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**Information technology — 8 mm wide  
magnetic tape cartridge for information  
interchange — Helical scan recording —  
VXA-1 format**

*Technologies de l'information — Cartouche de bande magnétique de 8 mm  
de large pour échange d'informations — Enregistrement par balayage en  
spirale — Format VXA-1*

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## Foreword

ISO (the International Organization for Standardization) and IEC (the International Electrotechnical Commission) form the specialized system for worldwide standardization. National bodies that are members of ISO or IEC participate in the development of International Standards through technical committees established by the respective organization to deal with particular fields of technical activity. ISO and IEC technical committees collaborate in fields of mutual interest. Other international organizations, governmental and non-governmental, in liaison with ISO and IEC, also take part in the work. In the field of information technology, ISO and IEC have established a joint technical committee, ISO/IEC JTC 1.

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

The main task of the joint technical committee is to prepare International Standards. Draft International Standards adopted by the joint technical committee are circulated to national bodies for voting. Publication as an International Standard requires approval by at least 75 % of the national bodies casting a vote.

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

ISO/IEC 20062 was prepared by ECMA (as Standard ECMA-316) and was adopted, under a special “fast-track procedure”, by Joint Technical Committee ISO/IEC JTC 1, *Information technology*, in parallel with its approval of national bodies of ISO and IEC.

Annexes A to J form a normative part of this International Standard. Annex K is for information only.

# Information technology - 8 mm wide magnetic tape cartridge for information interchange - Helical scan recording - VXA-1 format

## Section 1 - General

### 1 Scope

This International Standard specifies the physical and magnetic characteristics of an 8 mm wide magnetic tape cartridge to enable physical interchange of such cartridges between drives. It also specifies the quality of the recorded signals, the recording method and the recorded format called VXA-1, and thereby allowing data interchange between drives by means of such magnetic tape cartridges.

This International Standard specifies three types depending on the length of magnetic tape contained in the case, referred to as Type A, Type B and Type C.

Information interchange between systems also requires, at a minimum, agreement between the interchange parties upon the interchange code(s) and the specifications of the structure and labelling of the information on the interchanged cartridge.

If compression is used with this format, it shall be according to International Standard ISO/IEC 15200.

### 2 Conformance

#### 2.1 Magnetic tape cartridges

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

#### 2.2 Generating drive

A drive generating a magnetic tape cartridge for interchange shall be entitled to claim conformance with this International Standard if all the recordings that it makes on a tape meet the mandatory requirements of this International Standard. A claim of conformance shall state whether or not the registered compression algorithm specified in ISO/IEC 15200 is implemented within the system to process data from the host prior to allocating data to segment data packets.

#### 2.3 Receiving drive

A system receiving a magnetic tape cartridge for interchange shall be entitled to claim conformance with this International Standard if it is able to handle any recording on this tape according to this International Standard. A receiving drive shall be able to recognise the use of the data compression algorithm specified in ISO/IEC 15200.

### 3 Normative references

The following normative documents contain provisions which, through reference in this text, constitute provisions of this International Standard. For dated references, subsequent amendments to, or revisions of, any of these publications do not apply. However, parties to agreements based on this International Standard are encouraged to investigate the possibility of applying the most recent editions of the normative documents indicated below. For undated references, the latest edition of the normative document referred to applies. Members of ISO and IEC maintain registers of currently valid International Standards.

|                          |  |
|--------------------------|--|
| ISO/IEC 15200:1996       | <i>Information technology - Adaptive Lossless Data Compression algorithm (ALDC)</i>                                |
| ISO 527-3:1995           | <i>Plastics - Determination of tensile properties - Part 3: Test conditions for films and sheets</i>               |
| ISO 1302:— <sup>1)</sup> | <i>Geometrical Product Specifications (GPS) - Indication of surface texture in technical product documentation</i> |
| ISO/IEC 11576:1994       | <i>Information technology - Procedure for the registration of algorithms for the lossless compression of data</i>  |
| IEC 60950-1:2001         | <i>Information technology equipment - Safety - Part 1: General requirements</i>                                    |

1) To be published. (Revision of ISO 1302:1992)