# Tape Dimension III/IV CacheCoupler User's Manual

Publication Number:

P91001156 - P91001164

Rev. Bl

Rev. Date 10/04/85

Applicable Assembly Number: P60001450-XXX



14511 New Myford Road • Tustin, California 92680 (714) 730-6250 • TELEX: 472-0629 Copyright (c) 1985 by Wespercorp, Inc.

All Rights Reserved

Printed in U.S.A.

Permission is hereby specifically granted to Wespercorp equipment users, and those involved in the distribution and support of Wespercorp products, to make copies of this document to use in support of those activities.

The information and specifications contained herein are correct at time of publication, as far as WESPERCORP can determine. However, in its effort to continually improve its products, WESPERCORP reserves the right to change and/or add such information and specifications as it may deem necessary at any time without prior notice.

\* UNIBUS is a trademark of Digital Equipment Corporation

## PRODUCT SATISFACTION

Dear Customer:

We are pleased with your continued interest in WESPERCORP products. We have made every effort to design-in superior performance and to manufacture the product to the highest standards of quality and reliability. The next step is to support the product to assure greatest value in your application.

In the event of a problem or if you need any help with the installation or advice on your particular application, please call us at (714) 730-6250. (Or you may also contact us by Telex at 4720629 WESPER.) We want to know that the shipment arrived with all the required cables, manual, and other accessories. If anything was missing or damaged, please let us know.

Even if you have had no problems, we would still appreciate hearing what you did and did not like about the product, suggested product improvements, and any other comments you feel appropriate. A form is provided for your convenience at the back of this manual.

If you must return the product for any reason, please call us first for a Return Authorization Number so we may serve you better. Again, please let us know if we may be of further assistance with your equipment requirements or if we may help in any other way.

Sincerely, WESPERCORP
Technical Support

## PREFACE

This User's Manual provides information necessary for the installation and operation of the Western Peripherals TAPE DIMENSION III / IV Tape Coupler, used with the DEC PDP-11 and VAX-11 family of Unibus-equipped computer systems.

The manual is divided into the following sections:

Section I General Description

Section II Installation

Section III Programming

Section IV Computer Interface

Section V Pertec-Compatible

Formatter Interface

Section VI STC & Telex

Formatter Interfaces

Section VII NRZI and PE Tape Formats

Section VIII GCR Tape Format

Appendix A Telex Adapter Installation

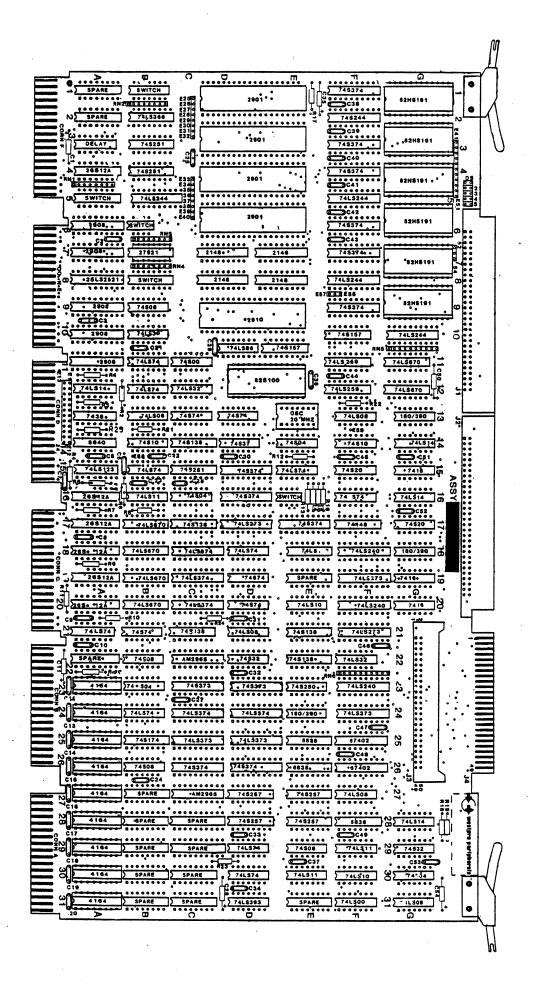
## RELATED DOCUMENTS

ANSI X3.22-1973	American National Standard: Recorded Magnetic Tape for Information Interchange (800 CPI, NRZI)
ANSI X30.39-1973	American National Standard: Recorded Magnetic Tape for Information Interchange (1600 CPI, Phase Encoded)
ANSI X3.40-1973	American National Standard: Unrecorded Magnetic Tape for Information Interchange (9-track 200 and 800 CPI, NRZI; and 1600 CPI, PE)
ANSI X3.54-1976	American National Standard: Recorded Magnetic Tape for Information Interchange (6250 CPI, GCR)
DEC	Unibus Protocol
DEC EK-OTS11-UG-001	TS-11 Subsystem User's Guide

# SECTION I - GENERAL DESCRIPTION

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

PARAGRAPH		PAGE
INTRODUCTION	• • • •	. 1-1
EMULATION - SOFTWARE COMPATIBILITY		. 1-2
HARDWARE COMPATIBILITY	• • • •	. 1-2
TAPE UNIT OPERATION AND INTERFACE	• • • •	. 1-2
TD-IV CACHE BUFFER		. 1-2
TD-IV ERROR HANDLING	• • • •	. 1-3
TAPE FORMATS	• • • •	. 1-3
DATA BLOCK SIZE	• • • •	. 1-3
MODEL TD-III WITH TWO DRIVE OPTION	• • •	. 1-3
SPECIFICATIONS	• • • •	. 1-4



## SECTION I

## GENERAL DESCRIPTION

## INTRODUCTION

This first section describes the Western Peripherals TAPE DIMENSION III and TAPE DIMENSION IV CACHECOUPLERS. These couplers are designed to emulate Digital Equipment Corporation (DEC) Model TS-11 Tape Subsystems. These Group Code Recording tape controller/couplers, contain 64K bytes of on-board data buffering to facilitate start/stop functionality on streaming tape drives. Contained on a single standard-sized hex-wide printed circuit board, the Tape Dimension III or IV is compatible with the DEC PDP-11 and VAX-11 families of computer systems and interfaces with these processors via a standard Unibus-SPC slot.

The Tape Dimension III and IV provide the interface for a tape subsystem using industry-compatible formatted start/stop and streaming drives (TD-IV only) with dual density (NRZI/PE) or tri-density capability, which includes the 6250 bit per inch (bpi) Group Code Recording (GCR) format. Drives writing double-density 3200 bpi PE tape can also be used with TD-III/IV. The on-board data buffer allows the coupler to emulate operation of the the DEC TS-11 start/stop tape subsystem, while fully supporting streaming tape drives. It also takes advantage of bus speeds without concern for data late conditions, even at fast data rates on a highly populated peripheral bus, while remaining transparent to standard DEC software.

Each coupler features 64K bytes of on-board data buffering, which is used by the TD-III to buffer single tape blocks up to 64K bytes in length. The on-board data buffer lets each coupler take advantage of bus speeds without concern for data late conditions, even at fast data rates on a highly populated peripheral bus, while remaining transparent to standard DEC software.

In the TD-IV, it is used as a multi-record cache staging buffer to facilitate start/stop functionality on unbuffered streaming tape drives. (The cache buffer in the TD-IV may also be used to buffer single tape blocks as in the TD-III.) The onboard data buffer allows the TD-IV to emulate the operation of the DEC TS-11 start/stop tape subsystem, while fully supporting streaming tape drives for higher throughput.

## EMULATION - SOFTWARE COMPATIBILITY

The Tape Coupler is compatible with DEC operating systems that can support TS-11 tape subsystems. The coupler uses these standard TS-11 registers and vector to simplify the system interface, and since the coupler is fully buffered, it is immune to data late conditions, even when operating with high speed disk drives. Alternate TS-11 register addresses and vectors are also available via simple switch selection.

## HARDWARE COMPATIBILITY

The Tape Coupler interfaces the DEC PDP-11 or VAX-11 system processor via the Unibus. The hex-wide board can mount inside the cabinet of the host computer and plugs directly into an available SPC slot in its Unibus backplane.

## TAPE UNIT OPERATION AND INTERFACE

The Tape Coupler supports the industry-standard (Pertec) formatted tape drive interface as well as the special interface required to run GCR and other formats on STC and Telex drives.

Standard 50-conductor "A" and "B" formatter interface cables are used to connect Pertec-compatible tape drives to the coupler through two connectors at the top edge of the coupler board. Two additional connectors are also available for the STC/Telex interface. Various drive types are supported, including drives operating in the PE, NRZI and/or GCR format. Contact your Western Peripherals representative or the Western Peripherals Marketing department for a list of drives which are compatible with the Tape Coupler.

## TD-IV CACHE BUFFER

The 64 KByte data buffer contained on the TD-IV board acts as a cache for data being transmitted between the host and the formatter in the tape drive. After fetching the first record, the coupler initiates a write operation on the drive and waits for the next command from the host. If the next command is also a Write, the coupler will fetch and store the next block of data in its buffer. The coupler will continue to accept data until the 64 KByte data buffer is full.

As the coupler writes data to tape, space becomes available in the buffer, and the coupler will accept more data. Should data transfer operations be suspended momentarily, data in the buffer will maintain the drive in the streaming mode, reducing the repositioning activity required by the drive. The maximum transfer rate for streaming operations is 750 KBytes per second.

Because data is always transferred as complete blocks through the buffer, the coupler remains immune to data late

conditions. This provides flexibility in assigning priorities on the bus without regard to bus grant late errors no matter how busy the host bus may be.

#### TD-IV ERROR HANDLING

A switch-selectable feature allows the Tape Dimension IV to handle Write errors on the coupler board. Any routine Write errors resulting from bad tape are corrected by automatic retries. No host computer intervention is required, saving valuable computer time.

#### TAPE FORMATS

Group Code Recording (GCR) is featured by the TD-III and TD-IV, allowing the user to take advantage of this modern high density recording technology. All data and control characters are recorded in groups and subgroups. Data groups contain error correcting characters for high data reliability. Each tape block contains preamble and postamble groups as well as ending data, control, and CRC groups. Resynchronization groups are also provided if the data block is longer than 1112 bytes.

The coupler also uses the standard nine track 1600 bit per inch (bpi) phase encoded and 800 bpi NRZI tape formats. In PE, each tape block contains a 41 character preamble of 40 tape characters with all-zero bits followed by one character of allone bits. The preamble is followed by the data field which also contains an odd parity bit for each data character. Following the data field is the postamble, which is the mirror-image of the preamble.

Like PE, the data field of the NRZI format contains an odd parity bit for each data character. Following the data field are the Cyclic Redundancy Check (CRC) and Longitudinal Redundancy Check (LRC) characters to ensure data integrity.

#### DATA BLOCK SIZE

Although the recommended maximum is 2K to 4K, the maximum data block size is only limited by the Byte/Record Count word to a full 64K byte block. While the coupler can handle a single-byte tape block, the minimum recommended data block size can vary from system to system where the generated tapes will be used.

## MODEL TD-III WITH TWO DRIVE OPTION

The TD-III is available with an optional feature (not available for the TD-IV at this time) which allows the customer to operate two tape drives on a single TD-III board. This option saves the user the cost and space required for two TD-III boards.

## **SPECIFICATIONS**

## COMPUTER INTERFACE - SOFTWARE

PDP-11 Interface Protocol -

DEC TS-11.

Emulation -

One DEC TS-11 subsystem.

OPTIONAL ON TD-III - one or two DEC TS-11 subsystems.

Unibus Register Addressing Assignments -

Standard =  $772520_8$ ,  $772522_8$  (TSDB/TSBA, TSSR)

Optional=  $770000_8$ - $777760_8$  (TSDB/TSBA register, in modulo  $40_8$  increments, via option switches).

Unibus Interrupt Vector -

Standard = 224 (octal)

Optional = 0 - 377 (via option switches).

PDP-11 Bus Level -

Bus level 4, 5, 6, or 7; (level 5 is standard).

## COMPUTER INTERFACE - HARDWARE

Unibus interface -

(fits in a standard Unibus SPC slot).

Bus Loading -

One standard Unibus load.

DMA Addressing -

18 bits

Buffering -

64 Kbytes (read and write)

DMA Unibus Transfer Time (bus efficiency) -

Averages 1 us/word Read and Write (BBSY time).

## TAPE DRIVE INTERFACE

Formatter Interface (Start-Stop or Streaming operation) -

Pertec-compatible NRZI/PE/GCR Formatter (Pertec, CDC, Kennedy, Fujitsu, Cipher, etc.). STC/Telex-compatible formatter.

Formatted Tape Drive Protocol -

Industry (Pertec) Standard for formatted drive.

STC/Telex-type formatted drive interface.

Number Of Drives -

One tape drive.

OPTIONAL ON TD-III - one or two tape drives.

Tape Interface Cabling -

Two 50 cond. 3M-type ribbon cables (Pertec-compatible).

Two 60 conductor 3M-type ribbon cables (STC/Telex).

Telex drives require a special cable adapter board.

Recording Formats -

6250 BPI per ANSI X3.54 1600 BPI per ANSI X3.39 (or Double-Density 3200 BPI) 800 BPI per ANSI X3.22

Tape Transfer Rate (maximum) -

Over 1 mb/sec. with single-block buffering. Operation with Cache Buffer. - 0.75 mb/sec.

## SELF-TEST FEATURE

Provides a full basic test of coupler's internal processor and storage to assure reliable operation every time power is applied to the system.

SIZE One Standard PDP-11 Hex-wide PC Board

POWER +5 volts (5% tolerance) @ 7.0 amps power consumption (maximum).

## **ENVIRONMENT**

Operating temperature 0 to 55 degrees Celsius
Storage temperature -10 to 70 degrees Celsius
Relative humidity 10% to 90% (without condensation)

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

PARAGRAPH	PAGE
INTRODUCTION	2-1
UNPACKING AND INSPECTION	2-1
BOARD INSTALLATION CONSIDERATIONS	2-1
SWITCH / JUMPER CONFIGURATION SELECTIONS	2-2
Unibus CSR Address Selection	2-4
Vector Address Selection	2-5
Bus Level Selection	2-6
Drive-Type Switch Settings	2-7
Multiple Subsystems	2-8
TD-IV Additional Feature Selection	2-9
TAPE DIMENSION III/IV BOARD INSTALLATION	2-9
INTERCONNECTIONS	2-10
SELF-TEST	2-11
CHECKOUT	2-11
VAX OPERATING PROCEDURES	2-12
XXDP+ DIAGNOSTICS	3-13

# LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS

**PAGE** 

FIGURE

2-1	Tape Dimension III/IV Board Illustration 2-3
	LIST OF TABLES
TABLE	PAGE
2-1	Standard Unibus Address Selection (Switch Module 8B) . 2-4
2-2	Standard Interrupt Vector Selection (Switch Module 1B)
2-3	Bus level Selection
2-4	Drive-Type Switch Settings (Switch Module 16E) 2-7
2-5	Unit Select (Switch Module 6B) 2-8
2-6	TD-IV Feature Selection 2-9
2-7	Self-Test Indications
2-8	Failing Memory Chip Look-Up Table

### SECTION II

### INSTALLATION

## INTRODUCTION

This section provides information for use in preparing and installing the Western Peripherals TAPE DIMENSION III or TAPE DIMENSION IV Magnetic Tape Coupler in a DEC VAX or PDP-11 computer system.

The TD-III/IV consists of one standard hex-wide printed circuit board which plugs into a standard Unibus-SPC backplane in the computer mainframe or expansion chassis. One cable set is provided for connecting the coupler to the formatter of the STC, TELEX, or PERTEC-type industry-standard tape drive. (An adapter is available to interface to the Telex formatter.) A User's Manual is included with each coupler and an optional diagnostic tape is available (P/N P68000280) for tape subsystem verification.

Included in this section are instructions for unpacking and inspection, setting switches and installing feature jumpers, coupler installation, and interfacing the coupler board with the computer and the tape drive formatter. The installation information in this section applies to standard coupler assembly number P60001450. If your board has a different part number, contact Western Peripherals for information concerning the proper installation of your coupler board.

## UNPACKING AND INSPECTION

On receipt of the TD-III/IV coupler from the carrier, immediately inspect the shipping carton for evidence of damage. If the shipping carton is damaged or water-stained, immediately contact the carrier for further instructions before the carton is opened. If carton was opened before damage was noticed, retain the carton and packing materials for subsequent agent inspection. A copy of the Purchase Order and other paperwork should be submitted to the carrier with any claim.

For repairs or replacement of WESPERCORP product damaged during shipment contact the Technical Support Center to obtain a Return Authorization Number and further instructions.

Carefully unpack the shipping carton and verify that the following items are included:

- \* TD-III/IV Coupler Printed circuit Assembly.
- \* TD-III/IV User's Manual
- \* Interconnect cables

After removal of the coupler board and associated components from the shipping container, visually inspect them for physical damage. Check off each item on the enclosed packing list. In case of damage, retain all packaging material and notify the carrier to make a report. Always ensure all minor parts and small items are accounted for before discarding any shipping material.

#### BOARD INSTALLATION CONSIDERATIONS

The coupler is a single board that can be installed in any Unibus-SPC backplane slot. Determine the position in the computer where the coupler is to be installed. Remember that its physical location in the system determines its bus priority within the specified bus level. You may subsequently want to adjust the position of the devices on the bus to take advantage of the priority structure of the bus to minimize or eliminate bus grant late errors in the other various devices in the system. The TDQ remains immune to data late errors.

Refer to the appropriate tape drive manual to install the tape drive. The drive must be prepared and the processor checked out before the coupler can be expected to operate properly.

## SWITCH/JUMPER CONFIGURATION SELECTIONS

A number of switches and jumpers are provided on the coupler board that allow the user to conveniently set the coupler for the system environment in which it is to operate. Figure 2-1 helps to identify the various installation features of the coupler board, and the locations of user-selectible switches and jumpers.

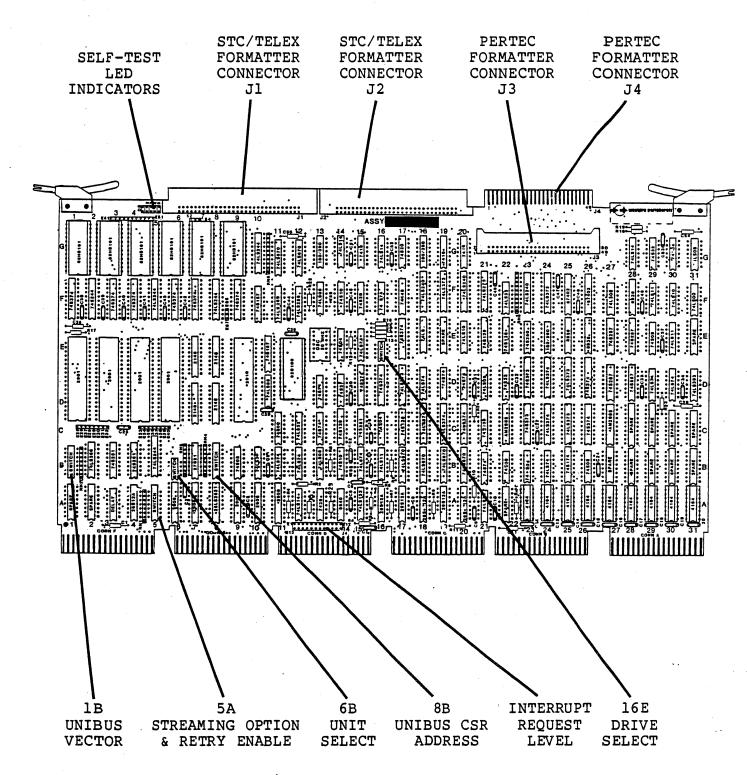


Figure 2-1 Tape Dimension III/IV Board Illustration
Assembly Number P60001450

## Unibus CSR Address Selection

Unibus address bits 4 through 11 of the coupler registers are switch selectable. These bits are controlled by switch toggles 1 through 8 of the switch module at location 8B on the coupler board. Placing a switch toggle in the ON position selects a binary 0 while placing it in the OFF position selects a binary I in its respective bit position.

If the coupler is used as unit 2, 3, or 4, then an address offset is in effect as shown in Table 2-5.

The switch settings required to set up the standard Unibus CSR addresses (772520 and 772522) are illustrated in Table 2-1.

OCTAL	7			7 2		5		2		0-2								
BIT	17	16	15	14	13	12	11	10	09	08	07	06	05	04	03	02	01	00
BINARY	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	X	0
SWITCH #						5	4	6	3	7	2	8	1	FTATT	r m			
"ON"		FIXED VALUES			X		Х		Х		Х		UNI SE-	-	*			
"OFF"						Х		Х		X		X	LE(					

Register-determined Values \*\* See Table 2-5

Table 2-1 Standard Unibus Address Selection (Switch 8B)

## Vector Address Selection

The interrupt vector address for the drive is selected by positioning the switch toggles of the switch module at location 1B on the coupler board. Switch toggles 1 through 6 control bits 02 through 07. (Bits 00 & 01 are allways 0) Placing a switch toggle in the ON position selects a binary 1 while placing it in the OFF position selects a binary 0 in its respective bit position.

The switch settings required to set up the standard drive interrupt vector address (224) are illustrated in Table 2-2. Unlike the Unibus Address Selection, the vector is not affected by unit select.

OCTAL	2			2			4		
BINARY	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	-
MODULE-1B SWITCH NO.	6	3	2	1	4	5			<-
ON	Х			Х		Х			
OFF		Х	Х		Х				
MODULE-5A SWITCH NO.	6	5	4	3	2	1			<-

-- STD. VECTOR

<-- OPTION \*\*

Table 2-2 Standard Interrupt Vector Selection (1B)

## \*\* NOTE FOR TWO-DRIVE OPTION:

The vector for the <u>second drive</u> is set via switch module 5A (switch numbers 1-6) as shown in the table above. Set these switches to select the required vector for the <u>second</u> tape drive. The vector for the first drive is set using the standard vector.

# Bus Level Selection

By placement of jumpers in accordance with Table 2-3, any of bus levels 4, 5, 6 or 7 can be selected. Level 5 is standard. These jumpers are located at the bottom of the board near Connector D.

JUMPER	-	BUS LEVE	L	
CONNECTIONS	4	5	6	7
E01-E13	INSTALL	REMOVE	REMOVE	REMOVE
E02-E14	INSTALL	REMOVE	REMOVE	REMOVE
E03-E15	REMOVE	INSTALL	REMOVE	REMOVE
E04-E16	REMOVE	INSTALL	REMOVE	REMOVE
E05-E17	REMOVE	REMOVE	INSTALL	REMOVE
E06-E18	REMOVE	REMOVE	INSTALL	REMOVE
E07-E19	REMOVE	REMOVE	REMOVE	INSTALL
E08-E20	REMOVE	REMOVE	REMOVE	INSTALL
E09-E21	INSTALL	REMOVE	REMOVE	REMOVE
E10-E22	REMOVE	Install	REMOVE	REMOVE
E11-E23	REMOVE	REMOVE	INSTALL	REMOVE
E12-E24	REMOVE	REMOVE	REMOVE	INSTALL
E13-E14	REMOVE	INSTALL	INSTALL	INSTALL
E15-E16	INSTALL	REMOVE	INSTALL	INSTALL
E17-E18	INSTALL	INSTALL	REMOVE	INSTALL
E19-E20	INSTALL	INSTALL	INSTALL	REMOVE

Table 2-3 Bus level Selection

## Drive-Type Switch Settings

The switch module on the coupler at location 16E must be set according to the type of drive connected to the coupler and the mode of operation. Table 2-4 identifies the correct switch settings for each drive-type.

Switch Pack 16E Switch Toggle Number:

		<del></del>		
Drive/Interface Type:	1	2	3*	4
STC Drive	On	Off	Off	Off
Telex Drive	On	On	Off	Off
Pertec-type Start/Stop Drive	Off	Off	Off	On
Pertec-type Streaming Drive	Off	Off	Off	Off

\* TD-IV Couplers only:

Turn ON Switch 3 to enable cache buffer operation and other TD-IV features. (See Switch 5A, Table 2-6.) Off position runs TD-IV coupler in TD-III mode.

Table 2-4 Drive-Type Switch Settings (16E)

## Multiple Subsystems

The TD-III/IV can be addressed by the host as UNIT-0, UNIT-1, UNIT-2, or UNIT-3. When more than one TS-11 subsystem is to be installed in the computer system, set the coupler's Unit Number via a four-position switch at location 6B. See Table 2-5. Only one of the four Unit Numbers may be selected.

		itch E itch E		6B on:		Address	Typical
Unit #	_4_	_3_	_2_	1_	Registers	<u>Offset</u>	Address
0 (1)	ON	OFF	OFF	OFF	TSDB/TSBA	0	772520
					TSSR	+ 2	772522
1 (2)	OFF	ON	OFF	OFF	TSDB/TSBA	+ 4	772524
					TSSR	+ 6	772526
2 (3)	OFF	OFF	ON	OFF	TSDB/TSBA	+10	772530
					TSSR	+12	772532
3 (4)	OFF	OFF	OFF	ON	TSDB/TSBA	+14	772534
					TSSR	+16	772536
0 & 1	ON	ON	OFF	OFF	for special		

Table 2-5 Unit Select (6B)

## NOTE: TD-III TWO-DRIVE OPTION

If you have the TD-III Two-Drive Option, the host may select both Unit 0 and Unit 1, when the coupler is set as shown above.

<u>PERTEC DRIVES</u> - Daisy-chain two drives to a single formatter. Set one drive to be addressed by the formatter as "unit zero" and the other drive as "unit one".

STC and Telex DRIVES - Daisy-chain two drives to a single formatter. Set one drive to be addressed by the formatter as "unit zero" and the other drive as "unit two".

## TD-IV Additional Feature Selection (Switch 5A)

If switch 16E is ON, the switch pack at location 5A is used to configure the TD-IV coupler for additional features. (Switch 16E-3 must be on to enable these additional TD-IV features.) The Cache Buffer feature (Switch 5A-3) optimizes operation with streaming tape drives. Table 2-6, below, lists the features and their appropriate switch settings.

Switch	Feature								
5A-1 off* 5A-1 On	Internal Automatic Retries (on hard errors only). Retries Disabled.								
5A-2 Off 5A-2 ON*	CDC Keystone drives (disables automatic speed selection Normal operation (enables automatic speed selection).								
5A-3 Off 5A-3 ON*	Single-block buffering enabled. Cache buffer enabled.								
5A-4 OFF* 5A-4 On	Internal Automatic Retries (on correctable errors only). Retries Disabled.								
5A-5 Off 5A-5 On	Normal Operation. Rewind/Unload Command produces the Unload Pulse, only.								

<sup>\*</sup> Recommended standard switch settings.

Table 2-6 TD-IV Feature Selection

## TAPE DIMENSION III/IV BOARD INSTALLATION

The DMA Non-Processor Grant and Bus Grant lines are daisy-chained from one backplane connector to the next. To maintain continuity, unused backplane connector slots are usually jumpered with a jumper card and/or a jumper wire.

The Bus Grant jumper card is installed in the D connector of unused slots. Western Peripherals supplies part number P01310093 for this purpose. The DMA Non-Processor Grant jumper is connected between pins Al and Bl on the backside of the "C" connectors of unused slots.

Any open slots between the coupler and the processor must have these jumpers installed. Be sure to check for (by continuity test) and remove the DMA Non-Processor Grant jumper wire from the backplane connector of the slot selected for coupler installation.

Place the coupler board into the selected slot in the backplane, being careful to insure that it seats properly. Check that the computer Unibus is properly terminated.

### INTERCONNECTIONS

Connections between the TD-III/IV and the formatter are completed via two cables supplied with the coupler. When connecting the cables, be sure pin 1 (the triangle or arrow) on each plug is oriented to the arrow on the socket. You should check the manual for the tape drive to ensure proper connection at the drive.

For the <u>Pertec-compatible</u> formatter interface, these cables plug into 50-pin socket connector J3 and 50-pin edge connector J4 on the coupler board. The pin assignments for the board connectors are listed in Section 5. When connecting the cable to J3, be sure pin 1 (the triangle or arrow) on the plug is oriented to the triangle on the socket. When connecting the cable to edge-connector J4, be sure the red stripe on the cable is oriented to pin 1 (printed on the board next to the connector).

For an <u>STC or Telex</u> formatter interface, the ribbon cables plug into two 60-pin socket connectors, Jl and J2 on the coupler board. The pin assignments for the board connectors Jl and J2 on the coupler are listed in Section 6, which also lists the pin assignments for the Telex formatter I/O connectors.

For an <u>STC</u> drive, the cable from J1 attaches to connector B4 on the drive and the cable from J2 connects to connector A4 on the drive.

For a <u>Telex</u> formatter interface, an optional Telex/TD-III/IV Cable Adapter (assembly P60001245) is also supplied. Please refer to Appendix A for details of installation.

## SELF-TEST

The TAPE DIMENSION III/IV uses its internal self-test firmware to verify the coupler every time power is applied to the system. If no problem is detected, the LED indicators on the top edge of the board will be OFF. Table 2-11 lists other indications which define specific failures.

	LED	NUM	BER:			
5	4	3	2	1	HEX	TEST RESULT
OFF	OFF	OFF	OFF	OFF	0	Self Test OK
OFF	OFF	OFF	OFF	ON	1	Sequencer Failure
OFF	OFF	OFF	ON	OFF	2	ALU Test Condition Failure
OFF	OFF	OFF	ON	ON	3	DBUS Test Condition Failure
OFF	OFF	ON	OFF	OFF		Static Memory Failure
OFF	OFF	ON	ON	OFF	6	ALU Address Failure
OFF	OFF	ON	ON	ON	7	FIFO Failure
ON	X	X	X	X		Dynamic Memory Failure
						(See Table 2-12)

Table 2-7 Self-Test Indications

	LED	NUM	BER:	;	é	
5	4	3	2	1	HEX	LOCATION
ON	OFF	OFF	OFF	OFF	10	23A
ON	OFF	OFF	OFF	ON.	11	24A
ON	OFF	OFF	ON	OFF	12	25A
ON	OFF	OFF	ON	ON.	13	26A
ON	OFF	ON	OFF	OFF	14	27A
ON	OFF	ON	OFF	ON	15	28A
ON	OFF	ON	ON	OFF	16	29A
ON	OFF	ON	ON	ON	17	30A

Table 2-8 Failing Memory Chip Look-Up Table

## CHECKOUT

With your tape system installed, you may now power-up the system and test the installation. To check the coupler installation and the connection of the cables to the drive, examine the Control/Status Register of the coupler. The Off-Line status bit (bit 6) should change when the drive is placed on-line.

You may then run the ZTSHCO test program contained in the optional diagnostic tape supplied with the coupler. An operational test should also be performed, such as performing a tape back-up from disk.

## VAX OPERATING PROCEDURES

Since the emulated DEC TS-11/TSV05 tape systems operate at one density only (PE), the tape coupler cannot select tape density. Density is manually selected at the tape drive for the particular tape mounted.

A procedural problem can therefore occur, especially on VAX computers operating under the VMS system. When writing a new blank tape or re-writing an existing tape using a different density, tape runaway will occur or the system will announce:

ERROR READING TAPE LABEL / NON-ANSI FORMAT

The simplest solution is to enter the following command (or create a command file, with the following format):

(For initializing in FILES-11 Format:)

INIT/OVERRIDE=(ACCESSABILITY, EXPIRATION)

-- or --

(For backup or other non-FILES-11 Format):

MOUNT/FOREIGN/OVERRIDE=(ACCESSABILITY, EXPIRATION)

System response: DEVICE?

MSAO (or other device number, as required)

System response: LABEL?

Specify an appropriate label, as desired.

The operator requires VOLPRO privilege to issue these commands. This procedure will write the appropriate header onto the tape. Be sure that the tape drive is set to the proper density before issuing these commands.

## XXDP+ DIAGNOSTICS

Boot the XXDP+ DIAGNOSTIC TAPE using the HARDWARE BOOT, (if available on the CPU) by hitting ONTROL/BOOT and typing MS<CR> after the prompt.

If no HARDWARE BOOT is available, MANUALLY enter the BOOTSTRAP ROUTINE shown below.

After the XXDP+ BOOTABLE TAPE has been BOOTED, load the DATA RELIABILITY PROGRAM by typing:

.R ZTSHC0 <CR>

Then ANSWER THE QUESTIONS as follows:

DR> STA <CR>
(REMOVE PROGRAM TAPE AND LOAD A GOOD SCRATCH TAPE)
CHANGE HW (L) ? Y <CR>
# UNITS (D) ? 1 <CR>
UNIT 0
TSSR ADDRESS (0) 172522 <CR>
VECTOR (0) 224 ? <CR>
CHANGE SW (L) ? N <CR>
UNIT 0 TS11 CODE LEVEL P377 (START OF DATA RELIABILITY)

At the end of the test pass, a SUMMARY of the test will be DISPLAYED on the screen.

## BOOTSTRAP ROUTINE (TS11)

ADDRESS	DATA		COMMENTS
1000 1002	012700 772520	START:	ADRS OF TSBA INTO R0
1004 1006	012701 772522		ADRS OF TSSR INTO R1
1010	005011	-	INIT
1012 1014	105711 100376		IS 'SSR' SET? WAIT IF NOT
1016 1020	012710 001064		ISSUE A SET CHARACTERISTICS CMD.
1022 1024	105711 100376		IS 'SSR' SET? WAIT IF NOT

BOOTSTRAP ROUTINE (Continued)

ADDRESS	DATA		COMMENTS
1026 1030	012710 001104	٠.	READ A RECORD
1032 1034	105711 100376		IS 'SSR' SET? WAIT IF NOT
1036 1040	012710 001104	·	READ A RECORD
1042 1044	105711 100376		IS 'SSR' SET? WAIT IF NOT
1046 1050	005711 100421		ERROR? GO TO MESSAGE AND HALT
1052 1054	012704 001102		ADRS OF 'NUM' TO R4
1056 1060	005000 005007		RESUME EXECUTION AT ZERO (IF NO ERRORS)
1062	046523	NUM:	MS(ASCII)
1064 1066 1070 1072	140004 001074 000000 000010	PKT1:	SET CHARACTERISTICS PACKET
1074 1076 1100 1102	001116 000000 000016 000000	PK:	MESSAGE
1104 1106 1110 1112	140001 000000 000000 001000	PKT2:	READ DATA PACKET
1114	000000	HLT:	
1116		MES:	OPTIONAL MESSAGE

<sup>\*</sup> TSBA:=772520 TSSR:=772522

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

PARAGRAPH	PAGE
INTRODUCTION	. 3-1
GENERAL	. 3-1
PACKET BUFFER PROTOCOL	. 3-2
PDP-11 PROGRAM-CONTROLLED INPUT/OUTPUT OPERATIONS	. 3-4
COMMAND PACKET	. 3-7
CHARACTERISTICS DATA BUFFER	3-11
TAPE DATA BUFFERS	3-11
MESSAGE PACKET	3-13

# LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS

Figure 3-1 Command Packet Formats . .

**PAGE** 

. 3-8

FIGURE

Figu	re 3-2	Charact	teristics	Data	Bufi	er	•	• •	• •	•	• .	•	•	3-11
Figu	re 3-3	Order o	of Charac	ters			•	• •	• •		•	•	•	3-12
Figu	re 3-4	Message	e Packet	Format	t .	• •	•	• •	• •	•	•	, e	•	3-14
			LI	ST OF	TABI	LES								
										,				
TABL	E													PAGE
3-1	PDP-11	Program	n-Control	led I	nput/	Out	put	Ope	erat	ion	ıs	• •		3-5
3-2	TSSR F	ormat			• • •	•		•	• •		•			3-6
3-3	Termina	ation Cl	Lass Code	s		•	• •	•		• •	•	• •	•	3-7
3-4	Command	l Packet	Header	Word I	Forma	ıt.	• •	•			•	• •		3-9
3-5	Command	d Summaı	ту	• • •	• •	• •	•		• •	•	• •	. •	•	3-10
3-6	Charact	eristic	cs Mode B	yte Fo	ormat		•		• •	•	• •	•	•	3-12
3-7	Message	Packet	Header	Word H	Forma	ıt.	•	• •	• •	•		•	•	3-14
3-0	Putond	A CHAH	ia Ward P	0 × m 0 + 0	,									2.15

### SECTION III

#### **PROGRAMMING**

## INTRODUCTION

This section contains machine-level programming reference information which describes the registers of the TAPE DIMENSION III/IV. Also contained in this section is information on the operation of the coupler including register transfers, packet transfers, data transfers, and interrupts.

## **GENERAL**

Communication between the PDP-11 program and the coupler involves program-addressable registers in the coupler and various classes of buffer space in PDP-11 main memory.

Two switch-selectable register addresses are assigned to the coupler. The first address is shared by the write-only TSDB register and the read-only TSBA register. The second address is assigned to the read/write TSSR register.

To implement any tape command, two packet buffers in PDP-11 memory must be assigned to that transport. These packet buffers include the Command Packet Buffer in which the PDP-11 program writes command information and the Message Buffer in which the coupler writes tape status information.

After writing a command packet in a command buffer, the PDPll program then writes the command buffer address in the TSDB register associated with the transport to which the command is addressed. This causes the coupler to read the command packet and, if possible, execute the command. Upon completion or rejection of the command, the coupler writes the appropriate tape status information in the TSSR register and in the message packet buffer. If the interrupt-enable bit is set in the command packet, it also interrupts the PDP-ll program to inform it of the ending status.

A separate command, the Set Characteristics command, points to a characteristics data buffer in PDP-11 main memory. The PDP-11 program writes the address and length of the message buffer to be assigned to the transport in the characteristics data buffer and also writes a characteristics mode byte. The write characteristics command causes the coupler to access the characteristics data buffer and obtain this information. Once a

message buffer address has been obtained, the message buffer continues to be assigned to the transport until initialization occurs. Since a message packet buffer is required to complete each command transaction, it follows that the first command to a transport following initialization must be a write Characteristics command.

The coupler uses non-processor direct memory accesses to obtain information from the command buffer and the characteristics data buffer and to write status information in the message buffer. During a tape read or write operation, the coupler uses non-processor direct memory transfers to access a tape data buffer in PDP-11 memory.

The TSBA register holds the 16 least significant bits of the PDP-11 memory address for each direct memory access. The two most significant bits of the PDP-11 memory address are held in the TSSR register.

The two least significant bits of each command packet buffer address are always 0s. Thus, the PDP-11 can specify the command packet buffer address by means of a single 16-bit transfer to the TSDB register. Bits 0 and 1 of the word transferred to the TSDB are the two most significant bits of the command packet buffer address. Bits 2 through 15 represent bits 2 through 15 of the command packet buffer address.

In addition to holding the two most significant bits of PDP-11 memory addresses, the TSSR register holds 13 bits of tape status. Although the TSSR register is defined as a read/write register, a DATO operation addressed to the TSSR register has the effect of resetting five of the status bits held in it rather than transferring information to it. Such an operation also results in transport initialization during which a load sequence returns the tape to the BOT position if the transport is on-line.

## PACKET BUFFER PROTOCOL

There is a specific protocol for accessing packet buffers and this protocol is defined in terms of buffer ownership. In general, ownership of both buffers belongs to the PDP-11 program at the time that a command transaction begins and passes to the coupler when the PDP-11 program writes the command packet buffer address in the TSDB register with the Acknowledge bit set in the Command Packet header word. Ownership of the two buffers then passes back to the PDP-11 program after the command has been completed when the coupler updates status and (if the Interrupt-Enable bit in the command packet is set) interrupts the PDP-11 program.

Since only the current owner is allowed to access a buffer, the coupler cannot report a change of status occurring during an idle period after it has returned ownership to the PDP-11 program. If a change between on-line and off-line status occurs

program. If a change between on-line and off-line status occurs when the coupler does not own the message buffer, it waits until the next command is received. This gives it the message buffer ownership required to update the message buffer so as to reflect the change in status. In this case, it does not accept ownership of the command buffer. If the attention-interrupt bit was set in the characteristics mode byte obtained during the most recent write-characteristics command transaction, then an attention interrupt occurs following the status update. This interrupt is independent of the state of the interrupt-enable bit of the command which returns message buffer ownership to the coupler allowing the status update.

Because the coupler has not accepted command buffer owner-ship, the transaction (which would normally have resulted in the processing of a command) in this case has resulted only in the reporting of a change in on-line/off-line status. If the command is still appropriate after this status change, the PDP-11 must restart the transaction by writing the command buffer address in the TSDB register in order to obtain command execution.

There is a message-buffer-release command whose only purpose is to leave ownership of the message buffer to the coupler so that a subsequent change of on-line/off-line status can be reported immediately under transport-idle conditions. The coupler updates the TSSR but not the message buffer during the message-buffer-release command transaction. If the release-interrupt-enable bit was set in the characteristics mode byte obtained during the most recent write-characteristics command transaction, then an interrupt is generated at the end of the message-buffer-release command transaction. This occurs independently of the state of the interrupt-enable bit of the message-buffer-release command.

If a change of on-line/off-line status occurs following the execution of the message-buffer-release command, then the message buffer is updated immediately to report this change of status. This update returns ownership of the message buffer to the PDP-ll program. If the attention-interrupt-enable bit was set in the characteristics mode byte obtained during the most recent write-characteristics command transaction, then an interrupt is generated at the time of the message buffer update. (This interrupt is also independent of the state of the interrupt-enable bit of the message-buffer-release command.)

## PDP-11 PROGRAM-CONTROLLED INPUT/OUTPUT OPERATIONS

Two consecutive word addresses are assigned to the transport interfacing with the coupler. When more than one TS-11 subsystem is to be installed in the computer system, the TD-III/IV can be addressed by the host as UNIT-0, UNIT-1, UNIT-2, or UNIT-3. The coupler's address assignments are established by setting toggle switches on the coupler board. Only one of the four Unit Numbers may be selected. The Standard addresses are as follows:

	_	Switch Switch		6B lon:		Address	Typical
Unit :	<u> </u>	4 3	2_	1_	Registers	Offset	Address
0 (1)	•	N OFF	OFF	OFF	TSDB/TSBA	0	772520
					TSSR	+ 2	772522
1 (2)	0	FF ON	OFF	OFF	TSDB/TSBA	+ 4	772524
					TSSR	+ 6	772526
2 (3)	0	FF OFF	ON	OFF	TSDB/TSBA	+10	772530
					TSSR	+12	772532
3 (4)	·	FF OF	OFF	ON	TSDB/TSBA	+14	772534
					TSSR	+16	772536
0 & 1	L C	N ON	OFF	OFF	for special	Two-Drive	

## NOTE: TD-III TWO-DRIVE OPTION

If you have the TD-III Two-Drive Option, the host may select both Unit 0 and Unit 1, when the coupler is set as shown above.

Table 3-1 summarizes the PDP-11 program-controlled input and output transfer operations associated with each register.

The format of the TSDB and TSBA register is defined in the description of the input and output operations. The format of the TSSR is summarized in Table 3-2.

Table 3-1
PDP-11 Program-Controlled Input/Output Operations

Transfer Class and Register	Description						
DATO, TSDB	Sixteen bits of command buffer address information from Unibus are accepted by the coupler. Bits 15 through 02 from Unibus are stored in corresponding bit positions of TSBA and bits 01 and 00 from Unibus (MSBs of command buffer address) are stored in bit positions 09 and 08 of TSSR. SSR bit in TSSR is reset. Coupler fetches command information from buffer and processes command without further program intervention if the ACK bit is set.						
DATOB, TSDB, Upper Byte	Upper byte from Unibus is loaded into both bytes of TSBA and bits 09 and 08 from Unibus are loaded into corresponding bit positions in TSSR. Used to test integrity of coupler Unibus addressing function for transport n. After this operation, DATO to TSSR must be performed to provide necessary initialization before command for transport n can be accepted.						
DATOB, TSDB, Lower Byte	Lower byte from Unibus is loaded into lower byte of TSBA and lower byte of TSSR. Used for diagnostic purposes. After this operation, DATO to TSSR must be performed to provide necessary initialization before command for transport n can be accepted.						
DATI, TSBA	Sixteen least significant bits of current Unibus address pointer for transport n are placed on Unibus.						
DATO or DATOB, TSSR	SPE, UPE, RMR, NXM, and SSR bits of TSSR are reset. Any transport n operation currently in progress is aborted. If transport n is on-line, a rewind-to-loadpoint operation is executed. SSR bit of TSSR is then set to indicate that transport n is ready to accept a command.						

DATI TSSR Contents of TSSR are placed on Unibus.

Table 3-2 TSSR Format

Bit(s)	Mnemonic	Meaning When Set
15	sc	A special condition was detected during execution of last command. More information is contained in the termination class code (bits 04-01)
14	UPE	Unibus parity error
13	SPE	Not used by the coupler. Always 0.
12	RMR	Register modification refused. The PDP-11 program has loaded a command packet address into the TSDB when SSR (bit 07) is reset. This can occur if the last command was a message buffer release command and the coupler is updating the message buffer to report a change in on-line/off-line status at the time that the PDP-11 program loads the TSDB.
11	NXM	The coupler has attempted to access a non-existent memory location. The attempted access may involve a command, message, or data buffer.
10	NBA	The coupler needs a message buffer address. A write characteristics command has not been executed since the last TSSR initialization.
09, 08	A17, A16	Bits 17 and 16 of the Unibus address for non- processor direct memory access
07	SSR	The transport is not busy and another command addressed to it can be accepted.
06	OFL	The transport is off line.
05, 04	FC1, FC0	Fatal termination class code. Not supported.
03-01	TC2-TC0	Termination class code. See Table 3-3.
00	•	Not used.

Table 3-3 Termination Class Codes

C	ode	e Value	е	·
T	C2	,1,0	Class	Description
0	0	0	Normal	No special condition detected.
0	0	1	Attention	Transport has gone off line or come on line.
0	1	0	Tape Status Alert	Tape status having program significance detected. Further information in TMK, RLS, RLL, EOT, or BOT bit of XSTATO word of message packet.
0	1	1	Function Reject	Command has been rejected. Further information in VCK, BOT, WLE, LLC, or ILA bit of XSTATO word of message packet or in OFL bit of TSSR.
1	0	0	Recoverable error, tape moved	An uncorrected error has been detected, and tape has moved one record position. Recommended procedure is to log error and issue retry command.
1	0	1	Recoverable error, tape not moved	Not used by the coupler.
1	1	0	Unrecoverable error	Tape position has been lost. No valid recovery procedure is available.
1	1	1	Fatal error	Not used by the coupler.

# COMMAND PACKET

Figure 3-1 illustrates command packet formats. Every packet contains a command packet header word. For some commands, additional information is required. Packets for commands which require access to a data buffer in main memory have two address words and a count word. The first address word contains the 16 least significant bits of the address. The second address contains the two most significant address bits, right justified. The count word specifies the data buffer length in positive byte count format. Packets for position commands contain a count word which specifies the number of records or file marks to be spaced over. For other commands, the header word contains all the required information.

Table 3-4 summarizes the information contained in the command packet header word. Two fields of the header word, the command mode field and the command code field, specify the operation to be performed. The decoding of these fields is summarized in Table 3-5.

· .					]	HEADI	ER W	ORD							•
A14	A13	A12	All	A10	A09	A08	A07	A06	A05	A04	A03	A02	A01	A0 0	•
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	. 0	0	0	Al7	A16	•
					(	COUN	r wo	RD							
* Address Words															
A.	Rea	ad, V	Write	e, Wi	rite	Chai	ract	eris	tics	Com	mand	Pac	ket	Form	a
					·										•
					1	HEADI	ER WO	ORD							
					(	COUN	r wo	RD							
в.	Pos	sitio	on Co	ommar	nd Pa	acket	: Fo	cmat		•					
r															
-				· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·				····						·	
					· I	HEADI	ER WO	ORD							
						NOT	USE	)							
	0 A.	0 0 * A. Rea	0 0 0  * Add A. Read, N	* Address A. Read, Write	* Address Wor A. Read, Write, W	Al4 Al3 Al2 All Al0 A09  0 0 0 0 0 0  * Address Words  A. Read, Write, Write  B. Position Command Pa	A14 A13 A12 A11 A10 A09 A08  O O O O O O O COUNT  * Address Words  A. Read, Write, Write Char  COUNT  COUNT  B. Position Command Packet  HEADI	A14 A13 A12 A11 A10 A09 A08 A07  O O O O O O O O O  COUNT WOL  * Address Words  A. Read, Write, Write Characte  HEADER WO  COUNT WOL  B. Position Command Packet For	O O O O O O O O O O COUNT WORD  * Address Words  A. Read, Write, Write Characterist  HEADER WORD  COUNT WORD	A14 A13 A12 A11 A10 A09 A08 A07 A06 A05  0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0  COUNT WORD  * Address Words  A. Read, Write, Write Characteristics  HEADER WORD  COUNT WORD  B. Position Command Packet Format  HEADER WORD	A14 A13 A12 A11 A10 A09 A08 A07 A06 A05 A04  0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0  COUNT WORD  * Address Words  A. Read, Write, Write Characteristics Company  HEADER WORD  COUNT WORD  B. Position Command Packet Format  HEADER WORD	A14 A13 A12 A11 A10 A09 A08 A07 A06 A05 A04 A03  O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O	A14 A13 A12 A11 A10 A09 A08 A07 A06 A05 A04 A03 A02  0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0  COUNT WORD  * Address Words  A. Read, Write, Write Characteristics Command Pace  HEADER WORD  COUNT WORD  B. Position Command Packet Format  HEADER WORD	A14 A13 A12 A11 A10 A09 A08 A07 A06 A05 A04 A03 A02 A01  O O O O O O O O O O O O O A17  COUNT WORD  * Address Words  A. Read, Write, Write Characteristics Command Packet  HEADER WORD  COUNT WORD  B. Position Command Packet Format  HEADER WORD	A14 A13 A12 A11 A10 A09 A08 A07 A06 A05 A04 A03 A02 A01 A00  O O O O O O O O O O O O O O A17 A16  COUNT WORD  * Address Words  A. Read, Write, Write Characteristics Command Packet Form  HEADER WORD  COUNT WORD  B. Position Command Packet Format  HEADER WORD

C. Control or Format Command Packet Format

Figure 3-1 Command Packet Formats

Table 3-4 Command Packet Header Word Format

	-	
Bit(s)	Mnemonic/ Name	Meaning When Set
15	ACK	Indicates the PDP-11 program has read message buffer. Is normally set for all commands except those occurring when the coupler owns message buffer due to execution of a message-buffer-release command.
14-12	Device- Depend. Field	(Individual bits described below)
14	cvc	Clears volume check bit of XSTATO word.
13	OPP	Alters read retry commands so that the read occurs in the opposite direction (Reread previous record is executed by reading in reverse and then spacing forward. Reread next record is executed by reading forward and then backspacing.)
12	SWB	When this bit is reset, the order of data buffer byte addresses is the same as the order in which the characters appear on tape with the character associated with the lowest byte address being closest to the BOT. Setting this bit swaps the positions of the two bytes of each word so that the upper byte appears closer to the BOT on the tape. (See paragraph: "TAPE DATA BUFFERS")
11-8	Command Mode	In conjunction with command code (bits 4-0) these bits specify the operation to be performed as summarized in Table 3-5.
7-5	Packet Format:	(Individual bits described below)
7	IE	Interrupt enable
6,5	-	These bits always have value 00, specifying one word header.
4-0	Command Code	In conjunction with command note bits (11-8), these bits specify the operation to be performed as summarized in Table 3-5.

Table 3-5 Command Summary

<u>Command</u> <u>Value</u>	Code Command	Command M Value	ode Operation
00001	Read	0000 0001 0010	Read one record forward. Read one record reverse. Reread previous record (backspace over record and then read forward). Reread next record (Space forward one record and then read reverse).
00100	Write character- istics	0000	Get message buffer address and characteristics byte from characteristics data buffer.
00101	Write	0000 0010	Write one data record. Retry to write one data record (Backspace over record and the erase and write record).
00110	Write Subsystem Memory	0000	Not supported.
01000	Position	0000 0001 0010 0011	Space forward n records, where n is specified by count word.  Space reverse n records, where n is specified by count word.  Skip n tape marks forward, where n is specified by count word.  Space reverse n tape marks, where n
		0100	is specified by count word. Rewind tape to loadpoint.
01001	Format	0000 0001 0010	Write tape mark. Erase forward 3 inches of tape. Retry to write tape mark (Space reverse, erase, and write tape mark).
01010	Control	0000	This constitutes a message buffer release command. It leaves ownership of the message buffer with the coupler so as to allow immediate reporting of transport on-line/off-line status change.
		0001	Rewind tape completely onto supply reel (unload).
01111	Get	0010	Clean tape (not supported).  Update message buffer.
	status immediate		

### CHARACTERISTICS DATA BUFFER

The information contained in the characteristics data buffer includes the message buffer address and the characteristics mode byte. The location and length of the characteristics data buffer are specified in the address and count words of the write characteristics command packet. The coupler uses non-processor direct memory accesses to obtain the information from the characteristics data buffer.

Figure 3-2 illustrates the characteristics data buffer format. Table 3-6 summarizes the information contained in the characteristics mode byte.

A15	A14	A13	A12	All	A10	A09	A08	A07	A06	A05	A04	A03	A02	A01	A00	*
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	A17	A16	*
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	0	**
, *			,					(	CHARA	ACTE	RIST	ICS I	MODE	BYTI	<u> </u>	

<sup>\*</sup> Message Buffer Address

Figure 3-2 Characteristics Data Buffer

#### TAPE DATA BUFFERS

Data to be written on tape or data read from tape is stored in a data buffer in PDP-11 main memory. This buffer is specified by the address and count words of the write or read command packet. Data transfers between the data buffer and the coupler are implemented by means of non-processor direct memory accesses.

Figure 3-3A illustrates the standard relationship between the order in which characters are stored in the data buffer in main memory and the order in which they appear on tape. This relationship is independent of the direction in which characters are being transferred and, for tape read operations, is independent of the direction in which the tape is being read.

If swap-byte bit SWB is set in the header of the command packet, then character positions within each word are reversed with respect to the standard relationship. To illustrate this in terms of the data buffer address (B) two cases must be shown. Figure 3-3B, illustrates the case of an even buffer address, BE.

<sup>\*\*</sup> Message Buffer Length

For this case, character 0 (the character that appears closest to the BOT) is stored at ( $B_E + 1$ ) and character 1 is stored at  $B_E$ . Character 2 is stored at ( $B_E + 3$ ) and character 3 is stored at ( $B_E + 2$ ). And so on.

For an odd buffer address,  $B_{\rm O}$ , character 0 is stored at  $B_{\rm O}$  - 1); character 1 is stored at  $(B_{\rm O}$  + 2); character 2 is stored at  $(B_{\rm O}$  + 1), and so on. This case is illustrated in Figure 3-3C.

Table 3-6 Characteristics Mode Byte Format

Bit	Mnemonic	Meaning
07	ESS	Instructs the tape transport to stop on a double tape mark during a Skip Tape Marks Position Command.
06	ENB	If the tape is at BOT and if ESS is set, instructs the tape transport to stop on a tape mark if it is the first tape block record encountered during a Skip Tape Marks Position Command. (LET status will be indicated.)
05	EAI	Enables ATTN interrupts when reporting on- line/off-line status change provided that interrupt-enable bit is set in command which passes message buffer ownership to coupler, allowing status update to occur.
04	ERI	Enables interrupt in response to message buffer release command if IE is set in command packet header word.

	В	B+l	B+2	B+3	B+4	B+5	B+6	B+7	DAMA
	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	DATA BUFFER
вот <	- 0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	TAPE

# A. Standard (DEC) Relationship (SWB=0)

	BE	B <sub>E</sub> +1	B <sub>E</sub> +2	B <sub>E</sub> +3	B <sub>E</sub> +4	B <sub>E</sub> +5	B <sub>E</sub> +6	B <sub>E</sub> +7	DATA
	1	0	3	2	5	4	7	6	BUFFER
BOT <	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	TAPE

# B. Swapped Bytes (IBM), Even Buffer Address (SWB=1)

	B <sub>0</sub> -1	ВО	B <sub>O</sub> +1	B <sub>O</sub> +2	B <sub>O</sub> +3	B <sub>O</sub> +4	B <sub>O</sub> +5	B <sub>O</sub> +6	B <sub>O</sub> +7	B <sub>O</sub> +8	DATA
	0		2	1	4	3	6	. 5	_	7	BUFFER
BOT <	- 0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	TAP	Ε	

C. Swapped Bytes (IBM), Odd Buffer Address (SWB=1)

NOTE: 0 - 7 denote particular characters

Figure 3-3 Order of Characters

### MESSAGE PACKET

Figure 3-4 illustrates the overall format of the message packet. The first word is the header word. The information in this word is summarized in Table 3-7. The second word is the data length word which always contains the value 10 (decimal) corresponding to the number of data bytes in the packet. The remaining words are extended status words RBPCR, XSTATO, XSTATI, XSTAT2, and XSTAT3. The information contained in these words is summarized in Table 3-8.

Figure 3-4 Message Packet Format

PACKET HEADER WORD
LENGTH WORD
RBPCR
XSTAT0
XSTAT1
XSTAT2
XSTAT3

Table 3-7 Message Packet Header Word Format

Bit(s)	Mnemonic/ Name	Meaning
15	ACK	Indicates that coupler has accessed the command packet buffer. In an ATTN message reporting an on-line status change, this bit is false.
14-12	5865	Not used
11-8	Class Code Field	In a FAIL or ATTN message (see bits 4-0), this code defines the type of event. The coupler ATTN messages are always type 0000 (indicating a change of online/off-line status). For a FAIL message, 0010 indicates a write-lock error or non-executible function and 0001 indicates other types of failures.
7-5	Packet Format Field	Always 000 indicating one word header.
4-0	Message Code	Code Associated Termination  Value Name Class Codes in TSSR
		10000 End 0, 2 10001 Fail 3 10010 Error 4, 5, 6 10011 Attention 1

Table 3-8
Extended Status Word Formats

Bit(s)	Mnemonic	Meaning
RBPCR REG	ISTER	
15-0	C15-C0	Residual byte, record, or tape mark count for Read, Space Record, or Skip Tape Mark commands, respectively.
XSTAT0		
15	TMK	Tape mark detected during Read, Space, Skip, or Write Tape Mark command. Causes termination class code 2 if set during a Read or Space command.
14	RLS	For a Read operation, indicates that record length was less than byte count. For a Space Record operation, indicates that tape mark was encountered before specified number of records were spaced over. For Skip Tape Mark operation, indicates BOT was encountered before specified number of tape marks were spaced over. Causes termination class code 2.
13	LET	Logical End of Tape - Indicates a stop has occurred during a Skip Tape Marks Position command as a result of ESS or ENB bit of Characteristics Mode Byte being set and double tape mark or tape mark immediately following BOT being encountered.
12	RLL	Record read contained more bytes than specified by byte count. Causes termination class code 2.
11	WLE	Indicates attempt to write on or erase write protected tape. Causes termination class code 3: write-enable ring not installed. Causes termination class code 6 if WRITE LOCK switch is activated during operation.
10	NEF	The command could not be executed. Causes termination class code 3. (A command requiring reverse motion cannot be executed if the tape is at the BOT position. A write command cannot be executed if the write-enable ring is not installed on the tape. A motion command cannot be executed if VCK (bit 4) is set and the CVC bit in the command header is not set or if the unit is off-line.)

# Table 3-8 (Continued) Extended Status Word Formats

Bit(s)	Mnemonic	Meaning
09	ILC	Command code/command mode value does not correspond to operation supported by transport. Causes termination class code 3.
07	MOT	Capstan is moving.
06	ONL	Tape transport is On-Line. When tape switches on-line, termination class code 1 is presented with ATTN interrupt. If motion command is received when tape is off-line, termination class code 3 is presented.
05	IE	Interrupt Enable bit from most recent com- mand.
04	VCK	Volume Check bit set after initialization and when transport switches between on-line and off-line status. Reset in response to CVC bit in command header. Causes termination class code 3 if it remains set.
03	PED	Indicates transport is capable of phase- encoded mode operation only.
02	WLK	Mounted tape reel does not have write-enable ring installed.
01	вот	Beginning-of-tape reflective strip is being detected. Causes termination class code 3 if set when command requiring reverse motion is received. Causes termination class code 2 if set during command execution.
00	EOT	Indicates tape position is beyond reflective end-of-tape marker. Causes termination class code 2 if set during a write operation.
XSTAT1		
15	DLT	Indicates that data transfers between coupler and PDP-11 memory have not been accomplished at rate required by tape read or write rate. Causes termination class code 4.
14	•	Not assigned.
13	COR	Indicates that a correctible error has been encountered during a read command.
12	CRS	Not supported.

Table 3-8 (Continued)
Extended Status Word Formats

Bit(s)	Mnemonic	Meaning
ıi	TIG	Not supported.
10	DBF	Not supported.
09	SCK	Not supported.
08	-	Not used.
07	IPR	Not supported.
06	SYN	Not supported.
05	IPO	Not supported.
04	IED	Not supported.
03	POS	Not supported.
02	POL	Not supported.
01	UNC	Indicates that an uncorrectable parity error has occurred during a read operation or that any parity error has occurred during a write operation. Causes termination class code 4.
00	MTE	Indicates that a multitrack dropout has been detected.
XSTAT2		
15	OPM	Indicates tape has moved in response to most recent command.
14	SIP	Not supported.
13	BPE	Not supported.
12	CAF	Not supported.
11	-	Not used.
10	WCF	Not supported.
09	-	Not used.
08	DTP	Not supported.
07-00	DT7-DT0	Not supported.

# Table 3-8 (Continued) Extended Status Word Formats

Bit(s)	Mnemonic	Meaning
XSTAT3		
15-08	-	Not supported.
07	ΓŇΧ	Not supported.
06	OPI	Indicates a Read, Space or Skip operation moved 25 feet of tape without encountering data. Also set in a Write operation if the read head doesn't encounter data after moving four feet of tape.
05	REV	Indicates that reverse motion was required to execute most recent motion command. (This includes all retry commands.)
04	CRF	Not supported.
03	DCK	Indicates that an identification burst error has been detected. If set when a write command is executed, causes termination class code 6.
02	NOI	Not supported.
01	LXS	Not supported.
00	RIB	Indicates that the BOT marker was encountered after the start of reverse tape motion during a Read, Space, or Skip command. Causes termination class code 2. Tape motion is halted at the BOT position.

# SECTION IV - COMPUTER INTERFACE

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

ARAGRAPH
EC PDP-11 UNIBUS
JS INTERFACE SIGNALS
US OPERATIONS
NPUT AND OUTPUT OPERATIONS
NTERRUPTS
LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS
PAG
gure 4-l Bus Interface
gure 4-2 DMA Request/Grant Sequences 4-
gure 4-3 Bus Transfer Sequences 4-
gure 4-4 Bus Request/Interrupt Sequence 4-0
LIST OF TABLES
PAG
able 4-1 Unibus Signals 4-7

(This page intentionally left blank.)

#### SECTION IV

### COMPUTER INTERFACE

## DEC PDP-11 UNIBUS

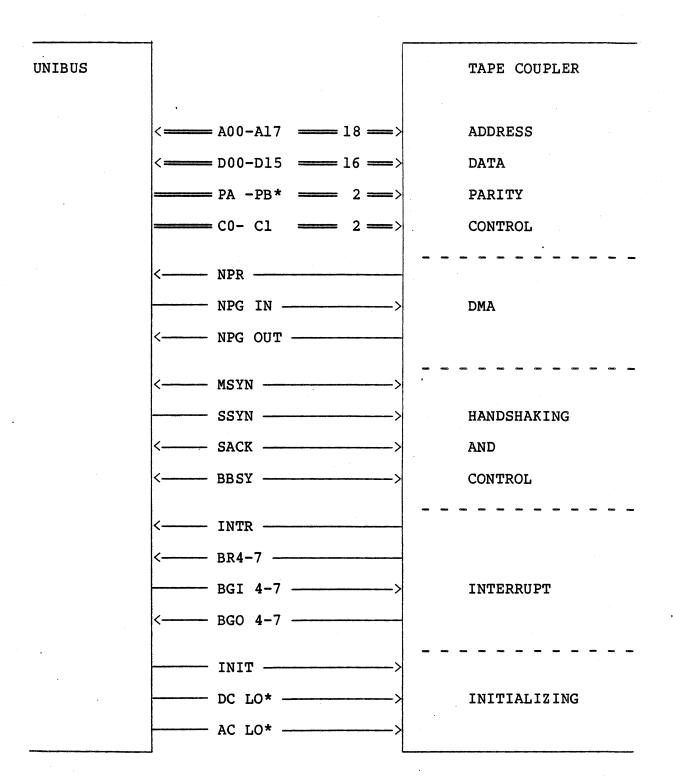
The tape coupler interfaces to the Unibus of the DEC PDP-11 computer system. The Unibus is an asynchronous I/O bus with separate 18-bit address lines and 16 bit data bus lines. In addition to address and data information, the bus contains signal lines for NPR (DMA) Operations, Bus Requests (Interrupts), data transfer handshaking, initialization of devices and other control signals.

## BUS INTERFACE SIGNALS

The interface signals used by the tape coupler to communicate with the bus, along with the connector and pin assignments, are shown in Table 4-1. The functions of these signals, as illustrated in Figure 4-1, are:

- 1. A0-A17/-A21 (ADDRESS LINES) These lines are the 18-bit address bus over which memory address and peripheral register address information is communicated. Address information is placed on the bus by the bus master device and is received and decoded by the selected slave device. The master device then either receives input data from, or outputs data to the addressed slave device (or memory) over the data bus lines.
- 2.  $\underline{\text{D0-D15}}$  (DATA LINES) These 16 lines are used to transfer data and register control/status information to and from the tape coupler.
- 3. <u>PA.PB (PARITY)</u> These lines are used by certain devices to indicate parity errors. (Not used in this device.)
- 4. <u>CO. Cl (CONTROL LINES)</u> These two lines are coded by the master device to describe the type of transfer, as follows:

<u>C1</u>	<u>C0</u>	OPERATION
0	0	DATI - Data In (to master)
1	0	DATO - Data Out (from master)
1	1	DATOB - Data Out, Byte (from master)



<sup>\*</sup> Not used in this device

Figure 4-1 Bus Interface

- 5. <u>MSYN (MASTER SYNC)</u> This control signal is issued by the master device to indicate that Address and Control information is present on the bus.
- 6. <u>SSYN (SLAVE SYNC)</u> This control signal is issued by the slave device in response to the signals MSYN or INTR generated by the master device.
- 7. NPR (NON-PROCESSOR REQUEST) This signal is asserted by the tape coupler to request control of the bus for the purpose of transferring drive data directly to or from memory.
- 8. NPG (NON-PROCESSOR GRANT) This signal is generated at the processor in response to the NPR, at the end of the bus cycle in progress. Since NPG is daisy-chained through the devices connected to the bus, it is received and regenerated by each device until it reaches the requesting device.
- 9. <u>BR4-BR7 (BUS REQUEST LINES)</u> One of these lines will be asserted by the controller to request control of the bus for the purpose of interrupting the processor.
- 10. <u>BG4-BG7 (BUS GRANT LINES)</u> One of these signals is generated at the processor in response to the corresponding Bus Request signal, after completing the instruction in progress. Since the Bus Grant lines are daisy-chained through the devices connected to the bus, it is received and regenerated by each device until it reaches the requesting device.
- 11. <u>SACK (SELECTION ACKNOWLEDGE)</u> This signal is asserted by the tape coupler in response to the processor's NPG or Bus Grant signal, indicating that control of the bus will pass to the tape coupler when the current bus master completes its operation.
- 12. <u>BBSY (BUS BUSY)</u> This signal is asserted by the bus master to indicate that the bus is in use. When BBSY goes false, control of the bus is passed to the new bus master.
- 13. <u>INTR (INTERRUPT REQUEST)</u> The tape coupler asserts this signal after becoming bus master to indicate that the desired Interrupt Vector information is present on the bus.
- 14. <u>INIT (INITIALIZE)</u> This signal is asserted by the processor to initialize or clear all devices connected to the bus.
- 15. <u>DC LO (DC POWER LOW)</u> This signal from the power supply initiates power-on sequencing in the computer and some devices.
- 16. <u>AC LO (AC POWER LOW)</u> This signal from the power supply initiates power-fail sequencing in the computer and some devices. (Not used in this device.)

## **BUS OPERATIONS**

The tape coupler receives commands from and provides status information to the processor, with the tape coupler being the slave device. After the tape coupler receives the proper commands to transfer data, the tape coupler becomes a bus master device, handling the data transfers directly with memory (a process which requires no processor intervention). When the tape coupler has completed all data transfers, it alerts the processor by issuing an interrupt request. Bus operations are illustrated in Figures 4-2, 4-3 and 4-4 and are described in the following paragraphs.

The tape coupler requests a data transfer on the bus by asserting NPR. After completing the current bus cycle, the processor inhibits initiation of a new bus cycle and responds by asserting NPG. The tape coupler then asserts SACK and removes NPR, causing the processor to terminate NPG. When BBSY goes false, the tape coupler becomes bus master, asserting BBSY, and executing the required data transfer of one or more data words to or from memory. When the data transfer is completed, the tape coupler relinquishes the bus to the processor by terminating the BBSY signal. The processor then returns to its programmed operations.

# INPUT AND OUTPUT OPERATIONS

Input operations are used by the processor to receive status information from the tape coupler and are used by the tape coupler to obtain data from memory to be written onto tape. Output operations are used by the processor to provide the tape coupler with command information and are used by the tape coupler when transferring information read from tape to the desired location in memory.

To begin an input transfer, address, control and MSYN are placed on the bus. The slave device responds by placing data and SSYN on the bus. The master device then receives the data, terminating MSYN, which causes the slave device to remove both SSYN and the data from the bus lines. The BBSY signal is then removed by the master device, terminating the input transfer. For an output transfer, data is placed on the bus by the master device together with MSYN. The slave device accepts the data and acknowledges by asserting the SSYN signal, which causes the master device to remove the data and terminate the MSYN signal. This action by the master device causes the slave to remove the SSYN signal which in turn causes the master to remove the BBSY signal, terminating the output transfer.

#### INTERRUPTS

Interrupts are used in the system so that the processor is not burdened with the responsibility of determining when the

TAPE	COUPLE	R <u>UNIBUS</u>	PROCESSOR
NPR -		(Request DMA Cycle)	>
	<	(Grant DMA Cycle)	NPG *
NPR,	SACK -	(Selection Acknowledge)	<del>&gt;</del>
	<	(Remove Grant)	— NPG *
	<	(Bus Available) ————————————————————————————————————	
BBSY		(Bus In-Use)>	
* NO!	TE: Dais	sy-chained signal	
		Figure 4-2 DMA Request/Grant Sequences	
			e e e e e e e e e e e e e e e e e e e
		DATO (OUTPUT FROM MASTER)	
W A CIÓ			. CT NUE
MAST			SLAVE
ADDR		DATA, MSYN ——— (Issue Data) ——————	
		(Accept Data)	
ADDR	, CTL, I	DATA, MSYN ——— (Release Slave) ————	>
	<	(Conclude Cycle)	—— SSYN
		DATO (INPUT TO MASTER)	
MASTI	ER		SLAVE
ADDR	, CTL, N	ASYN ———— (Request Data) —————	->
	<	(Accept Data) DA	ATA, SSYN
ADDR	, CTL, N	MSYN (Release Slave)	>
	<	(Conclude Cycle) — DA	

Figure 4-3 Bus Transfer Sequences

tape coupler has completed an operation. Interrupt processing allows the processor to continue with its programmed tasks until alerted by the tape coupler. When enabled in the tape coupler, the Bus Request is issued by the tape coupler to the processor upon completion of an operation. If the processor currently is accepting Bus Requests at that priority level, the daisy-chained Bus Grant signal is issued as a response. The Bus Grant signal is passed along by each device until captured by the requesting tape The interrupting tape coupler will then remove the Bus Request and assert SACK. When the instruction in progress has been completed, further program execution is suspended and the BBSY signal is released, allowing the tape coupler to become bus master. It asserts BBSY and INTR and places its hardwired vector address onto the bus. The vector points to memory locations containing a new processor status word (psw) and the program counter address (pc) of the interrupt handling routine. processor saves its current processor status word and program counter address, receives the vector, and then terminates the SSYN signal. This causes the tape coupler to terminate the BBSY and INTR signals and remove the vector from the bus. The processor will then enter the tape coupler's interrupt service routine to handle the interrupt.

TAPE COUPLER	<u>UNIBUS</u>	PROCESSOR
BR —	(Request Bus Cycle)	<del>&gt;</del>
<	(Grant Bus Cycle)	BG *
BR, SACK —	(Selection Acknowledge)	<del></del> >
<	(Remove Grant)	BG *
< (	Bus Available) —— BBSY *	
BBSY — (	Bus In-Use) ———>	
Vector, INTR	(Request Interrupt Service)	<del>&gt;</del>
<	(Accept Vector)	SSYN *
BBSY, Vector,	INTR ——— (Release Bus)	<del>&gt;</del>
<	(Interrupt Processing)	SSYN*, BBSY

Figure 4-4 Bus Request/Interrupt Sequence

\* NOTE: Daisy-chained signal

ECTOR F		CONN	ECTOR E	
SIDE 1	SIDE 2	PIN	SIDE 1	SIDE 2
BBSYL NPRL	+5V -15V GND	A B C D E F H J K L	A12L A17L MSYNCL A07L A01L SSYNCL A14L A11L	+5V GND A15L A16L C1L A00L C0L A13L
INTRL	SACKL	N P R S T	AlOL AO9L GND	A08L A07L
		V V	A06L A05L	A04L A03L
ECTOR D		CONN	ECTOR C	
SIDE 1	SIDE 2	PIN	SIDE 1	SIDE 2
	+5V GND BR7L BR6L BR5L BR4L	A B C D E F H J	NPGH GOUTH Dlln	+5V  GND D15N D14N D13N D12N D10N
INITL	BGIN7H BGOUT7 BGIN6H BGOUT6 BGIN5H BGOUT5 BGIN4H BGOUT4	K L M N P R S T U	DCLOL PBL GND	D09N D08N D07N D04N D05N D01N D00N D03N D02N D06N
	SIDE 1  BBSYL  NPRL  INTRL  GND  ECTOR D  SIDE 1  INITL	SIDE 1  SIDE 2  +5V -15V GND  BBSYL  NPRL  INTRL  GND  SACKL  ECTOR D  SIDE 1  SIDE 2  +5V  GND  BR7L  BR6L  BR5L  BR6L  BR5L  BR4L  INITL  BGIN7H  BGOUT7  BGIN6H  BGOUT6  BGIN5H  BGOUT5  BGIN4H	SIDE 1	SIDE 1

<sup>\*</sup> Connectors A and B use only ground connections (T1, C2)

Table 4-1 Unibus Signals

# SECTION V - PERTEC-COMPATIBLE FORMATTER INTERFACE

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

PARAGRAPH		PAGE
Formatted T	Cape Drive Interface	5-1
	TABLES	
Table 5-1	I/O Cable Pin Assignments	5-2
Table 5-2	Tape Coupler To Formatter Signals	5-3
Table 5-3	Formatter Interface Commands	5-5
Table 5-4	Formatter To Tape Coupler Signals	5-6

(This page intentionally left blank.)

## SECTION V

#### PERTEC-COMPATIBLE FORMATTER INTERFACE

# FORMATTED TAPE DRIVE INTERFACE

This section defines the interface to the tape formatter for the streaming or non-streaming tape units controlled by the tape coupler. This interface is based on the industry standard interface for 1/2 inch formatted tape units, The basic industry conventions such as cabling, electrical characteristics, data and command transfer characteristics, and timing have been maintained.

Two 50-conductor 3M-type ribbon cables are used for interconnection between the standard or streaming transport formatter and the tape coupler. These cables are connected between the card connectors on the tape coupler and the formatter PC board. Cable length can be a maximum of 6.0 meters (20 feet).

The formatter input circuits are designed such that either a disconnected wire or removal of power at the transmitter results in a false signal being interpreted at the receiver end. All lines between the tape coupler and the drive's formatter are low-true and driven by tri-state devices,

The following tables provide a list of pins and a definition of terms as used on the interface between the tape coupler and the formatter.

CON	NECTOR	<b>J</b> 3	CON	INECTOR	J4
SIGNAL PIN	RETURN PIN	LO-TRUE SIGNAL	SIGNAL PIN	RETURN PIN	LO-TRUE SIGNAL
2	1	FFBY	1	5	FRDP
4	3	FLWD	2	5	FRDO
6	5	FWD4	. 3	5	FRD1
6 8	7	FGO	4	5	FLDP
10	9	FWD0	6 8	5	FRD4
11	12	FWDl	8	7	FRD7
14	13	SPARE	10	9	FRD6
16	15	NOT USED	12	11	FHER
18	17	FREV	14	13	FFMK
20	19	FREW	16	14	FID
22	21	FWDP	18	17	FFEN
24	23	FWD7	20	19	FRD5
26	25	FWD3	22	21	FEOT
28	27	FWD6	24	23	FOFL
30	29	FWD2	26	25	NOT USED
32	31	FWD5	28	27	FRDY
34	33	FWRT	30	29	FRWD
36	35	NOT USED	32	31	FFPT
38	37	FLGAP	34	33	FRSTR
40	39	FERASE	36	35	FDWDS
42	41	FWFM	38	. 37	FDBY
44	43	NOT USED	40	39	NOT USED
46	45	FTADO	42	41	FCER
48	47	FRD2	44	43	FONL
50	49	FRD3	46	45	FTAD1
			48	47	FFAD
			50	49	FSMC

Table 5-1 I/O Cable Pin Assignments

Table 5-2 Tape Coupler To Formatter Signals

LO-TRUE SIGNAL BP 0	DEFINITION	DESCRIPTION
FFAD	Formatter Address	This signal level selects one of two possible transports attached to to transport interface:
		<ol> <li>FFAD False = Address 0</li> <li>FFAD True = Address 1</li> </ol>
		The transport's address is predetermined by a strap on the formatter PWA.
FTADO,1	Transport Address	Addresses up to 4 transports per formatter.
FGO	Initiate Command	This signal is used to strobe the following command lines on the trailing edge:
		1. FREV 4. FERASE 2. FWRT 5. FLGAP 3. FWFM 6. FSMC
FREV	Reverse/Forward	This signal specifies the direction of tape motion as follows:
		<ol> <li>False = Forward</li> <li>True = Reverse</li> </ol>
FWFM	Write File Mark	
FERASE	Erase Tape	If FERASE and FWRT are low, the transport is positioned to execute a Dummy-Write command. The transport will go through all of the operations of a normal Write command except that data is recorded. A length of tape will be erased equivalent to the length of the Dummy-Record (as defined by FLWD). Alternatively, if FERASE, FWRT, and FWFM command lines are all low, the transport is conditioned to execute a Dummy-Write File Mark command. A fixed length of tape of approximately 3.6 inches will be erased.

Table 5-2 Tape Coupler To Formatter Signals (Continued)

LO-TRUE SIGNAL	DEFINITION	DESCRIPTION
FLGAP	Long Gap	When true, this line causes the transport to be set up for 1.2 inch gap. When false, will select the normal 0.6 inch gap.
FSMC	Speed Mode change	This signal causes selected transports to change the mode of operation (12.5 ips/100 ips).
FREW	Rewind	This signal (minimum 1.0 microsecond pulse) causes the selected transport to rewind to BOT. The FRWD signal is asserted during the rewind operation. Formatter Busy is not set during a Rewind.
FOFL	Off-line & Rewind	This line must be held true for a minimum of 1.0 microsecond. It causes the transpoert to rewind and unload the tape. Formatter Busy is not set.
FWDO-7,P	Write Data	These lines transmit data to the transport. FWDO represents the most significant bit.
FFEN	Formatter Enable	This signal, when false, causes the transport to be reset to initial-ized state. It is independent to FFAD. This is a level signal that will hold the transport reset while false.
FLWED	Last Word	During Write and Controlled Erase, this line, when true with FWDO-7, FWDP indicates that the character being strobed into the formatter is the last of the record.

Table 5-3 Formatter Interface Commands

COMMAND	LOOP	SNSR	REV	WRT	WFM	ERASE
Read Forward*	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low
Read Reverse*	Low	Low	High	Low	Low	Low
Write*	Low	Low	Low	High	Low	Low
Write File Mark	Low	Low	Low	High	High	Low
Space Forward	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	High
Space Reverse	Low	Low	High	Low	Low	High

Low = False High = True

<sup>\*</sup> FLGAP is also strobed during these command transfers indicating the setting of a long or normal gap length (2.2 inch IBG or 0.6 inch IBG nominal, respectively). FSMC is also strobed by FGO. However, FSMC is not issued during data operations. (FLGAP, FSMC and FGO are low-true signals.)

Table 5-4 Formatter To Tape Coupler Signals

LO-TRUE SIGNAL	DEFINITION	DESCRIPTION
FFBY	Formatter Busy	Only goes true when FGO command is received. Remains true until completion of command execution.
FDBY	Data Busy	Only goes true when the transport has reached operating speed, traversed the IBG, and the transport is about to write data on the tape or read data from the tape. Data Busy remains low until the data transfer is finished. A new command may be given when Data Busy goes false for an "on-the -fly" operation. "On-the-fly" commands must be the same read/write mode and same tape direction.
FID	PE Identification	Set when writing first record from load point or reading first record from load point if tape is PE.
FHER	Hard Error	This line is set low if any error has been detected. This line will be set low as soon as an error occurs and stays low until the next FGO signal is transmitted, or the FFEN signal is set high. all error information will be reported to the coupler before FDBY signal goes false.
FCER	Corrected Error	This line is set low whenever a single track error occurs during a read or read-after-write operation. The signal will stay true until the next FGO signal is transmitted or FFEN signal is set high. If the FCER signal is set low during the read-after-write operation, the record should be rewritten.
FFMK	File Detected	
FRDY	Selected Transport On-Line	
FRWD	Rewind	
FEOT	End of Tape	

Table 5-4 Formatter To Tape Coupler Signals (Continued)

LO-TRUE SIGNAL	DEFINITION	DESCRIPTION
FFPT	File Protect	
FLDP	Load Point	
FDWDS	Demand Write Data Strobe	
FDWDS	Demand Write Data Strobe	This line consists of a pulse for each data character to be written onto tape. The pulse width of signal FWDS is 1 microsecond. The first data character should be available on the write data input

onto tape. The pulse width of signal FWDS is 1 microsecond. The first data character should be available on the write data input lines within one character period after the FDBY signal has been set true, and remain true until the trailing edge of the first FDWDS signal.

Succeeding characters must then be placed on these lines within one-half of a character period after the trailing edge of each FDWDS signal. During a Write File Mark command, the required file mark pattern is generated internally by the formatter and the FDWDS signal is not used. During erase operation (variable length), this line will also be used. However, no data are transferred or written onto tape. The coupler may use this line to determine the length of tape which has been erased.

FRSTR

Table 5-4 Formatter To Tape Coupler Signals (Continued)

LO-TRUE
SIGNAL DEFINITION DESCRIPTION

Read Data Strobe

This line consists of a pulse for each character of read information to be transmitted to the customer coupler interface and should be used to sample the read data lines FRDP, FRDO-7. The pulse width of this signal is 1.2 microseconds. The average time between pulses on the FRSTR line is given by:

where D = 1600 bpi and S X D S = tape speed (ips)

The customer coupler interface must be able to accept the whole block of data at the specified data rate.

Due to bit crowding, tape speed variation, and signal drop-out correction (PE), the customer coupler interface must be able to receive characters at a rate which can vary twice the nominal rate and half the nominal rate.

FRDO-7, P Read Data

These nine lines transmit read data from the formatter to the customer coupler. Each character read from tape is available to sampling these lines in parallel with the FRSTR. Data will be placed on the read to the leading edge of the FRSTR pulse. The data remans on the read datsa l; ines for at least 0.5 microseconds after the trailing edge of the FRSTR pulse. Sense data is also transmitted on this bus analogous to the read data at 160K byte/second rate.

# SECTION VI - STC/TELEX TAPE INTERFACE

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

PARAG	RAPH				PAGE
GCR F	ORMATTED TA	PE DRIVE INTERFA	CE.		 6-1
COUPL	ER-TO-FORMA	TTER SIGNALS	• •		 . 6-1
FORMA	TTER-TO-COU	PLER SIGNALS	• •	• • • •	 . 6-4
		TAF	BLES		
Table	6-1	Pin Assignments (Connector Jl)	for	STC/Telex	. 6-7
Table	6-2	Pin Assignments (Connector J1)	for	STC/Telex	. 6-8

(This page intentionally left blank.)

### SECTION VI

## STC/TELEX TAPE INTERFACE

#### GCR FORMATTED TAPE DRIVE INTERFACE

This section defines the interface to the STC or Telex tape formatter for tape units with GCR tape format capability controlled by the TAPE DIMENSION coupler. This interface is based on the manufacturers' specifications for their interface for 1/2 inch GCR-formatted tape.

Two 60-pin cables are used for the connection between the tape formatter and the tape coupler. These cables are connected between the card connectors on the tape coupler and the tape formatter. Cable length can be a maximum of 6.0 meters (20 feet). The Telex interface requires an adapter (available from Western Peripherals) that breaks out the signals into three 50-pin cables for connection to the Telex formatter.

Formatter input circuits are typically designed such that either a disconnected wire or removal of power at the transmitter results in a false signal being interpreted at the receiver end. All lines between the tape adapter and the drive's formatter are low-true and driven by tri-state devices.

The following paragraphs and tables provide a list of pins and a definition of terms as used on the interface between the coupler and the formatter. Signals in parentheses are for the STC interface while those in square brackets are for the Telex formatter interface.

# COIPLER-TO-FORMATTER SIGNALS

Initiate Command (Start)/[Command Clock] - This line clocks the command, address and density into the formatter and initiates the command. The coupler asserts this signal until the formatter goes Busy.

Tape Unit Address (ADO,1)/[TA1,2] - Tape unit address lines are available at the interface for selection of a specific tape unit connected to the formatter.

**Density Select (DS0,1)** - During a read operation, tape density is automatically set according to the ID Burst. For a write operation (with the drive positioned at load point and set for remote software density selection) these lines select the density as follows:

DS0	DS1	Density Selected		
0	0	Phase Encoded		
1	0	Group Code Recording		
0	1	NRZI		
1	1	Selected on drive panel		

Command Select (CMD0-3) [CMD0-4] - The commands to the formatter are specified by the code present on these lines when the Command Clock line is asserted.

STC CMD0-3	TELEX CMD0-4	Function
0 0 0 0 0 0 0 1 0 0 1 0 0 0 1 1	$\begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	Diagnostic Mode
0 1 0 0 0 1 0 1 0 1 1 0 0 1 1 1	$ \begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	Read One Block Read Reverse One Block Write One Data Block Loop Write-to-Read
1 0 1 0	0 0 1 1 0 0 0 1 0 1 0 1 0 0 0 0 0 1 0 0	Forward Space One File
1 1 0 0 1 1 0 1 1 1 1 0 1 1 1 1	1 1 1 1 1 1 0 1 1 1 0 0 1 1 1 0 1 1 1 1	Write Tape Mark Erase 3.5 Inch Gap Rewind Tape Rewind and Unload
	1 0 1 1 0 0 1 0 1 0 0 0 0 1 1 1 0 1 0 1	

Data Transfer Acknowledge (TRAK)/[DAK] - The coupler responds to the Data Transfer Request signal from the formatter with this signal. These handshaking signals are used to transfer all write and read data with the following meanings:

Hands	hak	inq	Sign	als

Function	Data Req.	Data Ack.
Write Read	Data Req'd. Data Avail.	Data Avail. Data Stored

Last Byte (STOP)/[LBY] - This signal indicates to the formatter that the last write data byte has been placed on the formatter bus. This signal (asserted in response to Data Transfer Request or Block Sensed) also terminates read transfers and spacing operations.

Tape Subsystem Reset (SRS)/[STSRST] - This signal resets the formatter and tape drive, discontinuing any operations in progress and resetting all command, data and status conditions. (Reset during tape motion could result in incorrect positioning or incomplete blocks.)

Multiplexed Error Status Select Code (ESCO,1)/[SLXO,1,2] - The code on these lines select the information to be placed on the Multiplexed Error Status Bus, as follows:

STC				MUL'	riple:	XED E	RROR I	3IT		
SLX2-0	DESCRIPTION	P	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0
0 0 0	Dead Tracks	DTP	DT7	DT6	DT5	DT4	DT3	DT2	DTl	DT0
0 0 1	Read/Write Errors	CRC ERR	WTM CHK	UCE	PART REC	MTE	NOT USED	END DATA CHK	VEL ERR	DIAG MODE LTCH
0 1 0	Diag. Aids	TACH	DA7	DA6	DA5	DA4	DA3	DA2	DAl	DA0
0 1 1	Drive Sense Byte	WRT STAT	EOT STAT	BOT STAT	WRT INHB	FILE PROT	BKWD STAT	HIGH DENS	RDÝ STAT	ON- LINE
1 0 0	CRC-F	P	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0
1 0 1 1 1 0 1 1 1	Reserved Reserved Reserved									
TELEX				MUL!	ri PLE	KED EI	RROR	BIT		
ESC1,0	DESCRIPTION		7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0
0 0	Byte 0		NOT CMPT	VRC	MULT TRK	SAGC CHK	FMK ERR	NOIS	FMTR FAIL	
0 1	Byte 1		LRC CHK	ENV CHK	PRE ERR	POST ERR	PART REC	LOST BOB	SKEW	CRC CHK
1 0	Byte 2		BRST CHK	VEL CHK	TACH FAIL	WRT CURR	LOOP OUT	NO DATA	IBG OVR	TRK P
1 1	TK IN ERR/DEA	D TK	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0

Bidirectional Data Bus (DATA 0-7,P)/[D0-7,P] - These nine data lines transmit data between the coupler and the tape drive.

#### FORMATTER-TO-COUPLER SIGNALS

Data Transfer Request (TREQ)/[DRQ] - This handshaking signal requests a transfer of read or write data between the coupler and the formatter. (See Data Transfer Acknowledge)

**Block Sensed (BLOCK) -** This signal indicates that the formatter has detected a data or tape mark block.

Input Bus Enable [IBEN] - This signal conditions the bidirectional data bus for transfers from the coupler to the formatter.

Oscillator (OSC) - This signal line is derived from the internal crystal oscillator in the formatter, as follows:

GCR 50-75 ips 2.72 MHz GCR 125 ips 2.27 MHz NRZI and PE 1.40 MHz

**Odd Byte [OBY]** - This line toggles to the opposite state for each character to allow 16-bit computer word packing and unpacking.

End of Data Pulse (ENDATP) - This signal is asserted to indicate the last data byte has been read and (implied) transferred to the coupler.

Data Busy [DBZ] - This signal indicates that write or read data is being transferred on the formatter bus.

Formatter Busy (BUSY)/[BSY] - This signal is true from the time the command is initiated until it is rejected or completed.

Identification Burst (ID BRST)/[IDB] - This signal indicates an Identification Burst (6250 or 1600) has been read or is being written.

Tape/File Mark Status (TMS)/[FMK] - This signal indicates a File/Tape Mark has been read or is being written.

Command Reject (REJECT)/[REJ] - This signal indicates the previous command is inappropriate to formatter/drive status.

Operation Incomplete (OP INC) - This signal is set to indicate the command was initiated but was not completed by the formatter.

Reverse Operation [REV] - This status signal indicates the previous command was a reverse command.

Overrun Status (OVRNS)/[OVR] - This signal indicates the data rate of the formatter has exceeded the transfer rate of the coupler/bus and data has been lost.

ROM Parity Error Status (ROMPS)/[RPE] - This signal indicates an internal microcode failure in the formatter.

Slave Status Change (SSC) - This line indicates a drive has gone Ready, On-Line or Off-Line.

Error Status [ERR] - This line is set for the following error status: DPE, OVR, LWR, Multiplexed Error Bytes 0 and 2 (exc. bit 7) and Byte 1 (bits 0, 4-7 and bits 2 & 3 in the write mode).

Data Check (DATA CHK) - This signal indicates one or more of the following conditions has occurred: Any bit (exc. bit 1) of Multiplexed Error Status Byte 1, (CRC Error, Write Tape Mark Check, Uncorrectable Error, Partial Record, Multiple Track Error, End of Data Check, Velocity Error), Overrun, VRC Error, LRC Error, TIE Cannot be Found, Write Skew Error, BOT Detected, PE Postamble Error, Single Track Error.

**Erase Mode [EM] -** This status line indicates the previous command accepted was an erase operation.

Read Mode [RM] - This status line indicates the previous command accepted was a reading operation.

Write Mode [WM] - This status line indicates the previous command accepted was a writing operation.

Multiplexed Error Status Bus (ERRMX 0-7,P)/[ERROR 0-7,P] - These nine lines provide the Error Status Bytes previously described.

Corrected Error (CRERR)/[COR] - This signal is set to indicate
the follwing errors have been corrected:

- PE single track read or read-after-write error.
- 2 GCR single or double track read or read-after-write error.
- (3) NRZI tape error resulting in a reread.

Data Bus Parity Error (BUPER)/[DPE] - (STC - This line indicates incorrect data parity was detected on the formatter data bus.) [Telex - This line indicates a VRC, CRC or LRC error occurred.]

On Line Status (ONLS)/[ONL] - This status line indicates the tape
drive is On Line.

Ready Status (RDYS)/[RDY] - This status line indicates the tape drive is On Line with tape loaded and not rewinding.

Beginning of Tape Status (BOTS)/[BOT] - This status line indicates the tape is positioned at the BOT marker.

End of Tape Status (EOTS)/[EOT] - This status line indicates the tape is positioned at or beyond the EOT marker.

File Protect Status (FPTS)/[FPT] - This status line indicates the tape was loaded on the drive without a write-enable ring in the supply reel.

Rewinding Status (REWS)/[RWG] - This status line indicates the tape is rewinding to BOT.

High Density Status (HDENS)/[DDS0] - This status line indicates
the GCR format is selected.

NRZI Status (NRZI)/[DDS1] - Unless High Density Status is selected, this status line indicates the NRZI format is selected.

Table 6-1 Pin Assignments for STC/Telex Interface (Connector J1)

COUPLER CONNECTOR J1

TELEX I/O CONNECTORS

CONNECT	OK UI			TELEX 1/O	CONNE	CTORS	
SIGNAL PIN	GROUND PIN	COUPLER SCHEM. MNEMONIC	STC MNEMONIC	TELEX MNEMONIC	CONN NO.	SIGNAL PIN	GND. PIN
A2	B2	ER0	ERMX-0	ERROR 0	3	2	27
A3	В3	ER1	ERMX-1	ERROR 1	3	3	28
A4	B4	ER2	ERMX-2	ERROR 2	3	4	29
A5	B5	ER3	ERMX-3	ERROR 3	3	5	30
A6	В6	ER4	ERMX-4	ERROR 4	3	6	31
A7	В7	ER5	ERMX-5	ERROR 5	.3	7	32
A8	B8	ER6	ERMX-6	ERROR 6	3	8	33
A9	В9	ER7	ERMX-7	ERROR 7	3	9	34
A10	B10	FBSY	BUSY	BSY	1	12	37
All	Bll	DREQ	TREQ	DRQ	3 3 3 3 3 1 2 1 2	12	37
A12	B12			RM	1	22	47
A13	B13	IDB	ID BURST	IDS	2	19	44
A14	B14	OPI	OPINC	REV	1	21	46
A15	B15	DBSY	ENDATP	DBZ			
A16	B16	FMT	TMS	FMK	2 1	22	47
A17	B17	RJS	REJECT	REJ	1	14	39
A18	B18	OVR	OVRNS	OVR	2	16	41
Al 9	B19	EM	DATA CHK	EM	1	25	50
A20	B20	RPE	ROMPS	RPE	1 2 2 2 2 1 2	20	45
A21	B21	CERR	CRERR	COR	2	18	43
A22	B22	BLK	BLOCK	IBEN	2	10	35
A23	B23	DD0	NRZI	DDS0	2	20	45
A24	B24	DPE	BUPER	DPE	2	24	49
A25	B25	ONL	ONLS	ONL	1	17	42
A26	B26	DD1	HDENS	DDS1	2	21	46
A27	B27	RDY	RDYS	RDY	1	18	43
A28	B28			MW	1 2	23	48
A29 A30	B29 B30	CMD0 TA0	RESERVED RESERVED	CMD0	2	11	36

NOTE: All interface signals are low-true.

Table 6-2 Pin Assignments for STC/Telex Interface (Connector J2)

COUPLER CONNECTOR J2

TELEX I/O CONNECTORS

CONNECTOR 02				TELEX 1/O	COMME	CTORS	
SIGNAL PIN	GROUND PIN	COUPLER SCHEM. MNEMONIC	STC MNEMONIC	TELEX MNEMONIC	CONN NO.	SIGNAL PIN	GND. PIN
Al	Bl	TA0	AD0	TAl	1	2	27
A2	B2	TAl	ADl	TA2	1	3	28
A3	В3	CMD1	CMD0	CMD1	1 1 1 1 1 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 3 3 1	· 5	30
A4	B4	CMD2	CMD1	CMD2	1	6	31
A5	B5	CMD3	CMD2	CMD3	1	7	32
A6	B6	CMD4	CMD3	CMD4	1	8	33
A7 -	B7	DS0	DS0	DS0	1	9	34
A8	B8	CMDCLK	START	CMD. CLK	1	13	38
A9	B9	LBYT	STOP	LBY	2	14	39
Al0	B10	DACK	TRAK	DAK	2	13	38
All	Bll	(NO NAME)	DATA-P	DP	2	9	34
A12	B12	(NO NAME)	DATA-0	D0	2	1	26
A13	B13	(NO NAME)	DATA-1	Dl	2	2	27
Al4	B14	(NO NAME)	DATA-2	D2	2	3	28
A15	B15	(NO NAME)	DATA-3	D3	2	4	29
Al6	B16	(NO NAME)	DATA-4	D4	2	5 6 7	30
A17	B17	(NO NAME)	DATA-5	D5	2	6	31
A18	B18	(NO NAME)	DATA-6	D6	2		32
A19	B19	(NO NAME)	DATA-7	D7	2	8	33
A20	B20	SRST	RESET	SYSRST	2	23	48
A21	B21	ESC1	SLXl	ESC1	3	11	36
A22	B22	ESC0	SLX0	ESC0	3	10	35
A23	B23	DSl	DS1	DSl	1	10	35
A24	B24	ESC2	SLX2	NOT USED			
A25	B25	ERR	SSC	ERR	2	17	42
A26	B26	osc	OSC	OB	2	25	50
A27	B27	EOT	EOTS	EOT	1	16	41
A28	B28	LP	BOTS	BOT	1	15	40
A29	B29	FP	FPTS	FPT	1	19	44
A30	B30	RW O	REWS	RWG	1	24	49

NOTE: All interface signals are low-true.

# SECTION VII - NRZI AND PE TAPE FORMAT

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

PARAGRAPH		•					PAGE
Introduction	• • • • • • •		• • •	• • •		• •	. 7-1
Nine-Track Ph	ase Encoded For	mat		• • •		• •	. 7-1
Nine-Track NR	ZI Format			• • •	• 0 •	• •	. 7-3
Recording Met	hods	• • • • •		• • •	<b>.</b>		. 7-3
Data Block Si	ze				• •	• • •	. 7-3
End-of-File Ma	arks				• •		. 7-3
Transfers	• • • • • •	• • • • •			• •		. 7-5
Tape-End Mark	ers		e e o	• • •	• • •	• •	. 7-5
Double Density	y Recording		• • •	• • •	• • •	• •	. 7-6
	П	LUSTRATIC	<u>)NS</u>				
Figure 7-l	1600 BPI Phase	e Encoded	Tape F	ormat	• • •	· Ø •	. 7-2
Figure 7-2	800 BPI NRZI 1	ape Forma	ıt		• • •	• • •	. 7-4
figure 7-3	PE and NRZI Re	cordina C	Compari	son .			. 7-5

(This page intentionally left blank.)

## SECTION VII

#### NRZI AND PE TAPE FORMAT

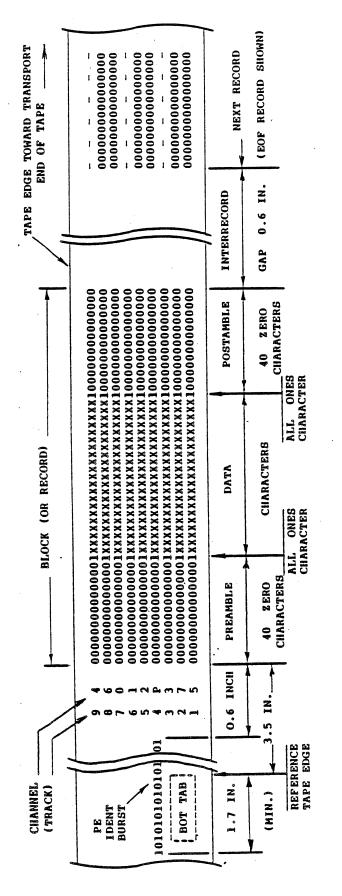
## INTRODUCTION

The TAPE DIMENSION Tape Coupler interfaces to industry standard formatted tape drives which write nine bit characters laterally across the tape. While the formatter in the drive is responsible for actually writing the data, this section provides an insight into how the data is formatted on tape. The density of the characters written on the tape is determined by the type of tape unit and (in some cases) the density selection made at the drive and/or the command issued by the CPU. A data block (record) written on the tape consists of data characters and error checking characters (or a preamble and postamble). data character consists of the data byte plus an odd parity bit that is generated by the formatter to conform with odd parity as specified by the format. A record (or block) of data on tape represents the data transferred to or from a block of memory in response to one read or write command. Adjacent records are separated by automatically erasing a 0.6 inch segment of tape to form an interrecord gap (IRG).

# NINE-TRACK PE FORMAT

The tape coupler uses the standard nine track Phase Encoded (PE) 1600 bits per inch tape format. Each tape block contains a preamble, a variable length data field, and a postamble. The 41 character preamble consists of 40 tape characters with all-zero bits followed by one character of all-one bits. The preamble is followed by the data field which also contains an odd vertical parity bit for each data character. Following the last character of the data field is the postamble which contains an all-ones character followed by 40 all-zero characters (the reverse-image of the preamble).

When the tape is at load point (beginning of tape) and the first data block is to be written, it is preceded by an identification burst consisting of alternating one and zero bits in the track for the parity (P) channel. with all other tracks erased. The file mark consists of 40 all-zero characters similar to those in the preamble or postamble, except that the tracks for channels 1, 3 and 4 are erased.



5. Data is recorded at 1600 characters per inch.
6. A File Mark is a 40 character burst, with
7. "O" bits in channels P. 0, 2, 5, 6 and 7.
Channels I, 3, and 4 are erased and indicate dead tracks when read back. The EOF is preceded by a normal 0.6 inch gap, and is also separated by any following data record by a 0.6 inch inch gap.

data

Parity channel (P) always contains odd

character parity.

The PE Identification Burst contains

alternating one and zero bits.

Channels 0 thrtough 7 contain data in

7

Tape shown oxide side up.

NOTES

decending order of significance.

Figure 7-1 1600 BPI PE Tape Pormat

PAGE 7-2

#### NINE-TRACK NRZI FORMAT

In the nine-track NRZI format, characters are written on the tape in 800 bits per inch density. Each data character contains eight data bits and one odd vertical parity bit. Following the last data character, the End of Record (EOR) gap (three blank characters) is written, followed by a Cyclic Redundancy Check (CRC) character, followed by three more blank characters, concluded by a Longitudinal Redundancy Check (LRC) character. The LRC character produces an even longitudinal parity in each of the tracks along the length of the tape. Reading or Writing, the tape coupler checks to ascertain that the lateral parity of every data character is odd, that the CRC character is correct, and that every track has even longitudinal parity.

The nine-track NRZI file mark consists of a single character record with a one-bit in channels 3, 6 and 7; the remaining channels contain zeros. The CRC character is left blank, but an LRC character is written which is identical to the file mark character.

### RECORDING METHODS

NRZI and Phase Encoded formats are recorded on tape, using different recording techniques. In Figure 7-3, NRZI and PE waveforms are compared. The NRZI waveform shows a change in flux polarity for each binary one bit. A binary zero is represented by the absence of a flux change.

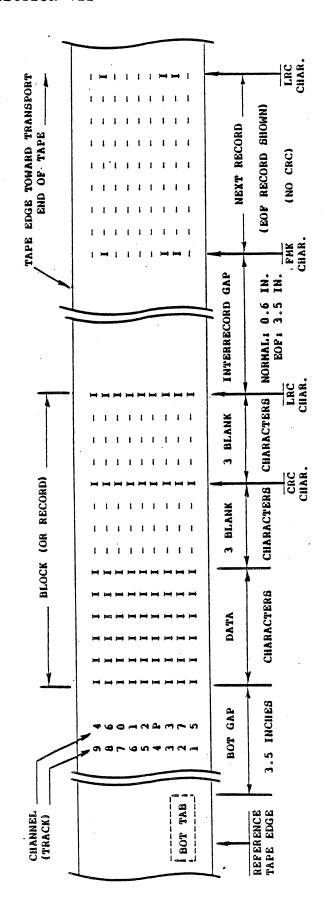
Phase encoded recording requires at least one flux change per bit cell. A binary zero leaves the flux polarized opposite to that of the interrecord gap.

# DATA BLOCK SIZE

The maximum data block size is only limited by the Byte/Record Counter to a full 64K byte block. The minimum recommended data block size can vary with the application, depending upon the system where the generated tapes will be used.

#### **END-OF-FILE MARKS**

The program can group sets of data records into files. The end of a file is indicated by an End Of File (EOF) mark. The PE File Mark consists of 40 all-zero characters in a special combination of active and dead tracks. The NRZI File Mark is a special record containing only one special data character and its corresponding LRC character. Each EOF in the NRZI format is preceded by an extended record gap.



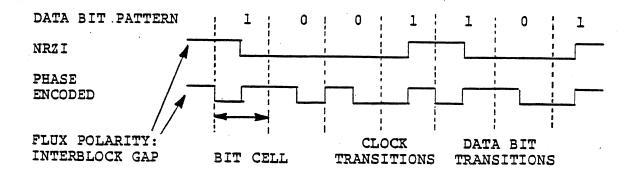
Tape shown oxide side up.	5.	5. It is possible for the CRC to be all zeros.
Channels 0 thrtough 7 contain data in decending order of algnificance.	٥	6. A File Mark is a single character record, with "1" bits in channels 3, 6 and 7 for both the data character and the IRC. The CRC
Parity channel (P) always contains odd data character parity.		contains all zeros. The EOF is preceded by a 3.5 inch gap, and is separated by any following data record by a normal 0.6 inch

NOTES

Data is recorded at 800 characters per inch. .

Each bit of the LRC ensures even parity for that track, including total of all data and CRC bits. The LRC is never all zero bits.

800 BPI NRZI Tape Format Pigure 7-2



#### NOTES:

NRZI: Any change in polarity PE: Data bit transition in is a "l" bit. No change in polarity is "0" bit.

direction of gap polarity is a "l" bit, opposite direction is a "0" bit.

Last transition (LRC) returns flux to gap polarity.

Figure 7-3 PE and NRZI Recording Comparison

#### TRANSFERS

When writing, the controller divides each computer word into two eight-bit bytes. In reading, the bytes from the tape are reassembled into a full sixteen-bit word for the computer bus.

# TAPE-END MARKERS

The ends of the tape contain reflective strips that are detected by photo cells in the tape drive. The Load Point marker identifies the logical Beginning of Tape (BOT) and is positioned to allow at least ten feet of leader at the front of the tape. A Space Reverse or Rewind command automatically stops at this marker. At least three inches of tape are erased between the BOT marker and the first record.

The End of Tape (EOT) marker is located at least 14 feet from the physical end of the tape. The program should not record more than a few feet beyond the EOT marker, allowing at least ten feet of tape for a trailer. A status bit is set and any Space Reverse operations are terminated when the tape passes beyond the EOT marker.

## DOUBLE DENSITY RECORDING

Some newer tape drives are now recording Phase Encoded tapes at half the normal tape speed. The result is a recorded density of 3200 bits per inch instead of the normal 1600 bits per inch. Since only the tape speed is changed, all other characteristics of normal Phase Encoded recording are retained.

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

ARAGRAPH	PAGE
NTRODUCTION	. 8-1 . 8-1 . 8-1 . 8-2
dentification Burst	
RA Burst	
RA Ones-Burst	
RA ID Burst	. 8-2
BG	. 8-2
ape Mark	. 8-2
ata Blocks	
reamble	
erminator Control Subgroup	. 8-2
econd Control Subgroup	. 8-3
ync Control Subgroups	. 8-3
ark 1	. 8-3
ata	. 8-3
ata Values/Record Values	. 8-3
esync Burst	. 8-3
ark 2	. 8-3
nd Mark	. 8-4
esidual Data Group	. 8-4
RC Data Group	
ostamble	
heck Characters	
APE MARK BLOCK	. 8-5

# LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS

FIGURE		PAGE
Figure 8-1	6250 BPI GCR Tape Format	8-6
Figure 8-2	GCR Data Block Format	8-5
Figure 8-3	GCR Preamble and Mark 1 (PRE)	8-5
Figure 8-4	GCR Data Groups (DATA)	8-7
Figure 8-5	Stored Data Translation	8-7
Figure 8-6	Resync Burst (S)	8-7
Figure 8-7	End Mark/Residual Group/CRC Group	8-8

#### SECTION VIII

#### GCR TAPE FORMAT

#### INTRODUCTION

The Group Code Recording method, known as the GCR Format, allows writing and reading magnetic tapes at high density. The higher tape error rate generated by the high density is virtually eliminated by elaborate error detecting and correcting methods inherent in this format.

#### ANSI COMPATIBILITY

The controller will write and read magnetic tapes as specified by ANSI X3.54-1976. The interface signals required to write and read ANSI compatible tapes must be as specified in Section 7 "GCR Tape Interfaces" and Section 3 "Programming". The following paragraphs clarify certain aspects of GCR operation and format compatibility.

#### DENSITY

The density of recording is 6250 data characters per inch, nominal.

#### BLOCK LENGTH

The controller does not control or limit the number of data characters per tape block (within the limits of the byte count) except to disallow the writing of data blocks containing no data characters. The formatter will format the input data, independent of total number of data characters, into the data group and/or residual data group in the ANSI specified format. The controller may generate data blocks outside the ANSI specified minimum length or maximum length, if desired.

# MAXIMUM INTERBLOCK GAP (IBG)

The user may generate extended length IBG's by repeated Erase Gap (ERG) commands to the formatter. The user may thus exceed the ANSI specified 15 foot maximum. Upon detecting a 15 foot IBG during read operations, the formatter will halt tape motion and set REJECT status according to Section 6.

#### END OF RECORDING AREA

The controller reports EOT status, but does not control or limit operations past EOT (in the End of Recording Area).

## RECORDING FORMAT

The GCR recorded format is described by the diagrams and text in the remainder of this section.

Identification Burst - The GCR recording method is identified by a burst of PE recording on track 6 with all other tracks erased. The ID Burst starts at least 1.7 inches before the trailing edge of the BOT marker and continues past the BOT marker.

ARA Burst - The Automatic Read Amplification Burst is used by some drives to initialize their Dynamic Amplitude Control. The burst begins at least 1.5 inches but not farther than 4.3 inches from the leading edge of the BOT marker. The ARA Burst is written at 9042 fci and consists of the ARA ones-burst and the ARA ID burst.

ARA Ones-Burst - An undefined gap separates the ID Burst from the ARA ones-burst (all-ones in all tracks). The length of this burst is approximately 5 to 10 inches.

ARA ID Burst - The all-ones pattern continues with tracks 1,4, and 7 erased during the ID Burst. The ID Burst is approximately 2 inches long. A normal IBG follows.

IBG - The interblock gap is 0.3 inches, nominal. The IBG immediately preceding the tape mark is 3.3 inches, nominal.

Tape Mark - The Tape Mark consists of 250 to 400 flux changes recorded at 9042 fci, with tracks 3, 6, and 9 erased.

Data Blocks - (Described in detail below.)

**Preamble -** Sixteen subgroups of five bytes each. The subgroups initiate the Read Circuits and synchronize them to the data coming from tape

Terminator Control Subgroup - The data pattern in this subgroup provides for long wave length inputs into the read circuits at the beginning of a Read operation. These inputs in turn ensure that the Read Detectors are turned on before they are synchronized.

The Terminator Control subgroup consists of a set of nine parallel 5-bit serial values of 10101 in all tracks located at the BOT end of each block, and 1010L at the EOT end of each block where L represents the resetting of the last character (which restores the Write Triggers to the erase state).

Second Control Subgroup - This subgroup is an important part of the synchronization process. The Second Control Subgroup consists of five bit serial values of Ollll in all tracks for the BOT end of the block and 11110 for the EOT end of the block.

Sync Control Subgroups - these are fourteen five-byte subgroups which synchronize the Read Reference Oscillator. Each subgroup consists of five-bit serial values of all ones in all tracks.

Mark 1 - This subgroup marks the coming of data. It ensures that the buffer counters are properly initiated so the data being read is formatted into the correct five-byte groups. This is necessary for correct decoding (translation from five to four bit codes) of the data which is being read. The Mark 1 control Subgroup is a set of five-bit serial values of 00111 on all tracks. During Backward operations, the Mark 1 looks like the Mark 2 Subgroup.

Data - The Data section of the tape has only data and the ECC recorded on it (no Control Subgroups). The data is divided into groups and the groups are divided into subgroups. These data subgroups are identified as data subgroup A and data subgroup B.

Data subgroup A consists of four data bytes before translation into the storage group. The same is true for data subgroup B except that it is made up of three data bytes and one ECC (Error Correction Character) before translation. The ECC is used for data correction within the eight-byte data groups (byte 8 is the ECC).

Data Values/Record Values - After the ECC is mathematically generated from the group of seven data bytes, the parity bits are also added and the resulting eight characters are divided into two groups of four characters each. During GCR recording, The four-bit pattern for each tape channel is translated into a five-bit pattern for storage on tape. These storage patterns assure that there are no more than two successive zeros in any track, a feature that provides more reliable synchronism of the read circuits. During a Read operation, the five-bit code is converted to the original four bits. Thus, the data sent to the CPU is in its original form.

Resync Burst - There may be no more than 158 contiguous data groups (1106 data bytes) in a recorded data block. Then, if there are more than six data bytes (before translation) remaining in an incoming record, a Resync Burst must be added before more data groups can be recorded. This burst is used to resynchronize the data of failing tracks when a data record is longer than 1112 bytes of data (before translation).

Mark 2 - This subgroup marks the end of data and the coming of non-data information. The Mark 2 Control Subgroup consists of a set of five-bit serial values of 11100 on all tracks. On Backward operations, the Mark 2 looks like the Mark 1 Subgroup.

End Mark - This control subgroup warns of the approach of the Residual Data Group, which is defined below. The End Mark Control Subgroup consists of one set of five-bit serial values of 11111 on all tracks.

Residual Data Group - This group is formed when there are six or fewer data bytes remaining in a data record. If six data bytes remain, the seventh byte of the Residual Data Group is the Auxiliary CRC Character (a data validity check character) and byte eight is the normal ECC. If there are fewer than six residual data bytes, pad characters of all zeros (with correct parity) are added to the data group to pad it to six bytes. (All data groups must have eight bytes total in GCR mode.) Thus, the Residual Data Group consists of remaining data bytes and/or the pad characters (H), the Auxiliary CRC Character (N) and the ECC character (E).

CRC Data Group - The CRC character has odd parity if there was an odd number of data groups and would normally have even parity if there was an even number of data groups. Since an even parity byte is not allowed in a GCR Data Group, the CRC Character must be made odd. To accomplish this, an additional pad byte consisting of all zeros and a parity bit (B) is added to the record. The addition of this byte changes the number of bytes in the CRC generation and provides an odd parity CRC Character.

The next five bytes of the CRC Data Group are identical CRC Characters. The additional CRC Characters serve to fill the CRC Data Group, since no more data will be written.

Next in the CRC Data Group is the Residual Character (X). This character is defined and used as a record data counter. (Bits 3-7 are a modulo 32 count.) These bits are used by some drives in a proprietary manner (pointers for internal data buffering in the subsystem). Bits 0-2 are used as a Modulo 7 counter to indicate how many of the Residual Data Group bytes are data bytes. The modulo 7 count of the Residual Character indicates how many data bytes are to be retrieved from the Residual Data Group.

The ECC in this data group (E), as in all other data groups, is used to verify the correctness of data in the group and to isolate any error, and to correct bad data during read operation.

**Postamble** - The Postamble is essentially the mirror image of the Preamble In Read Backward operations, the Postamble is used the same way the Preamble is used in Read Forward operations. (Refer to the description of the Preamble above.)

Check Characters - Three Check Characters are used in the GCR tape format: CRC (B), Auxiliary CRC (N), and ECC (E).

The CRC Characters are used to verify data validity during writing and reading operations. The ECC is used to to verify data validity and for Data Error Identification and Correction.

#### TAPE MARK BLOCK

The Tape Mark written is 250 to 400 flux changes (all "ones") at 9042 fci in zones 1 and 2 (physical tracks 1/4/7 and 2/5/8, respectively) and no recording in zone 3 (physical tracks 3/6/9).

A tape mark will be detected on reading if sufficient contiguous characters in either zone 1 or zone 2, in conjunction with zone 3, contain their appropriate format.

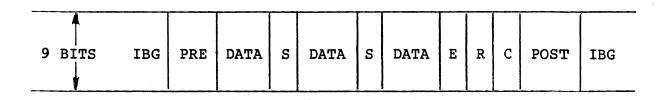
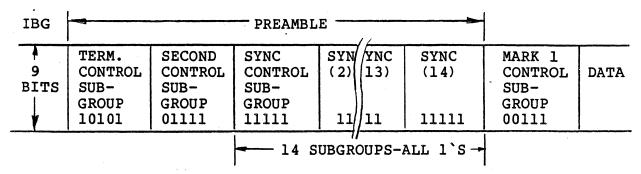
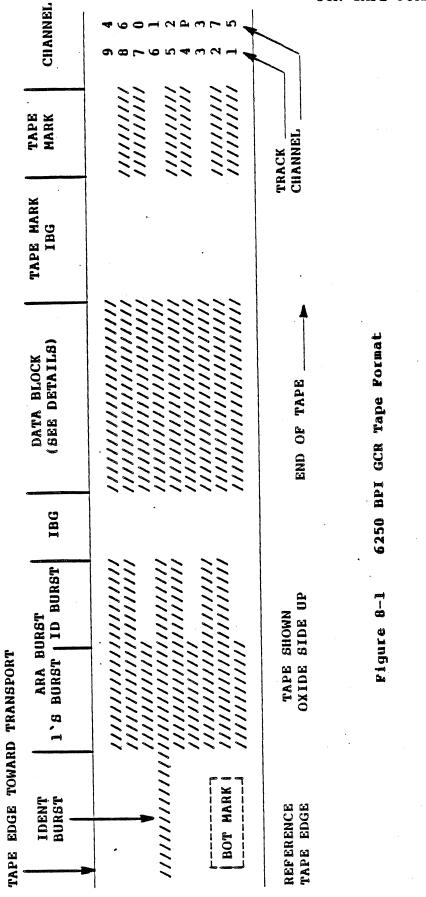


Figure 8-2 GCR Data Block Format



Mark 2 + Postamble (POST) is reverse image of Preamble + Mark 1

Figure 8-3 GCR Preamble and Mark 1 (PRE)



	DATA	A GROUP -	·					
9	FIRST DATA	SECOND DATA	DATA GROUP 2		DATA GROUP		DATA GROUP 158	
BITS	SUB- GROUP SSSSS	SUB- GROUP SSSSS	SSSSS	SSSSS	SSSSS	SSSSS	SSSSS	SSSSS
L	<u> </u>							

DDDD DDDE

Seven data bytes + ECC are encoded into two subgroups of ten stored (S) bytes.

D = Data Character E = ECC Character

S = Stored Character

Figure 8-4 GCR Data Groups (DATA)

DATA VALUES	STORAGE VALUES
0000	11001
0001	11011
0010	10010
0011	10011
0100	11101
0101	10101
0110	10110
0111	10111
1000	11010
1001	01001
1010	01010
1011	01011
1100	11110
1101	01101
1110	01110
1111	01111

Figure 8-5 Stored Data Translation

DATA	-	RESYNC	BURST -	· .	DATA
BITS	MARK 2 CONTROL SUB- GROUP 11100	SYNC CONTROL SUB- GROUP 11111	SYNC CONTROL SUB- GROUP 11111	MARK 1 CONTROL SUB- GROUP 11100	

Figure 8-6 Resync Burst (S)

DATA	(E)	(	R)	· (C	:)	
<b>A</b>	END	3	DUAL	CR		
9 BITS	MARK SUB- GROUP	DATA	GROUP	DATA	GROUP	POST
<u>,                                    </u>	11111	SSSSS	SSSSS	SSSSS	SSSSS	
		нннн	HHNE	вссс	CCXE	

- H RESIDUAL DATA OR PAD CHARACTER (ZEROS)
- N AUXILIARY CRC CHARACTER
- E ERROR CORRECTION CODE (ECC) CHARACTER
- B CRC OR PAD CHARACTER
- C CYCLIC REDUNDANCY CHECK (CRC) CHARACTER
- X RESIDUAL CHARACTER

Data/Pad/CRC/ECC are encoded into two data groups of ten stored bytes each.

Figure 8-7 End Mark/Residual Group/CRC Group

#### APPENDIX A

#### TELEX ADAPTER INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS

#### DESCRIPTION

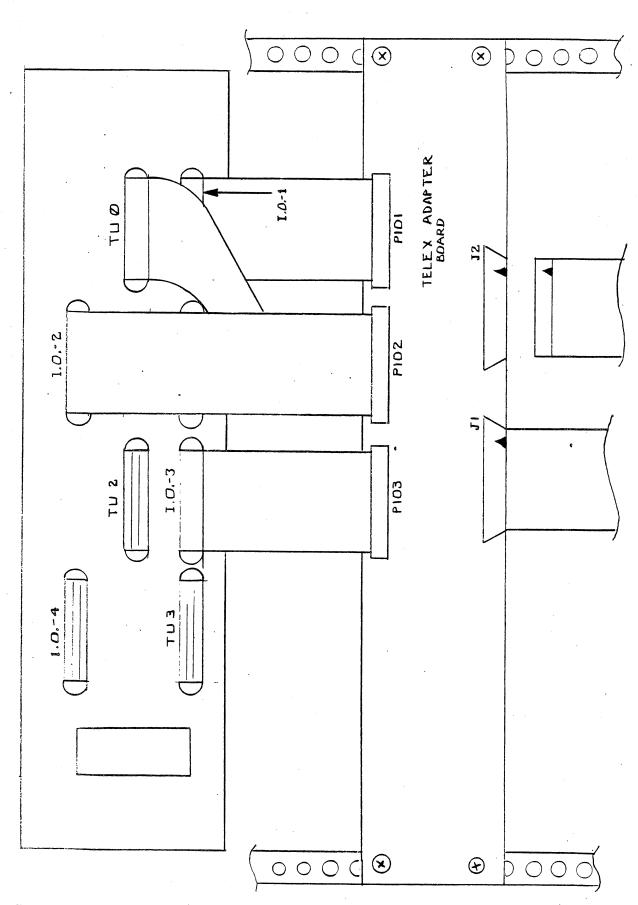
For a <u>Telex</u> formatter interface, a Telex/TD-III/IV Cable Adapter (assembly P60001245) is also supplied. The ribbon cables from Jl and J2 on the TD-III/IV plug into two 60-pin connectors on the Cable Adapter assembly and the connectors of the three 50-pin cables coming from the Cable Adapter assembly plug into three I/O connectors at the Telex formatter. The pin assignments for the board connectors Jl and J2 on the coupler are listed in Appendix A, which also lists the pin assignments for the Telex formatter I/O connectors.

#### INSTALLATION

Installation of the Telex cable adapter is not difficult if you follow these simple steps. Be sure that the stripe on the cable and the arrow on the plugs match the pin 1 arrow on the board connectors. The cables to the Telex electronics are self-orienting and cannot be connected backwards.

- 1. Open the back door of the tape drive unit.
- 2. Mount the Telex Adapter Board on the cabinet rails using the hardware provided.
- 3. Connect the cables as follows:

TAPE DIMENSION CACHECOUPLER	TELEX CABLE ADAPTER BOARD
CABLE P1 CABLE P2	CONNECTOR J1 CONNECTOR J2
TELEX CABLE ADAPTER BOARD	TELEX DRIVE ELECTRONICS
CABLE P101 CABLE P102 CABLE P103	CONNECTOR I.O1 CONNECTOR I.O2 CONNECTOR I.O3



TAPE DIMENSION III/IV

# TD-III / IV MANUAL UPDATE LIST

REV DATE	COMMENTS
10/04/85 REV B1	DELETE DENSITY SELECT INFO FROM GENERAL DESCRIPTION. CORRECTED PG 3-4. MISCELLANEOUS EDITORIAL CHANGES.
08/06/85 REV B	COMBINES TD-III & TD-IV MANUALS. ADDS MULTI-DRIVE AND DENSITY SELECT OPTIONS. ADDED SWITCH FUNCTIONS. INCORPORATES DIAGNOSTIC LISTING, ADDS REV HISTORY, DIAG PROCEDURES, VAX OPER PROCEDURES. EDITORIAL CHANGES. REPLACES EXISTING MANUALS.
	TD-III MANUAL UPDATE LIST
REV DATE	COMMENTS
08/07 REV X2	INDICATES DIAG TAPE IS OPTIONAL P91001156 - 08/07/84 REPLACES EXISTING MANUALS
05/30 REV X1	INCORPORATES REV. 'X' SW. SETTINGS - P91001156 - JUNE, 1984 REPLACES EXISTING MANUALS
05/23 REV X	UPDATED SWITCH TABLES FOR NEW ASSY - REPLACES EXISTING PRELIM MANUALS
	TD-IV MANUAL UPDATE LIST
REV DATE	COMMENTS
09/13/84 REV A2	NEW SWITCH FUNCTION ADDED PG. 2-7 P91001164 - 09/13/84 REPLACES EXISTING MANUALS
08/07/84 REV Al	INDICATES DIAG TAPE IS OPTIONAL; CORRECTS TD-IV PART NUMBER - P91001164 - 08/07/84 REPLACES EXISTING MANUALS
06/05/84 REV A	INCORPORATES SWITCH FOR CDC KEYSTONE - P91001164 - JUNE, 1984 REPLACES EXISTING MANUALS
05/30/84 REV X	INCORPORATES REV. 'X' SW. SETTINGS - REPLACES EXISTING MANUALS
05/18/84	NEW MANUAL - REPLACES INTERIM MANUALS

## LIMITED WARRANTY

WESPERCORP (seller) warrants products manufactured by it to be free from defects in materials and workmanship under normal use and service for a period of one year after delivery of such product to the original purchaser. Seller's obligation under this warranty is limited to repair at its factory or, at its option, to replace any product which shall, within the warranty period, be returned intact to seller, or to one of its authorized service stations, with transportation charges prepaid by buyer, and which seller's examination shall disclose to its satisfaction to have been thus defective.

Items which have been repaired or replaced hereunder shall be warranted for 45 days or for the unexpired portion of the original warranty, whichever period is longer.

Products manufactured by others sold by WESPERCORP shall be warranted for 90 days or for the unexpired portion of the original manufacturer's warranty, whichever period is longer.

WESPERCORP disclaims all liability for direct, indirect, incidental or consequential damages resulting from any product, its design, documentation, quality, performance, merchantability, or fitness for any particular purpose, or any defect therein, except as specified herein during the term of this Limited Warranty.

This warranty shall constitute the sole and exclusive remedy of any buyer of WESPERCORP products and is expressly in lieu of all other warranties and liabilities expressed, implied, or statutory. WESPERCORP neither assumes, nor authorizes any other persons to assume for it, any other liability in connection with the sale of its products.

This warranty shall not apply to any product which shall have been repaired or altered outside the WESPERCORP factory or authorized service stations, nor which has been subject to misuse, negligence or accident, incorrect wiring, improper handling by others, or installation not in accordance with instructions furnished by the manufacturer.

NO PRODUCT RETURNS MAY BE ACCEPTED WITHOUT A WESPERCORP RETURNED GOODS AUTHORIZATION NUMBER.

# NOTES

•				·
		·		
		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		
	4 1	,		
	-			•
•				
· Commence to the contract of				
**************************************				
·				
			•	
-				
	· ·			

# NOTES

	·			
		·	٠	
				٠
		·		
	٠			
3.00				
	-	•		
	·			
		•		
		·		

#### CUSTOMER COMMENT FORM

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU! We appreciate your continued interest in WESPERCORP products. Since your comments are important to us, we welcome your evaluation of our manual, and more importantly, our product and its performance in your application. We have provided this form as a convenient means of returning your comments to us.

PRODUCT NAME /	MODEL NUMBER		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
PRODUCT PART NO	JMBER		REV
MANUAL TITLE		REV or DAT	3
PROCESSOR:	I	PERIPHERAL:	
OPERATING SYSTE	Ms:		
suggestions for	ATION Please descr or improvement. Ple sing parts, operation	ibe the features you ease describe any pronal problems, etc.	liked and any blems such as
		•	
	•		
MANUAL REMARK tion, etc. P improvements.	S Please comment o lease include any	on the manual's usablil errors, omissions,	ty, organiza- or suggested
_			
•			
NAME		and the	
		TITLE	
		· •	
CITY		STATE 2	SIP
PHONE		TODAY'S DATE	Magazari di Karananan Amerika and Amerika angga an

## WE APPRECIATE OUR CUSTOMERS...

Your opinions are important to us. As a valued customer, we would appreciate a moment of your time to fill out this evaluation form. Your comments will then be studied for future revisions. You may return this form or you may send us your comments by Telex at 4720629 WESPER.)

Thank You!

Fold along lines and tape to seal.

Place Postage Here

Western Peripherals

14511 New Myford Road

Tustin, California 92680

Attention: Technical Support

Fold along lines and tape to seal.

TO REMOVE FORM, carefully pull from binder.

(All comments and suggestions become the property of WESPERCORP.)