# WINCHESTER BACK-UP

### The here and now of 1/4"

### cartridge tape drives



## WINCHESTER BACKUP

THE HERE-AND-NOW 1/4-INCH CARTRIDGE TAPE DRIVE

#### PRESENTED BY DATA ELECTRONICS INC. SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA

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### BACKGROUND

### **DC-300A DATA CARTRIDGE INTRODUCED BY 3-M in 1972**

**APPLICATIONS** 

- Data Logging
- Telecommunications
- Geophysical exploration
- Military



DATA ELECTRONICS, INC.

Cartridge Tape Drives

### **CHARACTERISTICS 1972-1976**

- 1600 BPI
- 300 ft. Tape Cartridge
- 2.88 MByte Capacity
- 48 K Bit/Sec Transfer Rate
- STEADY GROWTH MARKET
- APPROXIMATELY 100,000 DRIVES IN FIELD

#### **Applicable Standards**

ANSI X3	8.55-1977	
ANSI X3.56-1977		
dpANSI	x3.72	

Unrecorded Cartridge Recorded, serial format Recorded, parallel format

## **NEW DEVELOPMENTS**

- 6400 BPI High Density Recording
- 450 Ft. Tape Cartridge
- 17.5 MByte Capacity
- 192 KBit/Sec Transfer Rate



# RESULTS...

A PERFECT FIT FOR AN EMERGING NEW EXCITING MARKET PLACE

# WINCHESTER DISK BACK-UP



Source: Disk Trend Reports

Three-year Forecast of Non-IBM Rigid Disk Drive Shipments published in 1979.



Source: Disk Trend Reports

Breakdown of 1980 Three-Year Forecast by Disk Size

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Source: Disk Trend Reports

1980 Three-year Forecast Overlaid on 1979 Forecast (P. 6) to Illustrate Dramatic Increase in 1981-1983 Timeframe.



Credit: James Porter Author of Disk Trend Reports

Projected backup requirements for non-IBM systems using fixed disk drives Based on shipments of systems using fixed disk drives less than 200 MB

## WINCHESTER BACK-UP

#### **CRITERIA**

CAPACITY: BACKUP TIME: SIZE: ERROR RATES: COSTS: ENVIRONMENT: RELIABILITY: INTERFACE: MEDIA:

### **CHARACTERISTICS DESIRED**

5 - 80 MByte
2 min. to 15 min.
Same or less than 8" Floppy
Same as disk
<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> to <sup>1</sup>/<sub>3</sub> cost of disk
Low-skilled operator
Greater than disk
Simple, convenient
Low cost, multi-sourced

Note: These were derived through independent market research.

## START / STOP 1/4" DRIVE

### FEATURES

- True tape peripheral
- File search capability
- File management capability
- Track Addressing
- Traditional tape interface

25,000 in use

## **START / STOP CARTRIDGE TAPE DRIVE**

#### • CHARACTERISTICS

- 6400 BPI
- 17.5 MBytes (UP TO 68 M BUTTES @ 3M VERSION
- 30 ips Read/Write
- 90 ips Search & Rewind
- 192 KBit/Sec Transfer rate
- 4 Track Serial





## STREAMING 1/4" CARTRIDGE TAPE DRIVE

- Faster back-up 5 MByte/min
- Increased transfer rate
- Increased capacity
- Compressed data format
- Invisible error rates
- Size of 8" Floppy
- Simplified interface
- Lower installed cost



DATA ELECTRONICS, INC.

STREAMER

#### SERPENTINE RECORDED TRACK FORMAT



## STREAMING 1/4" CARTRIDGE TAPE DRIVE

### • INCLUDES

- Double buffering
- Code conversion
- Formatting
- Error Detection/Correction



## STREAMING 1/4" CARTRIDGE TAPE DRIVE

### • WHAT IS STREAMING?

Utilization of all available tape by eliminating the traditional starting and stopping in interrecord gaps. A compressed data format

#### MINIMUM DATA TRANSFER TIMES, NOT INCLUDING REWIND

#### FOR 10 MB TO QUARTER-INCH CARTRIDGE DRIVES



DATA SOURCE: Freeman Reports

#### TIME TO TRANSFER 10 MB TO QUARTER-INCH START/STOP TAPE DRIVE

#### FOR VARYING BLOCK SIZES



#### (ASSUMES 6400 BPI, 30 IPS (24 KBS), 450-FOOT CARTRIDGE, NO REWRITES, NON-SERPENTINE RECORDING)

To maintain streaming operation, the Streamer must transfer data at nearly 90k bytes/sec; a slower transfer rate causes the drive to start and stop repeatedly, making the process slower than a standard cartridge-based approach. A 90k bytes/sec rate implies about 11  $\mu$ sec of processing time per byte. Not even the new 16-bit  $\mu$ Ps can move data this rapidly — especially while handling handshakes and monitoring status lines — without the aid of direct-memory-access (DMA) circuitry. Additionally, the new Winchester discs are hard pressed to maintain this transfer rate while allowing for sector seeks and track-to-track head movements. Thus, only with DMA hardware can a  $\mu$ P hope to provide data rapidly enough for the Streamer. And the disc also needs DMA transfers in order to keep the tape streaming.

Taking these problems into account, DEI now markets a Streamer that operates at 30 ips (see **box**, "Two streaming-speed options"). At this speed, the disc and host have a chance of keeping up with the Streamer. As a result, even though the transfer rate is only one-third as fast, the Streamer never has to stop, thereby speeding the backup operation.

Robert Grappel, Consultant and Jack Hemenway, Consulting Editor

EDN AUGUST 20, 1980

#### TIME TO TRANSFER 10 MB TO QUARTER-INCH STREAMER TAPE DRIVE



FOR VARYING TRANSMISSION LENGTHS

## **CURRENTLY AVAILABLE INTERFACES:**

#### **TYPE OF DRIVE**

Start/Stop	Streaming
u Nova, Nova, MULTIBUS RS232, S-100 Pertec FT 8000 Ohio Scientific C2/C3 LSI-11, Q-Bus PDP-11 TI-990	LSI-11 S-100 PDP-11 MULTIBUS

## **FUTURE TRENDS**

#### VARIABLES

- Bit density
- Number of tracks
- Tape length
- Tape speed
- Costs

The future of this product is not at all limited by technology, but only by the creativity and capability of who designs, manufacturers, and uses 1/4-inch Cartridge Magnetic Tape Drives.