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Compaq Computer Corporation

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# Users of OpenVMS V7.1 on HSXXX Array Controllers and Microsoft Windows NT for Alpha

Abstract: Read this before using the TLZ10/SDT9000 DDS-3 DAT drive.

The purpose of this release note is two fold. First, to notify Microsoft Windows NT Alpha customers who currently use the TLZ10 DAT drive that the inquiry string has changed to SDT9000. Second, there is a limitation with OpenVMS V7.1 when running on certain array controllers with the TLZ10. The limitations apply only when running on HSOF based array controllers (HSD30, HSD50, HSJ30, HSJ40, HSJ50, and HS1CP).

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## Windows NT Alpha Users

For Windows NT Alpha users, the inquiry string for the TLZ10 DAT drive has changed to SDT9000. Because of this, users of the SDT9000 will be required to load new Windows NT drivers contained in the Storage Management Solutions CD Kit.

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**NOTE:** The previous Alpha NT driver is incompatible with the drives that identify themselves as SDT9000 along with many of the popular backup and restore software applications.

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## OpenVMS V7.1 Users

### Limitation Details

When operating on HSOF based array controllers (HSD30, HSD50, HSJ30, HSJ40, HSJ50, and HS1CP), OpenVMS V7.1 with the TLZ10 DDS-3 tape drive may generate blank check/EOD (End of Data) errors. This is true for both OpenVMS VAX V7.1 as well as OpenVMS AXP V7.1.

Beginning in OpenVMS V7.1, MKDRIVER (a tape class driver for locally attached SCSI tape drives) implemented a new IO\$\_SKIPFILE modifier. This modifier offered improved performance, but slightly different behavior in regards to the detection of the logical end of tape. For TMSCP-served access to locally attached SCSI tape drives, OpenVMS employs the MSCPM\_MD\_DLEOT bit to enable the new IO\$\_SKIPFILE modifier.

This change was designed based on the premise that tape devices given “MK” device names would always be controlled by the MKDRIVER. This turned out to be inaccurate because HSOF array controller software uses a “MU” designation and a “MK” designation. The “MU” designation is for tape devices that are defined in an internal table entry and the “MK” designation if the HSOF device table does not have an entry for the particular device. It treats the “MK” tape device as a generic tape device.

### Resolution

Patches for both VAX and Alpha correct this limitation and are available to download from the Compaq website:

[http://www.storage.digital.com/swrks/homepage/sup\\_html/techtips/mvtapes/tapes.htm](http://www.storage.digital.com/swrks/homepage/sup_html/techtips/mvtapes/tapes.htm)

On this webpage click on *Patch for TLZ10 and OpenVMS V7.1 On HSXXX Array Controllers*. Instructions for downloading and installing the driver patch, *OpenVMS V7.1 patch kit for TLZ10 (VAX or Alpha)*, will then be displayed. If you need further assistance getting this patch, contact your local sales office.

