</b> Discontinuity	5
<b>7.6</b> Longitudinal curvature	5
<b>7.6.1</b> Requirement	5
<b>7.6.2</b> Procedure	5
<b>7.7</b> Out-of-Plane distortions	5
<b>7.8</b> Cupping	5
<b>7.9</b> Roughness of the coating surfaces	5
<b>7.9.1</b> Roughness of the back coating surface	5
<b>7.9.2</b> Roughness of the magnetic coating surface	5
<b>7.10</b> Coating adhesion	6
<b>7.11</b> Layer-to-layer adhesion	6
<b>7.11.1</b> Requirements	6
<b>7.11.2</b> Procedure	6
<b>7.12</b> Modulus of elasticity	7
<b>7.12.1</b> Requirement	7
<b>7.12.2</b> Procedure	7
<b>7.13</b> Flexural rigidity	7
<b>7.13.1</b> Requirement	7
<b>7.13.2</b> Procedure	8
<b>7.14</b> Tensile yield force	8
<b>7.14.1</b> Procedure	8
<b>7.15</b> Electrical resistance	8
<b>7.16.1</b> Requirement	8
<b>7.15.2</b> Procedure	8
<b>7.16</b> Inhibitor tape	9
<b>7.17</b> Abrasivity	9
<b>7.17.1</b> Requirement	9
<b>7.17.2</b> Procedure	9
<b>7.18</b> Light transmittance of the tape and the leader	9
<b>7.19</b> Coefficient of dynamic friction	9
<b>7.19.1</b> Requirements	9
<b>7.19.2</b> Procedure for the measurement of the friction between the magnetic surface and the back surface	10

<b>7.19.3</b> Procedure for the measurement of the friction between the magnetic surface or the back surface and calcium titanate ceramic	<b>10</b>
<b>8</b> Magnetic recording characteristics	<b>10</b>
<b>8.1</b> Typical Field	<b>11</b>
<b>8.2</b> Signal amplitude	<b>11</b>
<b>8.3</b> Resolution	<b>11</b>
<b>8.4</b> Overwrite	<b>11</b>
<b>8.4.1</b> Requirement	<b>11</b>
<b>8.5</b> Peak shift	<b>11</b>
<b>8.5.1</b> Requirement	<b>11</b>
<b>8.5.2</b> Procedure	<b>11</b>
<b>9</b> Tape quality	<b>12</b>
<b>9.1</b> Missing pulses	<b>12</b>
<b>9.1.1</b> Requirement	<b>12</b>
<b>9.2</b> Missing pulse zone	<b>12</b>
<b>9.2.1</b> Requirement	<b>12</b>
<b>9.3</b> Tape durability	<b>12</b>
<b>Section 3 - Mechanical specifications of the tape cartridge</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>10</b> General	<b>12</b>
<b>10.1</b> Bottom side and right side	<b>13</b>
<b>10.2</b> Back side and left side	<b>14</b>
<b>10.3</b> Tape reel	<b>14</b>
<b>10.4</b> Tape leader and markers	<b>15</b>
<b>10.5</b> Front side	<b>16</b>
<b>10.6</b> Operation of the cartridge	<b>16</b>
<b>10.7</b> Tape winding	<b>17</b>
<b>10.8</b> Moment of inertia	<b>17</b>
<b>10.9</b> Material	<b>17</b>
<b>11</b> Method of recording	<b>26</b>
<b>11.1</b> Physical recording density	<b>26</b>
<b>11.2</b> Channel bit cell length	<b>26</b>
<b>11.2.1</b> Average Channel bit cell length	<b>26</b>
<b>11.2.2</b> Long-term average Channel bit cell length	<b>26</b>
<b>11.2.3</b> Short-term average Channel bit cell length	<b>26</b>
<b>11.3</b> Flux transition spacing	<b>26</b>
<b>11.4</b> Read signal amplitude	<b>26</b>
<b>11.5</b> Azimuth	<b>27</b>
<b>11.6</b> Channel skew	<b>27</b>
<b>12</b> Tape format	<b>27</b>
<b>12.1</b> Reference Edge	<b>27</b>
<b>12.2</b> Direction of recording	<b>27</b>
<b>12.3</b> Tape layout	<b>27</b>
<b>12.4</b> Calibration and Directory Area	<b>27</b>
<b>12.4.1</b> Scratch Area	<b>28</b>
<b>12.4.2</b> Guard Area G1	<b>28</b>
<b>12.4.3</b> Calibration Tracks Area	<b>28</b>
<b>12.4.4</b> Guard Area G2	<b>29</b>
<b>12.4.5</b> Directory Area	<b>29</b>
<b>12.4.6</b> Guard Area G3	<b>29</b>
<b>12.5</b> Data Area	<b>29</b>
<b>12.5.1</b> Physical tracks	<b>30</b>
<b>12.5.2</b> Width of the physical tracks	<b>30</b>

<b>12.5.3</b> Logical tracks	<b>30</b>
<b>12.5.4</b> Locations of the physical tracks	<b>30</b>
<b>12.5.5</b> Layout of tracks in the Data Area	<b>31</b>
<b>13</b> Data format	<b>31</b>
<b>13.1</b> Data Bytes	<b>32</b>
<b>13.2</b> Logical Blocks	<b>32</b>
<b>13.3</b> Data Blocks	<b>32</b>
<b>13.4</b> Types of Logical Blocks	<b>32</b>
<b>13.5</b> Entities	<b>32</b>
<b>13.6</b> Logical Block format	<b>32</b>
<b>13.6.1</b> Preamble	<b>33</b>
<b>13.6.2</b> Sync	<b>33</b>
<b>13.6.3</b> Data Field	<b>33</b>
<b>13.6.4</b> EDC	<b>35</b>
<b>13.6.5</b> Control Field 1 (CF1)	<b>35</b>
<b>13.6.6</b> Control Field 2 (CF2)	<b>36</b>
<b>13.6.7</b> CRC	<b>37</b>
<b>13.6.8</b> Postamble	<b>37</b>
<b>14</b> Use of Logical Blocks	<b>37</b>
<b>14.1</b> Data Blocks	<b>37</b>
<b>14.2</b> Filler Blocks	<b>37</b>
<b>14.3</b> End of Track Blocks (EOTR)	<b>38</b>
<b>14.4</b> End of Data Blocks (EOD)	<b>38</b>
<b>14.5</b> ECC Blocks	<b>38</b>
<b>15</b> Format of Entities	<b>38</b>
<b>16</b> Error handling	<b>38</b>
<b>Annexes</b>	
<b>A - Measurement of light transmittance</b>	<b>39</b>
<b>B - Generation of the Data Block CRCs</b>	<b>42</b>
<b>C - ECC generation</b>	<b>43</b>
<b>D - Generation of page CRCs</b>	<b>46</b>
<b>E - Format of MAP entries</b>	<b>47</b>
<b>F - Format of Control Field 1</b>	<b>48</b>
<b>G - Format of Control Field 2</b>	<b>49</b>
<b>H - Recommendations for transportation</b>	<b>50</b>
<b>J - Inhibitor tape</b>	<b>51</b>
<b>K - Recommendations on tape durability</b>	<b>52</b>
<b>L - Handling guidelines</b>	<b>53</b>

## Foreword

ISO (the International Organization for Standardization) and IEC (the International Electrotechnical Commission) form the specialized system for worldwide standardization. National bodies that are members of ISO or IEC participate in the development of International Standards through technical committees established by the respective organization to deal with particular fields of technical activity. ISO and IEC technical committees collaborate in fields of mutual interest. Other international organizations, governmental and non-governmental, in liaison with ISO and IEC, also take part in the work.

International Standards are drafted in accordance with the rules given in the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 3.

In the field of information technology, ISO and IEC have established a joint technical committee, ISO/IEC JTC 1. Draft International Standards adopted by the joint technical committee are circulated to national bodies for voting. Publication as an International Standard requires approval by at least 75 % of the national bodies casting a vote.

Attention is drawn to the possibility that some of the elements of this International Standard may be the subject of patent rights. ISO and IEC shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights.

International Standard ISO/IEC 15895 was prepared by *ECMA — European association for standardizing information and communication systems* (as ECMA-258) and was adopted, under a special "fast-track procedure", by Joint Technical Committee ISO/IEC JTC 1, *Information technology*, in parallel with its approval by national bodies of ISO and IEC.

Annexes A to G form a normative part of this International Standard. Annexes H to L are for information only.

## Introduction

This International Standard constitutes a further development of the magnetic tape cartridge specified in International Standard ISO/IEC 14833. A higher capacity is achieved by using a thinner, thus longer tape.

# Information technology - Data interchange on 12,7 mm 128-track magnetic tape cartridges - DLT 3-XT format

## Section 1 - General

### 1 Scope

This International Standard specifies the physical and magnetic characteristics of a 12,7 mm wide, 128-track magnetic tape cartridge, to enable physical interchangeability of such cartridges between drives. It also specifies the quality of the recorded signals, a format - called Digital Linear Tape 3 Extended (DLT 3-XT) - and a recording method, thereby allowing data interchange between drives. Together with a labelling standard, for instance International Standard ISO 1001 for Magnetic Tape Labelling, it allows full data interchange by means of such magnetic tape cartridges.

### 2 Conformance

#### 2.1 Magnetic tape cartridges

A magnetic tape cartridge shall be in conformance with this International Standard if it satisfies all mandatory requirements of this International Standard. The tape requirements shall be satisfied throughout the extent of the tape.

#### 2.2 Generating systems

A system generating a magnetic tape cartridge for interchange shall be entitled to claim conformance with this International Standard if all the recordings that it makes on a tape according to 2.1 meet the mandatory requirements of this International Standard.

In addition a claim of conformance shall state

- whether or not one, or more registered algorithm(s) are implemented within the system, and are able to compress data received from the host prior to collecting data into blocks, and
- the registered identification number(s) of the implemented algorithm(s)

#### 2.3 Receiving systems

A system receiving a magnetic tape cartridge for interchange shall be entitled to claim conformance with this International Standard if it is able to handle any recording made on a tape according to 2.1.

In addition a claim of conformance shall state

- whether or not one, or more de-compression algorithm(s) are implemented within the system, and are able to be applied to de-compress data prior to making such data available to the host, and
- the registered identification number(s) of the implemented algorithm(s)

### 3 Normative references

The following standards contain provisions which, through reference in this text, constitute provisions of this International Standard. At the time of publication, the editions indicated were valid. All standards are subject to revision, and parties to agreements based on this International Standard are encouraged to investigate the possibility of applying the most recent editions of the standards indicated below. Members of IEC and ISO maintain registers of currently valid International Standards.

ISO 1001:1986	<i>Information processing - File structure and labelling of magnetic tapes for information interchange.</i>
ISO 1302:1992	<i>Technical drawings - Method of indicating surface texture.</i>
ISO/IEC 11576:1994	<i>Information technology - Procedure for the registration of algorithms for the lossless compression of data.</i>