PR1ME

Mid-Range Tape Products

Features

Industry compatible tape

Dual density 800/1600 bpi available

Software selection of density

High reliability and data integrity

Available on all Prime systems

Up to four transports per controller supported by PRIMOS $^{\odot}$ operating systems

Up to eight transports per system supported by PRIMOS operating systems



Description

Prime Computer offers a complete line of magnetic tape transports to suit different performance requirements. The Mid-Range Tape family is comprised of conventional 10½" reel, ½" tape transports. Two tape speeds (45 IPS and 75 IPS) allow the user to choose the level of performance required. Two formats (NRZI and PE), and both nine-track and seven-track recording, provide industry compatibility for data interchange.

Table 1 summarizes Prime Computer's Mid-Range Tape products.

Model No.	Speed	Density	Format
4522	75	1600/800	PE/NRZI
4520	45	1600/800	PE/NRZI
4512	45	800	NRZI
4510	45	800/556	NRZI

Table 1. Mid-Range Tape Products.

Prime Computer's other magnetic tape product offerings include the 6250 GCR, Streaming Tape, and Cartridge Tape subsystems. Table 2 summarizes these tape transports. Further details and product bulletins are available at all Prime sales offices.

Model No.	Speed	Density	Format
4550	75	6250/1600	GCR/PI
4560	100	1600	PE
	50	3200	Special
	25	1600	PE
4651	30	6400	MFM

Table 2. Other Tape Products.

Advantages of Tape Versus Other Storage Technologies

The most common configuration is at least one tape transport per system. This tape equipment is typically used for backup, data interchange, and journaling applications. Backup includes physical volume, file, and archival data storage. Data interchange applications include installation and software distribution as well as system-to-system data exchange. Journaling, recording all transactions as they occur, is frequently required to generate an audit trail, or to permit recovery at the transaction level in the event of a failure.

All of the above tasks can be accomplished using removable disk; however, factors of media cost, relative storage cost, and compatibility with other vendors' systems make tape a more cost-effective storage medium.

Growth

Prime Computer ensures that data processing capabilities grow as business and, hence, computing needs grow. This growth ability is reflected in the tape portion of the product line, as well as Prime Computer CPU's and peripherals. All tape equipment can be configured on all CPUs. Therefore, CPUs can be upgraded without changing tape equipment. In addition, tape equipment can be added to existing system configurations. Up to four transports are controlled by one controller, eight transports are configurable on one system. Support by PRIMOS operating system, guarantees that software is easily generated and maintained.

Reliability, Maintainability, and Data Integrity

Prime Computer's tape equipment includes many features to ensure reliability, maintainability, and availability (the integrity of the data). Reliability was achieved by using stable technology and components in the design of the unit.

As an example, vacuum column tape transport technology was chosen over tension arm because of the reliability of this technology. Maintainability was achieved by designing such features as diagnostics and easy parts access into the unit. Maximum availability is ensured by high reliability (few failures) and easy maintainability (short time to repair when failures do occur).

In addition, Prime Computer designed high data integrity features into its tape series. These features guarantee that data is maintained in a useable form. Characteristics of the recording modes ensure the detection (and in some cases the correction) of many temporary errors which can occur when recording or reading information on tape. All information is written immediately and then automatically read and checked. In the NRZI data recording mode, longitudinal redundancy checking and cyclic redundancy checking are performed to detect dropped bit errors. Additionally, tape skewing is electronically corrected during the PE recording mode.

Operator Convenience

Each tape transport includes a simple control panel with legible status indicators and easy-to-use manual control switches. These switches include power, load, rewind, on-line, write enable, density, reset and address select.

Specifications

Model Operating Characteristics

Model No.	Recording Format	Recording Mode	Density (bpi)	Forward Drive Speed
4522	9 track	PE/NRZI	1600/800	75
4520	9 track	PE/NRZI	1600/800	45
4512	9 track	NRZI	800	45
4510	7 track	NRZI	800/556	45

All Models

Rewind drive speed (nominal) 200 ips (508cm/sec)
Vacuum column tape handling
Tape reel size to 10½ in. (26.6cm)
Available as first drive with controller
Available as second, third or fourth drive
Photoelectric load point and end of tape reflective strip detection (ANSI compatible)
Photoelectric broken tape detection

Environmental (Operating Environment)

Ambient temperature +5 to +40°C Relative humidity (noncondensing) 15% to 95% Heat dissipation 1200 (BTUs/ Hr.) Altitude 0-4000 ft. (0-1219 mtr.)

Electrical

Power requirements 115 VAC, 60Hz. 220/240 VAC, 50Hz single phase 800 VA power demand

Physical

Height 53 in. (135 cm) Width 26.5 in. (67.5 cm) Depth 35 in. (89 cm) Weight 150 lbs. (68 kg)

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