ECMA - Standardizing Information and Communication Systems

Standard ECMA-240

Data Interchange on 120 mm Optical Disk Cartridges using Phase Change PD Format - Capacity: 650 Mbytes per Cartridge

(June 1996)

This ECMA Standard specifies the characteristics of 120 mm Optical Disk Cartridges (ODCs) with a capacity of 650 Mbytes using Phase Change PD format. The present ECMA Standard specifies two related, but different implementations of such cartridges, viz.

Type R/W

Provides for data to be written, read and overwritten many times over the whole recording surface of the disk using the phase change recording and read-out method.

Type WORM

Provides for data to be written once and read many times over the whole recording surface of the disk using the phase change recording and read-out method.

Type R/W and Type WORM are also referred to as "rewritable" and "write-once" respectively.

This ECMA Standard specifies:

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- the conditions for conformance testing and the Reference Drive;
- the environments in which the cartridges are to be operated and stored;
- the mechanical and physical characteristics of the cartridge, so as to provide mechanical interchangeability between data processing systems;
- the format of the information on the disk known as the PD format; including the physical disposition of the tracks and sectors, the error correction codes, and the modulation method used;
- the characteristics of the embossed information on the disk;;
- the phase change recording characteristics of the disk, enabling data processing systems to write data onto the disk;
- the minimum quality of user-written data on the disk, enabling data processing systems to read data from the disk.

This ECMA Standard provides for interchange between optical disk drives. Together with a standard for volume and file structure, it provides for full data interchange between data processing systems.

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The following files are provided in this set of CD-ROMs:

File name	Size (Bytes)	Content
ECMA-240.PDF	1'681'900	Corresponding Acrobat PDF file
ECMA-240.PSC	4'203'190	Corresponding PostScript file

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