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PUBLICLY AVAILABLE SPECIFICATION PROCEDURE

Information technology — Linear tape file system (LTFS) format specification

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The ballot on the transposition of a PAS into an International Standard follows the JTC 1 PAS procedures contained in the JTC 1 Supplement, F.3.

Reflecting the importance of the PAS process, the JTC 1 secretariat shall also inform JTC 1 national bodies and Liaison Organisations, and those organisations authorized to be PAS submitters, of the initiation of any PAS ballot, the results of the ballot, and the identity of the JTC 1 subcommittee which will be responsible for any future work.

For ballot, JTC 1 National Bodies and the PAS Submitter shall receive both the PAS to be transposed and the accompanying Explanatory Report. During the ballot JTC 1 members may propose changes to the PAS. These can be resolved with the PAS Submitter after completion of the ballot.

The period for combined DIS voting shall be five months. In order to be accepted the DIS must be supported by 75 % of the votes cast (abstention is not counted as a vote) and by two-thirds of the P-members voting of JTC 1.

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Once the Draft International Standard has been approved by JTC 1, it shall progress to the approval stage (FDIS).

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Linear Tape File System (LTFS) Format Specification

Version 2.2.0

This document has been released and approved by the SNIA. The SNIA believes that the ideas, methodologies and technologies described in this document accurately represent the SNIA goals and are appropriate for widespread distribution. Suggestions for revision should be directed to <http://www.snia.org/feedback/>

SNIA Technical Position

December 21, 2013

Revision History

Revision	Date	Sections	Originator:	Comments
2.1.0	May 18, 2012	Entire Document	David Pease	LaTeX version contributed by IBM
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2.2.0 SNIA Technical Position	December 21, 2013* March 14, 2013**	Entire Document	Carl Madison	*2.2.0 rev k formatted as a <i>SNIA Technical Position</i> after SNIA membership approval. **Additional editorial revisions

Suggestion for changes or modifications to this document should be sent to the SNIA Linear Tape File System Technical Work Group at <http://www.snia.org/feedback/>.

Changes between v1.0 and v2.0.0

- Incremented version number to 2.0.0 and updated date to March 11, 2011.
- Improvements in specification text to remove ambiguity and clarify intention of the specification. These changes were made at several locations throughout the document.
- Improvements to clarify description of MAM parameters in Section 9 Medium Auxiliary Memory.
- Removed reference to a specific version of the Unicode standard in Section 6.5 Name pattern format. This removes any requirement to use specific versions of Unicode support code in an implementation.
- Improved description of Name pattern format to remove ambiguity in Section 6.5 Name pattern format.
- Added description of LTFS Format specification version numbering in Section 2.1 Versions.
- Updated XML Schema for Label and Index to match version number format in Annex A and Annex B.
- Added specification of minimum and recommended blocksize value for LTFS Volumes to Section 7.1.2 LTFS Label.
- Added definition of allowed version numbers to Section 7.1.2 LTFS Label and Section 8.2 Index.
- Added definition of fileoffset tag in Section 8.2 Index.
- Extended description in Section 5 Data Extents to support addition of fileoffset tag and associated functionality.
- Added definition of highestfileuid tag in Section 8.2 Index.
- Added definition of fileuid tag in Section 8.2 Index.

- Added definition of backup time tag in Section [8.2 Index](#).
- Incremented version number in Application Client Specific Information (ACSI) structure shown in [9.3 Use of Volume Coherency Information for LTFS](#). This increment allows identification of LTFS Volumes written with a LTFS v1.0 compliant implementation. A widely used v1.0 implementation wrote ambiguous ACSI values due to an implementation bug.
- Added definition of extended attributes in the ltfs.* namespace in [Annex C](#).
- Added description for handling unknown XML tags in Index to Section [8.2.10 Managing LTFS Indexes](#).

Changes between v2.0.0 and v2.0.1

- Incremented specification version number to 2.0.1.
- Updated specification date to August 17, 2011.
- Expanded historical record of changes between revisions of LTFS Format Specification.
- Improved description of constraints for two Indexes having the same generation number in Section [4.4.1 Generation Number](#) to make it clear that differences in access time values is permitted between Indexes that are otherwise except for self pointer and index pointer values.
- Added note in Section [4.4.1 Generation Number](#) to explicitly state that Index generation numbers may increase by integer values other than 1.
- Expanded description of the ltfs.sync extended attribute in [Annex C](#). The expanded description explicitly states that this extended attribute triggers a sync of the in-memory data to the storage media. That is, the operation is analogous to a POSIX sync operation.

Changes between v2.0.1 and v2.1.0

- Incremented specification version number to 2.1.0.
- Updated specification date to October 18, 2012.
- Added definition of symlink tag in Section [8.2 Index](#).
- Added example of symlink tag use in [Annex E](#) (informative) Complete Example LTFS Index.
- Added symlink tag to [Annex B](#).
- Added description of "ltfs.vendor.X.Y" extended attribute namespace in [Annex C](#).
- Added description of software metadata section in [Annex C](#).
- Added description of drive metadata section in [Annex C](#).
- Added "ltfs.labelVersion" extended attribute in [Annex C](#).
- Added "ltfs.indexVersion" extended attribute in [Annex C](#).
- Added "ltfs.mediaEncrypted" extended attribute in [Annex C](#).
- Improved description of "ltfs.mediaStorageAlert" extended attribute in [Annex C](#).

Changes between v2.1.0 and v2.2.0

- Incremented specification version number to 2.2.0.
- Updated specification date to July 16, 2013.
- Changed "2010" to "2013" in XML examples.
- Editorial Cleanup.

- Changed “extentinfo” definition in Section 8.2 Index.
- Changed “symlink” definition in Section 8.2 Index.
- Added additional paragraph to “symlink” definition in Section 8.2 Index.
- Added general comments at start of Section 9 Medium Auxiliary Memory.
- Added Section 9.4 Use of Host-type Attributes for LTFS.
- Removed Section 9 Certification from document.
- Added “lufs.mamBarcode” extended attribute in Annex C.4 Volume Metadata.
- Added “lufs.mamApplicationVendor” extended attribute in Annex C.4 Volume Metadata.
- Added “lufs.mamApplicationVersion” extended attribute in Annex C.4 Volume Metadata.
- Added “lufs.mamApplicationFormatVersion” extended attribute in Annex C.4 Volume Metadata.
- Added new Annex F Interoperability Recommendation and added File Spanning and File Permissions subsections

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Contents

1	Introduction	10
2	Scope	11
2.1	Versions	11
2.2	Conformance	12
3	Definitions and Acronyms	13
3.1	Definitions	13
3.2	Acronyms	15
4	Volume Layout	16
4.1	LTFS Partitions	16
4.2	LTFS Constructs	16
4.3	Partition Layout	17
4.4	Index Layout	18
5	Data Extents	20
5.1	Extent Lists	20
5.2	Extents Illustrated	20
5.3	Files Illustrated	22
6	Data Formats	26
6.1	Boolean format	26
6.2	Creator format	26
6.3	Extended attribute value format	26
6.4	Name format	27
6.5	Name pattern format	27
6.6	String format	27
6.7	Time stamp format	28
6.8	UUID format	28
7	Label Format	29
7.1	Label Construct	29

8 Index Format	32
8.1 Index Construct	32
8.2 Index.....	32
9 Medium Auxiliary Memory	43
9.1 Volume Change Reference.....	43
9.2 Volume Coherency Information.....	44
9.3 Use of Volume Coherency Information for LTFS.....	44
9.4 Use of Host-type Attributes for LTFS	46
Annex A (normative) LTFS Label XML Schema.....	48
Annex B (normative) LTFS Index XML Schema.....	50
Annex C (normative) Reserved Extended Attribute definitions.....	53
C.1 Software Metadata	53
C.2 Drive Metadata	53
C.3 Object Metadata	53
C.4 Volume Metadata	54
C.5 Media Metadata.....	55
Annex D (informative) Example of Valid Simple Complete LTFS Volume	58
Annex E (informative) Complete Example LTFS Index.....	59
Annex F (normative) Interoperability Recommendations.....	63
F.1 Spanning Files across Multiple Tape Volumes in LTFS	63
F.2 File Permissions in LTFS	66

List of Figures

Figure 1 — LTFS Partition.....	16
Figure 2 — Label Construct	16
Figure 3 — Index Construct	17
Figure 4 — Partition Layout.....	17
Figure 5 — Complete partition containing data.....	18
Figure 6 — Back Pointer example.....	19
Figure 7 — Extent starting and ending with full block	21
Figure 8 — Extent starting with full block and ending with fractional block	21
Figure 9 — Extent starting and ending in mid-block	21
Figure 11 — File contained in two Data Extents.....	22
Figure 10 — File contained in a single Data Extent.....	22
Figure 12 — Shared Blocks example	23
Figure 13 — Sparse files example	24
Figure 14 — Shared data example.....	24
Figure 15 — Label construct	29
Figure 16 — Index Construct	32
Figure D. 1 — Content of a simple LTFS volume.....	58