

Standard ECMA-288

3,81 mm Wide Magnetic Tape Cartridge for Information Interchange - Helical Scan Recording - DDS-4 Format

(June 1999)

This ECMA Standard specifies the physical and magnetic characteristics of a 3,81 mm wide magnetic tape cartridge to enable physical interchangeability of such cartridges between drives. It also specifies the quality of the recorded signals, the recording method and the recorded format - called Digital Data Storage 4 (DDS-4) - thereby allowing data interchange between drives by means of such magnetic tape cartridges.

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.

Under information interchange circumstances in which a processing algorithm, e.g. for lossless data compression as specified in [ECMA-151](#), is applied to the host data prior to recording on the tape and a complementary reprocessing algorithm is applied after the data is read from the tape, agreement upon these by the interchange parties is also required.

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

| File name | Size (Bytes) | Content |
|---------------------|--------------|-------------------------------|
| ECMA-288.PDF | 886'662 | Acrobat PDF file |
| ECMA-288.PSC | 6'072'934 | Corresponding PostScript file |

Printed copies of this Standard can be ordered, free of charge, from documents@ecma.ch.
